

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Les Cramer

Guitarist: Dianna Goodman

"Christianity is at its best when it is peculiar, marginalized, suffering, and it is at its worst when it is popular, credible, triumphal, and powerful."

-Shane Claiborne, author and activist

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

(Chorus)

Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

(Verse)

To see You high and lifted up

Shining in the light of Your glory

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy holy holy

(Bridge)

Holy holy holy

Holy holy holy

Holy holy holy

I want to see You

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from unfoldinglight.net

One: Eternal God, whose breath is the universe, whose Word is the world—

ALL: amazed, we praise you.

One: Creating God, who with delight and play, with wisdom and beauty
fashions every creature—

ALL: in love, we thank you.

One: Loving God, you weave us into the great web of life,
which is our shared home, our common body, our one belonging.

ALL: Grateful, we worship you.

*HYMN

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”

(Chorus)

Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come

(Verse 1)

One day every tongue
Will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose You now

(Verse 2)

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart soul mind and strength
We gladly choose You now

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that the world suffers because of our sin. We use power against others for our own benefit. We misuse the natural resources of the earth in carelessness and greed. By our habits and apathies, others are subjected to desolation, even despair. Forgive us for making enemies and exiles of those you call us to love and serve. Forgive us for laying waste to the landscape of creation. Forgive us for being complicit in causing others to grieve and to wander without rest. We wait on you, O God. We hope in you. You alone

can restore all things, even us. We pray in Christ's 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
One: The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1

Page 1186

PSALM READING
One: The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 79

Page 918

GOSPEL READING
One: The Gospel of the Lord.
ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Luke 16:1-13

Page 1625

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING
One: The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Page 1846

SERMON

*HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

GtG #2

Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:

Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,

come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word,
merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend.

Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.

Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence evermore!

Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from The Confession of 1967

ALL: As members of the church, we are emissaries of peace and seek the good of humankind in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But we have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Our strength is in our confidence that

God's purposes rather than humans' schemes will finally prevail.

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

***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 "We Are One in the Spirit" GtG #300**

We are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored:

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

We will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land:

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

We will work with each other;
we will work side by side;
we will work with each other;
we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity
and save human pride:

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit,
who makes us one:

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Great Are You, Lord”

GtG #614

Great are you, Lord:
you are holy and just;
by your power we trust
in your love.

Great are you, Lord:
you are faithful and true;
by your mercy you prove
you are love.

Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of glory!
Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of praise.

Great are you, Lord.
We lift up our voice;
we lift up our voice:
great are you, Lord!
Great are you, Lord!

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.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Emily will be out of the office this week, attending a stewardship conference. If you or someone you know needs pastoral care while she is gone, you may contact Dianna Goodman, Butch Plowman, or your shepherd. Or, you may call the church office at 406-442-4775, and Julie will forward your request to the appropriate contact person. Pastor Emily returns Friday.

We are the Peacemakers

Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are helping our neighbors in need — those who live next door, down the street, and across the globe. Our neighbors need us. Please give what you can to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. *Thank you!*

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.

Friday Bible Study Returns

The Friday Bible Study has returned, meeting at noon every Friday at the church to explore a book of the Bible. All are welcome, and you can join in any time. For more information, visit with study leader John Coefield.

New FPC Helena Brochures Available

Updated FPC Helena brochures have been printed and are available on the fireplace in the entryway. Take some to share with those people you've been wanting to invite to church.

You're Invited!

Friday, Sept. 26

Friday Bible Study 12/noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 28

Worship Service 10 a.m.
Social Time 11 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 & Synergos 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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Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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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.