



Open my ears, that I may hear  
voices of truth thou sendest clear.

And while the wave notes  
fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears; illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
gladly the warm truth everywhere.  
Open my heart, and let me prepare  
love with thy children  
thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart; illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

**\*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                      Genesis 12:1-9                      Page 17

One: The Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING                      Psalm 121                      Page 965

One: The Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING                      Romans 4:1-25                      Page 1751

One: The Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM                      "These Forty Days"  
Claudia Hernaman, Zollene Reissner

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING                      John 3:1-21                      Page 1649

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON

\*HYMN                      "Baptized in Water"                      GtG #482

Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood

of Christ our King;

Heirs of salvation,  
trusting the promise,  
faithfully now God's praises  
we sing.

Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb  
with Christ our King;

One with his rising,  
freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praises  
we sing.

Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign  
of Christ our King;

Born of the Spirit,  
we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praises  
we sing.

\*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 "Christ, the Lamb of God"

J.S. Bach

*Offering plates are located in the back of the sanctuary. You may also give online at [fpchelena.org/giving](http://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

“Guide My Feet”

GtG #741

Guide my feet while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

Guide my feet while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

Hold my hand while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

hold my hand while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

Hold my hand while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

Stand by me while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

stand by me while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

Stand by me while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

I'm your child while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

I'm your child while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

I'm your child while I run this race,

for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

Search my heart while I run  
this race; (yes, my Lord!)  
search my heart while I run  
this race; (yes, my Lord!)

Search my heart while I run  
this race,  
for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

Guide my feet while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)  
guide my feet while I run this race;  
(yes, my Lord!)

Guide my feet while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race  
in vain! (race in vain!)

\*CHARGE

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“All Men Are Mortal”

J.S. Bach

## 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!

## **Home Communion**

Today, we are celebrating Communion in our in-person worship service. We are glad to extend Communion to congregants who are unable to join us in person by having two of our elders/deacons visit for home Communion. If you are in need of home Communion, please contact Art Bumgardner, moderator of the deacons. We want to ensure that all in our congregation are able to celebrate Communion.

## **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.

## **Friendship Committee Invites You to Dinner**

Your Friendship Committee has planned a POET Society dinner (Presbyterians Out Eating Together!) for Wednesday night, March 4, at 5:30 at the Overland Express Restaurant. If you're interested in going out to dinner with your Presbyterian friends, please let Barb know, and she will make a reservation. Thanks!

## **New Bible Study Starts March 12**

*"Who is the Holy Spirit"* Bible Study will begin Thursday, March 12, at noon, at the church. This is a one hour, 12-week series with a video and workbook. If you have questions about the study, please talk to John Bryan. If you are interested in attending the Bible Study, please sign up at the table at the entrance to the sanctuary.

## **You're Invited!**

<b>Monday, March 2</b>	Personnel Committee 10 a.m.
<b>Wednesday, March 4</b>	Choir 2 p.m. POET Society Dinner 5:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday, March 5</b>	Sarah & Rebekah Study 10 a.m.
<b>Friday, March 6</b>	Bible Study 12/Noon Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, March 8</b>	Worship Service 10 a.m. Social Time 11 a.m. Deacons 11:15 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

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(Worship Chair)

**John Bryan**

(Christian Ed Chair)

**Jim Meyer**

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