

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Kathy Chambers

Organist: Ann Swisher

"Discernment is a quality of attentiveness to God that, over time, develops into the ability to sense God's heart and purpose in any given moment. We become familiar with the tone, quality and content of God's voice. We notice how God is present for us in the moment." -Ruth Haley Barton, *Pursuing God's Will Together*

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Fugue in G Major"

Johann L. Krebs (1713-1780)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise, everyone!

ALL: Serve God with gladness! Enter God's presence by singing!

One: Know that God is good.

ALL: The Lord made us, and we are God's; we are God's people.

One: God is good! Bless God's name.

ALL: We give thanks to God for God's love and faithfulness to all generations.

One: Let us worship God together.

*HYMN

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

GtG #174

Come and seek the ways
of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth
was new.

Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace.
Hear the Word made flesh

among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.

When the word takes root
and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.

Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ALL: Merciful God, we don't always do well at listening to you or noticing your guidance. We are unaware of you and your presence, and we ignore your leading. When we are not able to hear you, it is more difficult for us to love and serve you and others. Forgive us. Help us to be better at listening to your voice and noticing your movement and guidance in our lives, so that we can fulfill our calling to be light for the world. Amen.

(a moment of silent confession)

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Our God is slow to anger, quick to forgive, and abiding in steadfast love.
Believe the Good News this day: in Christ Jesus we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

***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 One: The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.	Psalm 119:105-112	Page 962
NEW TESTAMENT READING One: The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.	Romans 8:1-17	Page 1756
GOSPEL READING One: The Gospel of the Lord. ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!	Matthew 13:1-23	Page 1516
SPECIAL MUSIC	"Make An Impact" Ben Lionel Scott	Video
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
OLD TESTAMENT READING One: The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.	Proverbs 3:1-12	Page 987
SERMON		
*HYMN	"Be Thou My Vision" Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;	GtG #450

Thou my soul's shelter,
and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward,
O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not,
nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance,
now and always;

Thou and thou only,
first in my heart,
High King of Heaven,
my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven,
my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from The Westminster Confession of Faith

ALL: Although the light of nature, and the works of creation and providence, do so far manifest the goodness, wisdom, and power of God, as to leave us inexcusable; yet are they not sufficient to give that knowledge of God, and of God's will, which is necessary unto salvation; therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in diverse manners, to reveal Godself, and to declare God's will unto God's Church; and afterwards for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the Church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to

commit the same wholly unto writing; which maketh the Holy Scripture to be most necessary.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Fantasia in F Major"

Georg P. Telemann (1681-1767)

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

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

GtG #307

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us

scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long
have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's
warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton,
selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

Announcements

Welcome!

A special welcome to visitors joining us for worship today. 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!

Town Hall Sunday, July 26

Our Strategic Planning Team will be hosting a town hall after worship on Sunday, July 26, to share about the work that they have been doing around updating our mission and vision statements, clarifying strategic goals, and creating action plans for meeting those goals. In preparation for the town hall, you are welcome to pick up and review the handout on the table as you enter into the sanctuary with the updated mission and vision statements and strategic goals. Please join us for this important conversation as we continue to discern our church’s future.

Fall Spiritual Formation Retreat

Registration is open for our fall spiritual formation retreat at Glacier Camp. Together, we will explore the purpose and nature of prayer, our struggles with prayer, and a variety of ways to pray. The retreat begins with dinner on Thursday, Sept. 10, and will conclude by noon on Saturday, Sept. 12. The cost of the retreat is \$330 per room and \$110 per person for meals. To register, email Pastor Emily at pastor@fpchelena.org and make a check payable to the church. Come enjoy an opportunity to connect with God and one another!

Girls Thrive Fundraiser Continues

Girls Thrive Fundraiser! Choose tags indicating the amount you'd like to give, and put it, along with your donation, in the shoe box. An anonymous donor has already given \$2,500 and will be matching donations. The fundraiser ends July 31. Thank you. Questions? Visit with Dianna or Carol.

Save the Date! Church Picnic Aug. 30

August 30 is the date for this year’s summer picnic, which will be held at Kennedy Park in East Helena. Please plan to bring a dish or dessert to share, along with a chair. The Congregational Life Committee will provide the fried chicken. We hope you will join us!

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.

You're Invited!

Sunday, July 19 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

John Bryan
(Congregational Life Co-Chair)

Jim Meyer
(Administration Co-Chair)

Patti Borsberry
(Congregational Life Co-Chair)

Dianna Goodman
(Nominating Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Buildings & Grounds Chair)

Matthew Richards
(Administration Co-Chair)

Carol Gneckow
(Mission & Outreach Chair)

Max Oliver, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

Bonnie Anderson
Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Vicky Bryan
Art Bumgardner, Moderator
Rena Bumgardner
Ria Caussyn
Carole Massman

Wanda Jewell
Alysia Ryan



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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.