

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Patti Borsberry

Organist: Ann Swisher

“Authentic abundance does not lie in secured stockpiles of food or cash or influence or affection but in belonging to a community where we can give those goods to others who need them - and receive them from others when we are in need...abundance is a communal act, the joint creation of an incredibly complex ecology in which each part functions on behalf of the whole and, in return, is sustained by the whole. Community doesn't just create abundance – community *is* abundance. If we could learn that equation from the world of nature, the human world might be transformed.”

-Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Aria”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Joanna Harader

One: Gentle and patient

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: Intentional and persistent

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: In times of grief and in times of praise

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: Through the struggles and through the victories

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: Unexpected and planned

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: In a still small voice and in power

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: Spontaneous and prepared

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: In our willingness and in our reluctance

ALL: Jesus calls us to follow him.

One: Jesus is eager to show us the way. May we enter worship open to his leading.

*HYMN

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

GtG #803

My shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes
me feed,
beside the living stream.

He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through
the shades of death
your presence is my stay;
one word of your
supporting breath
drives all my fears away.

Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows;
your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;

O may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.

There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest,
but like a child at home.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen. *(a moment of silent confession)*

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*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 Exodus 12:1-28

Page 104

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING

Psalms 149

Read Responsively

(from the St. Helena Psalter)

One: Let the people of Israel rejoice in their Maker;

ALL: let the children of Zion be joyful in their Monarch.

One: Let them praise God's Name in the dance;

ALL: let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.

One: For God takes pleasure in the people

ALL: and adorns the poor with victory.

One: Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;

ALL: let them be joyful on their beds.

One: Let the praises of God be in their throat

ALL: and a two-edged sword in their hand;

One: To wreak vengeance on the nations

ALL: and punishment on the peoples;

One: To bind their rulers in chains

ALL: and their nobles with links of iron;

One: To inflict on them the judgment decreed;

ALL: this is glory for all God's faithful people. Hallelujah!

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 13:8-14

Page 1765

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"His Grace Will Carry You"

Video

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Mark 8:14-21

Page 1566

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON—Adventures of the Disciples: The Yeast of the Pharisees and of Herod

A TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

*HYMN

“Taste and See”

GtG #520

(Congregation sings refrain only)

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.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken

through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him”

Jan Bender (1909-1994)

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.

***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**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

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

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

GtG #552

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full
of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

GtG #643

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;

Who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;

And keep us in God's grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God,
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son
and Spirit now be given:

The one eternal God,

whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is,
and shall be evermore.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Allegro”

Jan Bender

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.

Milk Campaign Begins; Carnival Next Sunday!

FPC is joining several local churches this month in raising money to buy milk for the Helena Food Share Kid Packs. The packs are distributed throughout the school year to students in need, providing some food for the weekends. Last year, 41,090 packs were distributed. FPC will be gathering donations throughout the month, and Mission & Outreach invites you to “get in touch with the kid in you” on Sunday, Sept. 13, when you can buy tickets to play carnival games here, with proceeds going to the campaign. Find details in the September *Mustard Seed*, or visit with Carol Gneckow.

Women’s Bible Study Starts Thursday, Sept. 10

The Women’s Bible Study will resume meeting Thursday, Sept. 10, at 10 a.m. The group meets at the church the second Thursday of each month, and all women are invited to participate. Visit with Merle Korizek for details.

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.

You're Invited!

- Tuesday Sept. 8** Admin Committee 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 9 Buildings & Grounds 10 a.m.
Congregational Life 1 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 10 Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 13 Worship Service 10 a.m.
Milk Campaign Carnival 11 a.m.
Deacons 11:15 a.m.

Shaped by the grace of our sovereign God, we follow Jesus Christ
by growing in faith, supporting one another, and sharing
Christ's love in our community and the wider world.

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

John Bryan
(Congregational Life Co-Chair)

Dianna Goodman
(Nominating Chair)

Jim Meyer
(Administration Co-Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Buildings & Grounds Chair)

Carol Gneckow
(Mission & Outreach Chair)

Max Oliver, Clerk of Session

Patti Borsberry
(Congregational Life Co-Chair)

Matthew Richards
(Administration Co-Chair)

FPC Deacons

Bonnie Anderson

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Vicky Bryan

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman

Wanda Jewell

Alysia Ryan



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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.