

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Janet Potter
Liturgist: Arlyn "Butch" Plowman
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

"In Joyful Praise"
Laurence Lyon (1934-2006)

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather to worship God,

ALL: Who creates us and loves us;

One: Who gifts us with diversity and makes us for community;

ALL: Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

One: Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people of all ages,

ALL: To seek justice, share power, and live together in love and equality;

One: Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and wellbeing for all,

ALL: And whose presence, grace, and love sustain us in our living.

One: We gather to worship God.

ALL: To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

*GATHERING HYMN "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" GtG #761

Called as partners
in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with
deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work
and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns
for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.

Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength
for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each
person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have been apathetic and too often silent in the face of injustice. We fail to see or acknowledge how we contribute to systems of inequity, racism and poverty. Lord, you are slow to anger, full of compassion and graciousness. Forgive us again and help us to live as your disciples.

(moment of silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news:

ALL: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

PEACE OF CHRIST

• “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

GtG #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Blessed Be the Name of the Lord”
by Clinton Utterbach

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES Amos 5:18-24 Page 1426

Isaiah 58-all Page 1152

SERMON SCRIPTURES Matthew 25:31-40 Page 1542

James 1:19-27 Page 1881

SERMON “Being the Church: Promote Justice!”

*RESPONSE HYMN: “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky/Here I Am, Lord” GtG #69

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling
in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling
in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling
in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—APOSTLES' CREED

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THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Aria”

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

*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

CLOSING HYMN

"Let All Things Now Living"

GtG #37

Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator
triumphantly raise;

Who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end
of our days.

God's banners are o'er us;
pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth
in the night:

Till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel
from light into light.

By law God enforces,
the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit
obediently shine;

The hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean
proclaim God divine.

We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration,
a song let us raise,

Till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest,
hosanna and praise!

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Go Now in Peace"

Don Besig; Nancy Price

(Choir will sing verse 1, then congregation sings both verses)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there, watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE

"Ricercare on St. Anne"

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Announcements

Welcome to Worship

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor. After the service, please join us for coffee, snacks, and conversation. You can also contribute by volunteering to bring treats for Fellowship Time. Sign up on the sheet on the coffee table. FYI: Air cleaners in the sanctuary will be off during worship.

Holy Communion

We celebrate Holy Communion today and the first Sunday of every month. Please come forward to receive the bread, dip it in the cup, and eat. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and we will bring the bread and cup to you.

Boy Scout Sunday

Welcome, Boy Scout Troop 1228! Scout Sunday is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. FPC has sponsored Troop 1228 since 1972.

Annual Reports Available

Copies of the 2022 Annual Report are available in the fellowship room today. The Annual Meeting will take place next Sunday, Feb. 12, after the worship service.

Cards & Candy

Please turn in your cards today for the Cards & Candy project. If you have forgotten them at home, please bring them by Tuesday noon. The cards will be completed and sealed that afternoon. The cards will be delivered **Monday, February 13, at 1 p.m.** If you'd like to participate, please **meet at the church at 12:45** and we can pool rides. Thank you for your participation. The Mission Committee hopes you enjoyed this opportunity to share your light with others on Valentine's Day.

Matthew 25 – Paper Chain Links

Thank you to all who completed paper links. If you have not picked up a packet of paper links, please take one from the basket on the table just outside the Sanctuary. You may place your completed links in that same basket.

The Mission Committee reminds you this is not a once-and-done project, but is on-going. Challenge yourself to complete at least one or two links each day. Each evening just think about your activities for the day, and write down a kindness you preformed for another person. It truly is that simple. It's caring about and for others. It's the little things.

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Janet

Mark Your Calendars! Saturday, Feb. 18, at 10 a.m., come join Pastor Janet for Conversation and Coffee. We will end by 11:30 a.m. This is the first in a series of four conversations as we discern God's way for FPC Helena through prayer and discussion. No need to rsvp, just come! If you can't attend this one, you are welcome to attend any of the other conversations. Future dates to be announced. Questions, please ask Janet or call the office.

Scholarships Available

Applications are open for the Seeley Family Memorial Scholarship and Larry Linton Scholarship. The scholarships provide assistance to students who are members of FPC or related to a member of FPC and can be used toward post-secondary education. Details are available in the fellowship room and on the fpchelena.org website. Due date is March 17.

Women's Bible Study

Pastor Janet is leading a women's Bible study this month using the book, "From Widows to Warriors: Women's Stories from the Old Testament," by Rev. Dr. Lynn Japinga. For details, contact her by email at: pastor@fpchelena.org or call the church office at 406-442-4775.

FPC to Host Family Promise

FPC will host Family Promise Sunday, Feb. 26, and Monday, Feb. 27. We will need people to prepare meals and also to serve as overnight hosts for the families, who will be staying at First Christian Church. For details, visit with Joy Edgar, 406-202-2200.

February Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all who celebrate their birth this month!

Feb. 1: Charlotte Meyer **Feb. 21:** Mary Craigle
Feb. 12: Linda Granzow **Feb. 22:** Jane Ogle
Feb. 13: Sheryl Eriksen **Feb. 29:** Ron Witte
Feb. 16: Stephen Bayless

You're Invited:

Monday, Feb. 6

Education 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb, 7

Sarah Circle 10 a.m.

Women's Bible Study 1 p.m.

Personnel 3 p.m.

Special Session Meeting 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Building & Grounds 10 a.m.

Fellowship 2 p.m.

Administration 4 p.m.

Choir 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 10

Bible Study 12 Noon

Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 12

Worship 10 a.m.

Annual Meeting 11 a.m.