

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Barb Leland

Organist: Ann Swisher

“Love has its speed. It is a spiritual speed. It is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It goes on in the depth of our life, whether we notice or not, at three miles an hour. It is the speed we walk and therefore the speed the love of God walks.”

-Kosuke Koyama, Japanese theologian, in *Three Mile an Hour God*

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“In Joyful Praise”

Laurence Lyon (1934-2006)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,

ALL: we behold in the splendor of creation your majesty and our responsibility.

One: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,

ALL: we behold in the face of Jesus Christ your divinity and our humanity.

One: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons,

ALL: we behold in the Spirit of truth your glory and our calling.

Bound to you forever, we will ever praise your name!

*HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

GtG #1

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song
shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy!

merciful and mighty!

God in three persons,

blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!

all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim
falling down before thee,
who wert, and art,
and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy!
though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness
thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy;
there is none beside thee,
perfect in power,
in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy!
merciful and mighty!
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Yet we put aside your majesty, seeking our own power and gain. We set aside our responsibility for the earth entrusted to our care. By both carelessness and

design, we pollute air, land, and waters. In our greed, we use more resources than we rightly need. We confess that we do not fully comprehend the damage we have done to the birds of the air, the creatures of the sea, and the animals that live in forests and fields. Forgive us, we pray. Let your majesty fill our senses, and pervade our actions, that we may become better stewards of creation. Help us to care for one another so that all your people flourish. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. *(a moment of silent confession)*

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: The Holy One of Israel, the Redeemer of all the world, and the Holy Spirit who comes as the breath of new life forgets the sins of all who repent. I declare to you, therefore, that you are forgiven, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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 8

Page 848

Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.
Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Corinthians 13:11-14 Page 1808
Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All God's people here send their greetings.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:16-20 Page 1550
Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!

SPECIAL MUSIC "How Can I Keep from Singing?"
Robert Lowry, text attributed to "Pauline T."
Les Cramer, baritone; Ann Swisher, piano

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

GtG #182

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live.”

I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world’s light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.”

I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk
till traveling days are done.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from The Second Helvetic Confession

ALL: We believe and teach that God is one in essence or nature, subsisting in Godself, all sufficient in Godself, invisible, incorporeal, immense, eternal, Creator of all things both visible and invisible, the greatest good, living, quickening and preserving all things, omnipotent and supremely wise, kind and merciful, just and true. Truly we detest many gods because it is expressly written: “The Lord your God is one Lord.” Notwithstanding we believe and teach that the same immense, one and indivisible God is in person inseparably and without confusion distinguished as Father, Son and Holy Spirit so, as the Father has begotten the Son from eternity, the Son is begotten by an ineffable generation, and the Holy Spirit truly proceeds from them both, and the same from eternity and is to be worshipped with both.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Aria”

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

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

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

GtG #2

Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:

Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word,
merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend.

Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success;

Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.

Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence evermore!

Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Now Thank We All Our God”
Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

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!

Fifth Sunday Potluck Today!

Our "Fifth Sunday Potluck" is today, following the Church service. Meet your Church friends in Richardson Hall for a fun time of food and fellowship. Three people will tell their stories. Who will they be? Come and find out! (If you forgot your potluck item, come anyway. There's always enough food to go around!)

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.

Hymn Requests

If you have a favorite hymn that you would like to be sung in worship, please email Pastor Emily at pastor@fpchelena.org, and she will be sure to incorporate it into a future worship service when it connects with the themes of our Scripture readings.

Fall Spiritual Formation Retreat

Pastor Emily will be facilitating a fall retreat focused on the theme of prayer. Together, we will explore what prayer means, our struggles with prayer, and a variety of ways to pray. The retreat is tentatively planned for September 10th-12th at the beautiful Glacier Camp on Flathead Lake. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Emily know, so that she can begin to gauge the size of our group.

You're Invited!

Monday, June 1	Personnel Committee 10 a.m.
Wednesday, June 3	Deacon Training 10 a.m.
Friday, June 5	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 7	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
(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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PC(USA)

535 North Ewing Street ~ Helena, MT 59601

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 Emily Cowser

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

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