

hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and
springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their
courses above

Join with all nature
in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness,
mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning,
new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand
hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace
that endureth,
thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide,

Strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning,
new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand
hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. You say do not be afraid, but we are filled with fear. You say commit your way to me, but we rush to do our own thing. You say love others, but we neglect your people. As we have failed to walk in your way, forgive us. Help us be courageous, put our trust in you and be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(moment of silent confession.)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PEACE OF CHRIST

*“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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“King Jesus Is A-Listening”
Negro spiritual, arr. William Dawson

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 27

Page 864

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Page 1829

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:31-35

Page 1621

SERMON

“Stand Firm”

*RESPONSE HYMN

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord Hhis children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Tho' He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith

One: In a broken and fearful world

ALL: the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

One: With believers in every time and place,

ALL: we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

One: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Jesus Suffered Anguish and Death"
Johann G. Walther (1684-1748)

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" GtG #608

Praise God,
from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ,
all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God,
whom we adore.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & UNISON LORD'S PRAYER

*SENDING 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.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“O Innocent Lamb of God”
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

(Congregation remains seated during the postlude.)

Announcements

Welcome to Worship

We are glad you are here! 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. After the service, 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. on Sunday mornings. The doors are unlocked again between 11 a.m. and noon.

Lay Liturgist Training Next Sunday

A training session for those who want to serve as lay liturgists will be held Sunday, March 23, after the service. Those currently serving as lay liturgists are also invited to attend. For details, visit with Joy Edgar: 406-202-2200, by email: joyedgar66@gmail.com.

Lent: Connecting to God through Prayer

Join Pastor Janet during Lent to explore different methods for prayer. We will focus on one practice each week using the book "Kneeling with Giants" by Rev. Dr. Gary Hansen as a guide. When? Thursdays, March 20 (*no study on March 27*), and April 3, 10 and 17, 11:00am-12:15pm. If you'd like a zoom link available, please ask! Questions? Ask Janet.

Coming This Weekend . . .

Celebrate International Waffle Day with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, March 22, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., at Highland Meadows for a day of volunteering, community building, and waffles! To register, email volunteer@helenahabitat.org. Then on Sunday, March 23, show your support for Family Promise by attending the Comfort Food Challenge, 3-6 p.m., at the L&C Country Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall. Tickets are available at the Myrna Loy, Blackfoot River Brewing, Birds & Beasleys, and from FPC's Family Promise Volunteer Coordinator Larry Mirch.

You're Invited!

Tuesday March 18	Session 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 19	Choir 2 p.m.
Thursday, March 20	Lent Study 11 a.m.
Friday, March 21	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 23	Worship 10 a.m. Social Time 11 a.m. Lay Liturgist Training 11 a.m.

Staff

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

FPC Elders

Sheryl Eriksen
(Fellowship chair)

Patti Borsberry
(Worship co-chair)

John Bryan
(Nominating chair)

Jim Meyer
(Administration chair)

Jeff Chaffee
(Personnel chair)

John Warren

Butch Plowman
(Building & Grounds chair)

Barb Leland
(Worship co-chair)

Karen Witte
(Mission Chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

Vicky Bryan

BJ Burns (Moderator)

Bonnie Anderson

Merle Korizek

Kathy Chambers

Ward Stiles (Vice-mod.)

Carole Massman

Jill Cook

Darlene McNay



Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.