

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Leader: Arlyn "Butch" Plowman

Liturgist: Kathy Chambers

Organist: Ann Swisher

*"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35 NIV (page 1657 Pew Bible)*

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Fugue in G Major"

Johann L. Krebs (1713-1780)

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If we have been raised with Jesus Christ,

People: then let us seek the things that are above.

Leader: If our lives are hidden in Jesus Christ,

People: then let us look for his glory to be revealed.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN

"Come, Worship God"
(Psalm 95)

GtG #386

Come, worship God,
who is worthy of honor;
enter God's presence
with thanks and a song!

You are the rock
of your people's salvation
to whom our jubilant
praises belong.

Ruled by your might are the
heights of the mountains;
held in your hands are the depths
of the earth.

Yours is the sea, yours the land,
for you made them,
God above all gods,
who gave us our birth.

We are your people,
the sheep of your pasture;
you are our Maker,
and to you we pray.

Gladly we kneel
in obedience before you;
great is the one
whom we worship this day!

Now let us listen,
for you speak among us;
open our hearts
to receive what you say.

Peace be to all
who remember your goodness,
trust in your word,
and rejoice in your way!

CALL TO CONFESSION (*based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV*)

Leader: We prefer to keep our faults and failures behind locked doors.

People: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us.

Leader: The Spirit of Jesus brings forgiveness, hope, peace.

People: Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Faithful and loving God, we confess that we have not lived in faith and love. You offer us the gift of salvation, but we spend our lives in vain pursuits. You provide enough for all to share, but we store up treasures for ourselves. Forgive us God of Grace. Teach us to seek the way of heaven and to let go of earthly desires so that we might have abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(observe a moment of silence for personal reflection and meditation)*

ASSURANCE AND PEACE *(based on 1 Timothy 1:15, 17)*

Leader: Here are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. To all who confess their sins and resolve to lead a new life, he says, "Your sins are forgiven."

People: In Christ we are forgiven! Praise be to God.

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: As God has given us peace through Christ, so let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

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

“A Clare Benediction”

Video

By John Rutter; Sung by Choralation (West Lake School Choir, Auckland, NZ)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14; 2:17-23

Page 1034

What do mortals gain from their toil under the sun? All is vanity.

SECOND READING

Psalms 49:1-11, 16-20

The Message

The gift of life has no price: the great and lowly will all perish.

LEADER ¹⁻² Listen, everyone, listen—
earth-dwellers, don't miss this.

All you haves
and have-nots,

All together now: listen.

PEOPLE³⁻⁴ **I set plainspoken wisdom before you,
my heart-seasoned understandings of life.
I fine-tuned my ear to the sayings of the wise,
I solve life's riddle with the help of a harp.**

LEADER ⁵⁻⁶ So why should I fear in bad times,
hemmed in by enemy malice,
Shoved around by bullies,
demeaned by the arrogant rich?

PEOPLE⁷⁻⁹ **Really! There's no such thing as self-rescue,
pulling yourself up by your bootstraps.
The cost of rescue is beyond our means,
and even then it doesn't guarantee
Life forever, or insurance
against the Black Hole.**

LEADER ¹⁰⁻¹¹ Anyone can see that the brightest and best die,
wiped out right along with fools and idiots.
They leave all their prowess behind,
move into their new home, The Coffin,

The cemetery their permanent address.
And to think they named counties after themselves!

**PEOPLE¹⁶⁻¹⁹ So don't be impressed with those who get rich
and pile up fame and fortune.
They can't take it with them;
fame and fortune all get left behind.
Just when they think they've arrived
and folks praise them because they've made good,
They enter the family burial plot
where they'll never see sunshine again.**

UNISON ²⁰We aren't immortal. We don't last long.
Like our dogs, we age and weaken. And die.

EPISTLE LESSON
 Colossians 3:1-11
 Page 1834

GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 12:13-21	Page 1617
<i>Jesus teaches the crowd with a parable: Be on guard against greed; life does not come from your possessions.</i>		

SERMON "If You're So Rich Why Ain't You Smart?"

PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Question 1, Westminster Larger Catechism PC(USA) Book of Confessions section 7.111

Leader: What is the chief and highest end of man?

People: Man's chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.

*RESPONSE HYMN “Our Hope, Our Life” GtG #847
(Psalm 49)

Our hope, our life are in the Lord,
the God we honor and confess.
Why crave renown or opulence?
They fade, those things
we now possess.

Some flaunt their gold;
some trust its power,

but what they cherish will decay;
and still the ransom for a soul
remains a price too great to pay.

Though wealth or learning may be
ours, or fame that spreads throughout the land,
the shackles of mortality
prevent so much
that we have planned.

Beyond this age of shame
and sham
we glimpse a better destiny:
the Lord will lift us free from death
to dwell in praise eternally.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING (*adapted from James 1:17, 22*)

OFFERTORY "Fantasia in D Major"
Georg P. Telemann (1681-1767)

*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.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER (*adapted from James 2:5, 14-17*)

HOLY COMMUNION

APOSTLE'S CREED (unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INSTITUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

"Taste and See"
(Psalm 34)

GtG #520

Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times.
Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord,
for God has been so good to me.

Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us all praise
God's name.
I called the Lord,
who answered me;
from all my troubles, I was set free.

Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

Worship the Lord, all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
in God we need put all our trust.

Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

INVITATION

PARTICIPATION

PRAYER

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Sharing joys, concerns, concluding with the Lord's Prayer)*

*SENDING HYMN

"May God Support You All Your Days"
(Psalm 20)

GtG #548

May God support you all your days,
in times of gladness and in need.
May God remember you with grace
and bless your every word
and deed.

May God confirm
your heart's desire
and bring to fullness all your plans.

May God's sustaining love inspire
your shouts of praise
and joyful dance.

May God be near you
when you pray,
to help you with a gentle hand.
May God forever guide your way
and lead you to the promised land.

Our hope is in the Holy One.
The swift and strong will surely fall,
but you will stand with God alone,
who hears and answers
when you call.

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION (*adapted from 2 Corinthians 13:13*)

POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
Johann G. Walther (1684-1748)

Announcements

Welcome, Pastor Emily!

Our new pastor, Emily Cowser, is here with us today! We welcome you and look forward to serving God alongside you!

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.

Rose Leavitt Service Tuesday, Aug. 5, 11 am.

A memorial service for longtime member Rose Leavitt will be held here Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 11 a.m., with a luncheon afterward in Richardson Hall. A graveside service and interment of ashes will take place at 2 p.m. at the VA cemetery.

Sign Up for Aug. 21 Boating Day

Dianna and Barb have boats docked at Gates of the Mountains. They've planned a "boating day" for Thursday, Aug. 21, at 11 a.m., and can take 12 people. See the signup sheet on the coffee table.

Girls Thrive Parking Lot Party Aug. 7

Girls Thrive will celebrate its 10th anniversary with a Parking Lot Party here on Thursday, Aug. 7, 5-8 p.m. Live music, food trucks, activities and bike raffles are planned. FPC provides office space to this nonprofit organization, and Session has approved this additional use of our facility in support of the Girls Thrive mission. Congratulations, Girls Thrive!

Backpack Collection Continues

The Mission & Outreach Committee continues to collect backpacks and personal care items for the homeless through Aug. 24. A box is available in the Narthex for your donations. For details, visit with Carol Gneckow, Mission & Outreach Chairperson, (406) 422-9914.

Sidewalk Repairs Ongoing

Sidewalk repairs are underway. To prevent damage to your vehicle and to allow access for the contractor's equipment, please do not park along the outer edge of the parking lot until the work is completed. Thank you!

You're Invited!

Monday, Aug. 4	Personnel Committee 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 5	Service for Rose Leavitt 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 6	Friendship Committee 1 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 7	Girls Thrive Parking Lot Party 5 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 8	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 10	Worship Service 10 a.m. Social Time 11 a.m. Deacons 11:15 a.m.

Staff

Ministers—Every Member

Pastor—Rev. Emily Cowser

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



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.