

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Janet Potter

Liturgist: Karen Witte

Organist: Ann Swisher

*Please meditate silently, or listen to the prelude
as you prepare your heart for worship.*

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE “The Mountains Shall Sing”
Dale Wood (1934-2003)

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Who may abide in the presence of God?

ALL: Who may live on God’s holy mountain?

One: All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

ALL: All those who speak truth from their heart.

One: All those who love and care for their family and friends.

ALL: Let us worship our God who dwells with us!

*GATHERING HYMN “When Morning Gilds the Skies” GtG #667

When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?

My comfort still is this:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round
in joyful notes resound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let air and sea and sky
from depth to height reply:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION

ALL: God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts. We are satisfied with human traditions and avoid your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, anger with righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. Create in us a clean heart. By the power of your word save us from the prison of our pride so that we may serve you with sincere hearts. *(moment of silent confession)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PEACE OF CHRIST

*"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.

SPECIAL MUSIC “O For a Heart to Praise My God” Video
 Stephen Steffens; Ann Swisher

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Page 864
 Psalm 15 Page 853

SERMON SCRIPTURE Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Page 1563

SERMON “Living from the Heart”

RESPONSE HYMN “Change My Heart, O God” GtG #695

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

You are the Potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

Change my heart, O God;

make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

You are the Potter;
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—APOSTLE’S CREED

GtG Page 35

COMMUNION MEDITATION “Come to the Table of Grace”
by Barbara Hamm; performed by Jeff Andersen

Video

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord our God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give thanks and praise.

PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “The Gift to Be Simple”
 Dale Wood

*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

SENDING HYMN“ “For the Beauty of the Earth” GtG #14
 (vs. 1-2, 4-5)

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Lord of all,
to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,

hill and vale,
and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:

Lord of all,
to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth,
and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:

Lord of all,
to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great,
great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Lord of all,
to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

BENEDICTION

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Together We Serve”
(vs. 4)

GtG #767

Together, by grace,
we witness and work,
remembering Jesus,
in whom we grow strong.

Together we serve
in Spirit and truth,
remembering love
is the strength of our song.

POSTLUDE

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”
David M. Cherwien (b. 1957)

Announcements

Welcome!

Welcome to all who are worshiping with us today! Hymns and the creed 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. After the service, join us for refreshments and conversation. To bring treats for Fellowship Time, sign up on the sheet on the coffee table.

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.

Save on postage; please pick up your letter today!

Envelopes containing proposed bylaws changes and a letter announcing the called Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Oct. 6, are available for each member this morning in the Fellowship Room. Envelopes are arranged alphabetically by last name. Elders, yours are in your mailboxes in the church office. Remaining envelopes will be mailed Tuesday.

Let's Talk: Grief & Loss discussion Sept. 4

Session 3 will be held on Wed., Sept. 4, at 11 a.m. Interested in attending for the first time? Please speak with Pastor Janet.

We're hosting Family Promise Sept. 8 & 9!

FPC is hosting Family Promise Sunday, Sept. 8, and Monday, Sept. 9. If you can contribute food for the evening meals or be an overnight host at the First Christian Church, please sign up in the fellowship area. For details, visit with Larry Mirch, 406-916-6447.

40th Anniversary Party for Les is Sunday, Sept. 15!

Plan to be here Sunday, Sept. 15, as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Choir Director Les Cramer's work at FPC! The choir will sing at the service and afterwards we will gather for a party in Richardson Hall. If you can bring a pie, please sign up on the sheet on the coffee table. We also have a large card available and hope you will take a moment to write your thanks, gratitude and blessings for Les' service here! See Carol Gneckow for details.

Let's Talk: Synergos! on Sept. 22, 2024, after worship.

Pastor Janet and the PNC will explain the pastor residency program offered by Omaha Seminary Foundation for churches in the Rocky Mountain Synod. Details are in the September "Mustard Seed."

You're Invited!

Wednesday, Sept. 4

Loss & Grief Discussion 11 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 6

Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 8

Worship 10 a.m.

Social Time 11 a.m.

Deacons 11:15 a.m.

Happy Birthday!

2nd Bob Korizek

21st Bonni Belden

27th Steve Granzow

6th Lonna Weidemann

22nd Kya Clausen

30th Mark Goodman

14th Marie Fuhrmann

25th Terry Healow

30th Mike Swisher

14th Judy Bayless

26th Tyler Kaiser

30th Art Bumgardner

21st Bruce Luke

26th Zachary Kaiser



Church 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 Janet Potter

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

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

Staff

Ministers—Every Member

Organist—Ann Swisher

Pastor—Rev. Janet Potter

Treasurer—Leo Potter

Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer

Office Coordinator—Julie Young

FPC Elders

Sheryl Eriksen

(Fellowship chair)

Patti Borsberry

(Worship co-chair)

Linda Bench

(Nominating chair)

Jim Meyer

(Administration chair)

Jeff Chaffee

(Personnel chair)

John Bryan

Butch Plowman

(Building & Grounds chair)

Barb Leland

(Worship co-chair)

Karen Witte

(Mission chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

Vicky Bryan BJ Burns (Moderator)

Bonnie Anderson

Merle Korizek Kathy Chambers

Ward Stiles (Vice-mod.)

Carole Massman Jill Cook

Darlene McNay