

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Alysia Ryan

Organist: Ann Swisher

*"You are above me, O God,
you are within.*

*You are in all things
yet contained by no thing.*

*Teach me to seek you in all that has life
that I may see you as the Light of life.*

*Teach me to search for you in my own depths that I may find you in every living
soul."*

-John Philip Newell, Celtic teacher and author

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Christ, You Are My Life"
Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God, open your eyes!

ALL: Look around!

One: The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here—

ALL: among us and within us.

One: God's salvation is close at hand—

ALL: nearer than we know.

One: So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit,

ALL: and let's worship God together!

*HYMN

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

GtG #35

*Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!*

*O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation!*

All ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all
things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen
how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!

Let the amen
sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

(a moment of silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: This is the good news of God's grace: Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead –

now Christ has become our life and salvation. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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.

PSALM READING

Psalm 95

Page 933

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 5:1-11

Page 1752

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

John 4:1-42

Page 1651

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!

CHOIR ANTHEM

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"
by Wayne Howorth

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1-7

Page 114

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

GtG #488

"I was there to hear
your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day
you were baptized

to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were
but a child
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder
of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on.
You were raised to praise
the living Lord
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone
to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make
your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you
through the night,
complete what I’ve begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear
your borning cry;

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day
you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Westminster Larger Catechism

One: What is God?

ALL: God is a Spirit, infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty; knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

Randall Thompson

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

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

GtG #32

I sing the mighty power of God

that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing
seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full
at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures
through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders
are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise,
and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,

While all that borrows life
from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Blessed Are You Who Live in Faith”

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

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.

Holy Spirit Bible Study Begins March 12

A new Bible study is scheduled to begin Thursday, March 12, meeting at the church at noon. “*Who is the Holy Spirit*” is a one hour, 12-week series with a video and workbook. If you have questions about the study, please talk to study leader John Bryan at church or call 406-603-0960. If you are interested in attending the Bible Study, please sign up at the table at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Linton Scholarship Available

The Larry Linton Scholarship is available to FPCH members and members’ relatives attending or planning to attend post-secondary school. Details are available in the fellowship area. Application deadline is April 1.

You’re Invited!

Monday, March 9 Christian Education Committee 11 a.m.
Mission & Outreach 1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 10 Worship Committee 10 a.m.
Admin Committee 1 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11 Buildings & Grounds 10 a.m.
Friendship Committee 1 p.m.
Choir 2 p.m.

Thursday, March 12 “Holy Spirit” Bible Study 12/Noon

Friday, March 13 Bible Study 12/Noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 15 Worship Service 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
(Administration Chair)

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

Bonnie Anderson

Vicky Bryan

Kathy Chambers

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Jill Cook

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman



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