

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Interim Pastor: Rev. Janet Potter

Liturgist: Vicky Bryan

Pianist: Merle Korizek

**Please stand in body or spirit as you are able*

PRELUDE

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

William Bradbury

WELCOME

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are those who are honest with God.

ALL: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven.

One: Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to the Lord in times of distress.

ALL: For God is our refuge and protects us in times of trouble.

One: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice!

ALL: Let us shout for joy! Let us worship God!

*GATHERING HYMN “Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days ”

GtG #166

Lord, who throughout
these forty days
for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn
our sins
and close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend
and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere,
in you to conquer sin.

And through these days
of penitence,
and through this Passiontide,
yes, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.

Abide with us, till when this life
of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy
we may attain at last.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Holy God, we confess that we keep silent when we should speak. We see iniquity and the injustices of the world, yet are content not to call them out. We withhold kind words, yet are quick to speak in judgment. Forgive us, O God. Direct the way we should go and help us to use our voices to spread your grace and truth. *(moment of silent confession.)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Walking this earth, facing temptation, defeating sin, Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. This is good news!

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Eternal Weight of Glory”
Lyrics by Wendell Kimbrough

Video

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 32

Page 869

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Page 1799

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Page 1623

SERMON

“A Father Had Two Sons . . .”

*RESPONSE HYMN

“Hear the Good News of Salvation”

GtG #441

Hear the good news of salvation:
Jesus died to show God’s love.
Such great kindness!
Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed,
to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish;
Christ forgives and so I sing:

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

ALL: The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

One: Thanks be to God!

ALL: Amen.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “God, Thy Great Goodness Never Ends”
Ludwig van Beethoven

*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 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

GtG #649

Amazing grace,
how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught
my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that
grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils,
and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe
thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten
thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days
to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Agnus Dei”
(*Lamb of God*)
Georges Bizet

Announcements

Welcome!

*This is the day that the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!***

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 in the adjoining fellowship area.

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.

Potluck Today After Church

Join us upstairs in Richardson Hall today for the Fifth Sunday Potluck after the service.

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, April 3, 10 and 17, 11:00am-12:15pm. If you'd like a zoom link available, please ask! Questions? Ask Janet.

You're Invited!

Wednesday, April 2	Choir 2 p.m.
Thursday, April 3	Rebekah Circle 10 a.m. Lent Study 11 a.m.
Friday, April 4	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 6	Worship with Holy Communion 10 a.m. Town Hall with Rev. Munoz 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
Merle Korizek
Carole Massman
Darlene McNay

BJ Burns (Moderator)
Kathy Chambers
Jill Cook

Bonnie Anderson
Ward Stiles (Vice-mod.)



Church Office Hours

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

Phone: 406-442-4775 **Email:** admin@fpchelena.org **Website:** www.fpchelena.org

Pastor Janet Potter

Phone: 406-442-4775 **Email:** pastor@fpchelena.org

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