

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Janet Potter

Liturgist: Ria Caussyn

Organist: Ann Swisher

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

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"In Joyful Praise"

Laurence Lyon (1934-2006)

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

One: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

ALL: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

One: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

ALL: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

ALL: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

*GATHERING HYMN

"Let Us Build a House"

GtG #301

(vs. 1, 4 & 5)

Let us build a house where love
can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints
and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams
and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ

shall end divisions:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands
will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen,
serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear
and danger:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house
where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words
within the Word.

Built of tears and cries
and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim
from floor to rafter:

All are welcome;
all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Gracious God, Jesus tells us that our lives are enriched by loving you and loving our neighbors. We confess that love is hard for us. We are too selfish or too pessimistic, too hollow or too hardened, or just too tired to give ourselves to love's demands. Forgive our arrogance and our listlessness. Cleanse our hearts that we might find the strength to do what love requires and the grace to receive what love has to give. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose love has no boundary.

(a moment of silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Mercy ceaselessly flows from the heart of God. This is the good news of the gospel!

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Siyahamba”
Zulu Traditional Folksong/Angel City Chorale

Video

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 25:1-10

Page 863

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Page 320

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:25-37

Page 1612

SERMON

“Love”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism Lord’s Day 1

One: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

ALL: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

RESPONSE HYMN

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

GtG #377

I want to walk as a child
of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light
to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day
are both alike.

The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness
of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness,
shine on my path, and show me
the way to the Father.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day
are both alike.

The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming
of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run
with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day
are both alike.

The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers"
Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

*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

A TIME OF FAREWELL

*SENDING HYMN

"To God Be the Glory"

GtG #634

To God be the glory;
great things he has done!
So loved he the world
that he gave us his Son,

Who yielded his life
an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate
that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory:
great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us;
great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing
through Jesus the Son;

But purer and higher
and greater will be
our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory:
great things he has done!

*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!

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.

Thank You, Pastor Janet!

Rev. Janet Potter, our interim pastor since October 2022, will be retiring Tuesday, July 15. Today is her last day in the pulpit here at FPC Helena. Thank you, Pastor Janet, for leading us with your many gifts. We wish you all the best in your retirement!

Looking Ahead . . .

Our new pastor, Emily Cowser, will begin Aug. 3, with Aug. 10 her first Sunday in the pulpit. Between July 15 and Monday, Aug. 4, Dianna Goodman and Butch Plowman will provide pastoral care and lead our worship services.

Backpack Collection Starts Today

The Mission & Outreach Committee would like to have the FPC congregation buy backpacks for the homeless starting July 13 and ending Aug. 24. A box is available in the Narthex for your donations. There is also a table for you to place items such as socks (adult/male/female), toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, etc. This outreach is with the United Way of Helena. Thank you FPC for your donations and support! Blessings to all. Carol Gneckow, Mission & Outreach Chairperson, (406) 422-9914.

Sign Up for July 19 Ulm Buffalo Jump Trip

Sign up to join us Saturday, July 19, on a trip to the First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park at Ulm, followed by dinner at the Taphouse in Craig. We will meet in the church parking lot at 12:30 to carpool. Admission to the Buffalo Jump is free. The sign up sheet is in the fellowship area. Questions? Visit with Barb Leland.

You're Invited!

Monday, July 14	Christian Education meeting
Tuesday, July 15	Session 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 17	"Psalms" Bible Study 11 a.m. @ John & Vicky Bryan's home
Friday, July 18	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 19	Trip to Buffalo Jump & Dinner 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 20	Worship Service 10 a.m. Social Time 11 a.m.

Staff

Ministers—Every Member

Pastor—Rev. Janet Potter

Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer

Organist—Ann Swisher

Treasurer—Leo Potter

Office Coordinator—Julie Young

FPC Elders

Patti Borsberry

(Worship Chair)

Jeff Chaffee

(Personnel Chair)

Barb Leland

(Friendship Chair)

John Bryan

(Christian Ed Chair)

John Warren

(Nominating Chair)

Jim Meyer

(Administration Chair)

Butch Plowman

(Building & Grounds Chair)

Carol Gneckow

(Mission & Outreach Chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

BJ Burns

Kathy Chambers

Jill Cook

Bonnie Anderson

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Vicky Bryan

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman



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