

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Janet Potter

Liturgist: Kathy Chambers

Organist: Ann Swisher

*Please meditate silently, or listen to the prelude  
as you prepare your heart for worship.*

*\*Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE            “Largo from Concerto in D minor after Vivaldi”  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT

*When we prepare for Christmas, we light a new candle each Sunday. As we prepare for Good Friday, we extinguish a candle each Sunday to remind us of the approaching darkness of betrayal and death. Each Sunday, another candle will be extinguished, until the final candle goes out on Good Friday.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This is the fifth step on our Lenten journey, the step of sacrifice.

**ALL: Be with us, Lord, as we take this step.**

One: This requires the willingness to give all of your life to the Lord.

**ALL: Be with us, Lord, as we commit our lives to you.**

One: Come, let us worship and offer our voices of praise to God.

**ALL: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God this day.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN            “When Morning Gilds the Skies”            GtG #667**

When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer  
to Jesus I repair:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind?  
A solace here I find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss?  
My comfort still is this:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round  
in joyful notes resound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
from depth to height reply:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,  
my canticle divine:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song  
through all the ages long:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### CONFESSION

**ALL: Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts; cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. *(moment of silent confession)***

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

#### PEACE OF CHRIST

\*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GtG #582

Glory to God, whose goodness  
shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has  
pardoned me,

And to the Spirit, whose love has  
set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now  
and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end.  
Amen.

World without end, without end.  
Amen.

World without end, without end.  
Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now  
and ever shall be. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”  
John M. Rasley

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 119:9-16

Page 1227  
Page 957

SERMON

“The Beginning of the End”

SERMON SCRIPTURE

John 12:20-33

Page 1671

\*RESPONSE HYMN

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

GtG #795

Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears  
and sadness,  
grace us with your peace  
and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision,  
God of love.

Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

Give us strength to love each other,  
every sister, every brother;  
Spirit of all kindness,  
be our guide.

Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know each thought  
and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion,  
fill each heart.

Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,

and hope beyond our sorrow.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Book of Common Worship

**ALL: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast:**

**that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,**

**that he was buried,**

**that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared**

**first to the women,**

**then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

**Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;**

**he is our Lord and our God. 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 #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.

\*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.

CHARGE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to all who are worshiping with us today! Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor. After the service, join us for refreshments and conversation. To bring treats for Fellowship Time, sign up on the sheet on the coffee table.

## Unadorned Lent

As our sacrifice for Lent, we will give up applause during worship and after the postlude.

### Lenten Study Wednesday at noon

Join Pastor Janet for a Lenten Study, "Walking Towards Glory," by John Birch. This study focuses on the Sunday Gospel text. We will meet from Noon/12 until 1:00pm on Wednesday, March 20. Bring a sack lunch or a snack; coffee and water will be provided. If you are new to Bible study, come, give it a try!

### Potluck brunch Easter Sunday, March 31

Please join us for a potluck brunch on Easter Sunday, March 31, after the 10 a.m. worship service. Bring a breakfast-type food item such as ham, sausage or bacon, egg dishes, fruit, muffins, bagels with cream cheese or jam, hashbrown dishes, etc. Juice, coffee, and tea will be provided. Hope to see you here!

### Holy Week begins next Sunday

Holy Week begins Palm Sunday, March 17. Plan to join us for the Maundy Thursday worship service March 28, at 7 p.m. and for the Good Friday service March 29, at 12/noon. Then return Easter Sunday, March 31, to celebrate the resurrection with a worship service at 10 a.m., followed by a potluck brunch!

### Register soon for Trolley Tour

Join your First Presbyterian friends on a comfortable Trolley bus ride, and learn more about Habitat for Humanity – Saturday, April 13, from 9 to 11am. The Helena Habitat staff will lead the tour of current and future projects. It's free. Make your reservation asap, since there are a limited number of seats. Call Mindie at 406-204-5602, or go online at [HelenaHabitat.org/Trolley](http://HelenaHabitat.org/Trolley) to register. The tour will leave from the Habitat Restore, behind Pizza Ranch.

### You're Invited

<b>Tuesday, March 19</b>	Session 6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, March 20</b>	Lenten Study 12/noon Choir 2 p.m.
<b>Thursday, March 21</b>	Prayer Time 11 a.m.
<b>Friday, March 22</b>	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, March 24</b>	Worship Service 10 a.m.
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	Social Time 11 a.m.

## Vanguard tithe funds go to PDA

The Mission and Outreach Committee has chosen to send the Vanguard tithe funds to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (see details below.) The tithe amount was \$1,725.26 and the committee added \$74.74 for a total of donation of \$1,800.

### Humanitarian response in Israel/Palestine

*"Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children  
of God."*

(Matthew 5:9)



We have witnessed the millions of people caught in the middle of the devastating conflict between the government of Israel and Hamas. This is a dire humanitarian crisis and the loss of human life is unimaginable. Through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is providing assistance to those most vulnerable, and supporting partners in Palestine and Israel who are responding to the needs of their neighbors. Our biggest concern is the safety and care for those caught in the middle of this conflict and in need of humanitarian aid, no matter their religious beliefs, politics or nationality. Years of recovery lie ahead. Will you stand in the "GAP" for all affected by this conflict? — Give. Act. Pray.

**ACT:** Urge the U.S. government to advocate for an immediate cease-fire and the end of the blockade on Gaza to ensure urgent access to humanitarian aid, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

**PRAY:** *Dear God, We come before you with heavy hearts, burdened by the ongoing conflict in the land of Israel and Palestine. As we listen to the stories, and see the news of what is unfolding, we pray for all the people affected by this strife, for the innocent civilians, the children, and the families who endure the pain of violence and unrest. In times of darkness, help us remember that we are all your children, and that love and compassion can transcend the divisions and hate that lead to war. Grant us the strength to work tirelessly for a world where conflicts are resolved through dialogue, justice and respect for one another.*



## Staff

Ministers—Every Member

Organist—Ann Swisher

Pastor—Rev. Janet Potter

Treasurer—Leo Potter

Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer

Office Coordinator—Julie Young

## Elders

John Coefield (B&G; Nominating)

Sheryl Eriksen (Fellowship)

Jeff Chaffee (Personnel)

Barb Leland

Jim Meyer (Administration)

Patti Borsberry

Butch Plowman

Karen Witte (Mission)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

## Deacons

Julie Chaffee

Joy Edgar

BJ Burns

Candace Coefield (Moderator)

Merle Korizek

Kathy Chambers

Lonna Weidemann

Carole Massman

Jill Cook

Vicky Bryan



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