

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Vicky Bryan

Organist: Ann Swisher

"The deepest reality of life in the Spirit depicted in the book of Acts is that the disciples of Jesus rarely, if ever, go where they want to go or to whom they would want to go. Indeed the Spirit seems to always be pressing the disciples to go to those to whom they would in fact strongly prefer never to share space, or a meal, and definitely not life together. Yet it is precisely this prodding to be boundary-crossing and border-transgressing that marks the presence of the Spirit of God."

-Willie James Jennings, American theologian and professor

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Now Praise We Christ, the Holy One"

Ludwig Lenel (1914-2002)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us to service,

ALL: rather than honor.

One: God calls us to love the unknown,

ALL: rather than the familiar.

One: We come to this time of worship,

ALL: trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,

One: who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

*HYMN

"Let Us Build a House"

GtG #301

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 prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare
to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand
as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith
of Jesus:

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

Let us build a house where love
is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God,
through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast

that frees us:

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: Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves and mock the humble. We choose to believe we are self-sufficient rather than trust in your strength. Open us to your spirit, that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome, devoting ourselves to your honor alone. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(a moment of silent prayer)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Page 1170
PSALM READING	Psalms 81	Page 920
NEW TESTAMENT READING	Hebrews 13:1-16	Page 1878
SPECIAL MUSIC	"The Luke 14 Banquet" Joni and Friends	
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
GOSPEL READING	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Page 1621
SERMON		
*HYMN	"For Everyone Born" For everyone born, a place at the table,	GtG #769

for everyone born,
clean water and bread,

A shelter, a space,
a safe place for growing,
for everyone born,
a star overhead,

And God will delight
when we are creators
of justice and joy,
compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight
when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man,
a place at the table,
revising the roles,
deciding the share,

With wisdom and grace,
dividing the power,
for woman and man,
a system that's fair,

And God will delight
when we are creators
of justice and joy,
compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight
when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For young and for old,
a place at the table,
a voice to be heard,
a part in the song,

The hands of a child in hands
that are wrinkled,
for young and for old,
the right to belong,

And God will delight
when we are creators
of justice and joy,
compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight
when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For just and unjust,
a place at the table,
abuser, abused,
with need to forgive,

In anger, in hurt,
a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust,
a new way to live,

And God will delight
when we are creators
of justice and joy,
compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight
when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For everyone born,
a place at the table,
to live without fear,
and simply to be,

To work, to speak out,
to witness and worship,
for everyone born,
the right to be free,

And God will delight
when we are creators
of justice and joy,
compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight
when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from the Confession of Belhar

ALL: We believe

**that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the
community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one
another;**

**that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus
Christ;**

**that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a
variety of ways;**

in that we love one another;

that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;

that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of

benefit and

blessing to one another;

together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ;

that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one

another;

that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together

serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or

hinder this unity.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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.

OFFERTORY

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Hermann Schroeder (1914-2002)

***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

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN

"I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table"

GtG #770

I'm gonna eat
at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat
at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat
at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat
at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat and drink
with my Jesus;
I'm gonna eat and drink
with my Jesus, Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat and drink
with my Jesus;
I'm gonna eat and drink
with my Jesus, Alleluia.

I'm gonna join
with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join
with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.

I'm gonna join
with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join
with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.

Here all the world
will find a welcome;
here all the world
will find a welcome, Alleluia.

Here all the world
will find a welcome;
here all the world
will find a welcome, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast
on milk and honey;
we're gonna feast
on milk and honey, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast
on milk and honey;
we're gonna feast
on milk and honey, Alleluia.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Poco vivace”
Hermann Schroeder

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.

Choir Rehearsals Resume Wednesday, Sept. 3

Just a reminder we will begin the choir season with rehearsal on **WEDNESDAY, Sept. 3 at 2:00pm**. Our first Sunday to sing for worship will be **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**. Then, we won't sing on the 21st or the 28th. Beginning Sunday, October 5, we will regularly sing for Sunday Worship, except the LAST Sunday of each month. We have some exciting and meaningful titles to work on.

Tour Train Update

The Tour Train website has announced that, due to a medical emergency, they may not be able to offer a tour on Thursday, Sept. 4 — the date we chose to go as a group. If the train does run that day, we will go ahead as planned. When you visit the website <https://lctours.com/> to buy a ticket, it will let you know whether that date is available.

God's Bounty Available

Sharing God's Bounty is back! This is the opportunity to share some of the wonderful things God has blessed us with. Please feel free to bring things and also free to take from the Sharing God's Bounty table. Remember, it is not just produce to eat, but any of the many things that God has shared with you. Visit with Jim Meyer for more information.

Sarah & Rebekah Circles combine

The Sarah and Rebekah Circles have combined this year to provide one Bible study each month. The first study will be Thursday, Sept. 11, at Touchmark. The study will begin at 10 a.m. For details, visit with Merle Korizek.

You're Invited!

Monday, Sept. 1	<i>Labor Day—Church Office Closed</i>
Wednesday, Sept. 3	Choir Rehearsal 2 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 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)

John Warren
(Nominating & Synergos Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Building & Grounds Chair)

Barb Leland
(Friendship 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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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.