

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Les Cramer

Pianist: Merle Korizek

"Christ became our Brother in order to help us. Through him our brother has become Christ for us in the power and authority of the commission Christ has given him. Our brother stands before us the sign of the truth and the grace of God. He has been given to us to help us. He hears the confession of our sins in Christ's stead and he forgives our sins in Christ's name. He keeps the secret of our confession as God keeps it. When I go to my brother to confess, I am going to God."

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Where He Leads Me"

John S. Norris

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

ALL: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

One: People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

ALL: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

One: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

ALL: We worship the Lord our God alone.

One: Let us worship the Lord, who journeys through the wilderness with us.

*HYMN

"The Glory of These Forty Days"

GtG #165

The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, by whom all things
were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came

the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might;
and John,
the Bridegroom's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant that we like them
be true,
consumed in fast and prayer
with you;

Our spirits strengthen
with your grace,
and give us joy
to see your face.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Adapted from Stephen Fearing

ALL: God of Goodness and Mercy, you created us good, but we have not lived up to your expectation. We have stayed silent when we should have spoken. We have spoken when we should have stayed silent. We have tried to hide from you rather than trust your protection. We have been chosen to be covered by our sin when we could have been covered by your goodness. Create within us hearts of repentance, trust, and faithfulness. Surround us with glad cries of deliverance that we may hear your grace, receive your mercy, and sing your goodness. This we pray in the name of our Savior, Christ Jesus. Amen. *(a moment of silent confession)*

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel:

God has heard our cry,
God has forgiven us,
God has renewed us.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*THE PEACE

*“Gloria Patri”

GtG #581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING
One: The Word of the Lord.

Genesis 2:15—3:7

Page 4

ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING
One: The Word of the Lord.

Romans 5:12-21

Page 1753

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING
One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 4:1-11

Page 1499

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Meaning of Lent”
Rype Church Films

Video

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM READING
One: The Word of the Lord.

Psalms 32

Page 869

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

GtG #442

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed
for me,

and that thou biddest me come
to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many_a conflict,
many_a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon,
cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Westminster Larger Catechism

One: What do you believe concerning “the forgiveness of sins”?

ALL: I believe that God, because of Christ’s satisfaction, will no longer remember any of my sins or my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, by grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Hymn of Promise”

Natalie Sleeth

Offering plates are located in the back of the sanctuary. You may also give online at fpchelena.org/giving or by mailing a check to First Presbyterian Church 535 N. Ewing St., Helena, MT 59601.

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

GtG #606

Praise God, from whom all
blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here
below;

Praise him above,
ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFERING PRAYER

*HYMN

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

GtG #435

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

There is no place
where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place
where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“The Road Less Traveled”
Tom Howard

Announcements

Welcome!

A special welcome to visitors joining us for worship today. If you have children with you, feel free to hand them one of the cloth bags hanging in the back of the sanctuary — they are filled with books and toys! Hymns are found in the “Glory to God” (GtG) hymnal in the pews, as well as on the screen. Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor. It is our tradition to remain seated during the Postlude at the conclusion of the service. After the service, please join us for refreshments and conversation!

Doors Locked During Service

Session decided to lock the main entrance doors during the worship service. The doors are locked from 10:15 to 11 a.m., and unlocked again between 11 a.m. and noon.

Lay Liturgist Training Today

There will be a lay liturgist training in the sanctuary today after worship. This will be a chance to practice our liturgy-reading skills and to provide common ground about the ways that we lead worship. All lay liturgists are encouraged to attend, as well as anyone else who is interested.

Presbyterian Giving Catalog - Small Gifts. Big Impact.

As Presbyterians, it is our gratitude for God's grace that moves us to join in God's mission in the world, with ministries of love and justice, reconciliation and peace. The gifts of a Bag of Moringa Tree Seeds (\$40) or a Sapling Set (\$30) during the month of February will help feed the hungry and provide needed nutrition. Thank you! Questions? Visit with Carol Gneckow.

Friendship Committee Invites You to Dinner

Your Friendship Committee has planned a POET Society dinner (Presbyterians Out Eating Together!) for Wednesday night, March 4, at 5:30 at the Overland Express Restaurant. If you're interested in going out to dinner with your Presbyterian friends, please Barb know —and she will make a reservation. Thanks!

You're Invited!

Wednesday, Feb. 25	Choir 2 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 27	Bible Study 12/Noon Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 1	Worship Service with Communion 10 a.m. Social Time 11 a.m.

Staff

Ministers—Every Member	Organist—Ann Swisher
Pastor—Rev. Emily Cowser	Treasurer—Leo Potter
Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer	Office Coordinator—Julie Young

FPC Elders

Patti Borsberry
(Worship Chair)

John Bryan
(Christian Ed Chair)

Jim Meyer
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Jeff Chaffee
(Personnel Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Building & Grounds Chair)

Barb Leland
(Friendship Chair)

Carol Gneckow
(Mission & Outreach Chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

BJ Burns
Kathy Chambers
Jill Cook

Bonnie Anderson
Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Vicky Bryan
Art Bumgardner, Moderator
Rena Bumgardner
Ria Caussyn
Carole Massman



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Pastor Emily Cowser

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Weekly Sermon on HCTV Cable Channel 189, Wednesdays 6 p.m. & Saturdays 9 a.m.