

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pulpit Supply: Arlyn “Butch” Plowman

Liturgist: Jim Meyer

Organist: Ann Swisher

“How does Christ’s resurrection benefit us? First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ’s resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.”

-Section 4.045 PC(US) Book of Confessions, Heidelberg Catechism Q45

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Aria”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God, in your house there are many dwelling places—room for all your Beloved.

ALL: We belong to you.

One: Christ, you prepare a place for us and come for us and take us into yourself.

ALL: We come to you.

One: We are in you, and you are in us, and we are in Christ.

ALL: We worship you. Alleluia!

*HYMN

“Thine Is the Glory”

GtG #238

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;

endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom.

Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting.

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife.

Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above.

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen. *(a moment of silent confession)*

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS—1 Corinthians 15:20-22 (NRSV)

One: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being. For as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 7:54-60

Page 1704

*Stephen, stoned to death for his faith, sees Jesus at God’s right hand,
prays forgiveness for his killers.*

When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they became very angry. They were so angry they ground their teeth at Stephen. But he was full of the Holy Spirit. He looked up to heaven and saw God’s glory. He saw Jesus standing at God’s right hand. “Look!” he said. “I see heaven open. The Son of Man is standing at God’s right hand.”

When the Sanhedrin heard this, they covered their ears. They yelled at the top of their voices. They all rushed at him. They dragged him out of the city. They began to throw stones at him to kill him. The people who had brought false charges against Stephen took off their coats. They

placed them at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While the members of the Sanhedrin were throwing stones at Stephen, he prayed. "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," he said. Then he fell on his knees. He cried out, "Lord! Don't hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he died.

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (The Message)

Page 867

One: I run to you, GOD; I run for dear life. Don't let me down! Take me seriously this time!

ALL: Get down on my level and listen, and please—no procrastination!

One: Your granite cave a hiding place, your high cliff nest a place of safety.

ALL: You're my cave to hide in, my cliff to climb.

One: Be my safe leader, be my true mountain guide.

ALL: Free me from hidden traps; I want to hide in you.

One: I've put my life in your hands. You won't drop me, you'll never let me down.

ALL: Hour by hour I place my days in your hand, safe from the hands out to get me.

One: Warm me, your servant, with a smile; save me because you love me.

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Page 1888

We are "living stones, built as a spiritual house" for God.

Like newborn babies, you should long for the pure milk of God's word. It will help you grow up as believers. You can do this now that you have tasted how good the Lord is.

Christ is the living Stone. People did not accept him, but God chose him. God places the highest value on him. You also are like living stones. As you come to Christ, you are being built into a house for worship. There you will be holy priests. You will offer spiritual sacrifices. God will accept them because of what Jesus Christ has done. In Scripture it says,

"Look! I am placing a stone in Zion.

It is a chosen and very valuable stone.

It is the most important stone in the building.

The one who trusts in him

will never be put to shame." (Isaiah 28:16)

This stone is very valuable to you who believe. But to people who do not believe,

“The stone the builders did not accept
has become the most important stone of all.” (Psalm 118:22)

And,

“It is a stone that causes people to trip.
It is a rock that makes them fall.” (Isaiah 8:14)

They trip and fall because they do not obey the message. That is also what God planned for them.

But God chose you to be his people. You are royal priests. You are a holy nation. You are God’s special treasure. You are all these things so that you can give him praise. God brought you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people. But now you are the people of God. Once you had not received mercy. But now you have received mercy.

One: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Ave Verum”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, ed. Leonard Van Camp

GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-14

Page 1675

*“There’s lots of room in God’s house...
You who trust will do the works that I do, and even greater...”*

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I

am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

“Room For You”

*HYMN

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

GtG #377

I want to walk as a child
of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light
to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day
are both alike.

The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness
of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness,
shine on my path, and show me
the way to the Father.

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day
are both alike.

The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming
of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run
with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day
are both alike.
The Lamb is the light
of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

*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

“Allegretto”
Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

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

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”

GtG #538

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled
with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled
with gladness.

Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread.

I am wine, I am bread:

give to all who thirst and hunger.

Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread.

I am wine, I am bread:

give to all who thirst and hunger.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;

all our hearts are filled

with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;

all our hearts are filled

with gladness.

Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.

Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.

Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;

all our hearts are filled

with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;

all our hearts are filled

with gladness.

***RESPONSIVE SENDING**

One: Go into the world: dance, laugh, sing, and create.

ALL: We go with the assurance of God's blessing.

One: Go into the world: risk, explore, discover, and love.

ALL: We go with the assurance of God's grace.

One: Go into the world: believe, hope, struggle, and remember.

ALL: We go with the assurance of God's love. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Allegro—Maestoso"

Flor Peeters

Announcements

Welcome!

Welcome to visitors joining us for worship today. Hymns are in the "Glory to God" (GtG) hymnal in the pews and 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 end of the service. Please join us for refreshments and conversation afterwards!

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.

Pastoral Care in May

Pastor Emily is out of the office until May 19. Thank you to Butch Plowman for filling the pulpit today. Thank you also to CLP Dianna Goodman for being available for emergency pastoral care May 1-6.

POET Society Dinner Wednesday, May 6

Our next POET Society dinner will be Wednesday, May 6, at 5:30pm, at the Grub Stake. Fun, games, conversation and good food. Email Barb if you wish to attend. This will be the final POET dinner of the season; we will resume in September.

You're Invited!

Monday, May 4

Personnel Committee 10 a.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Choir 2 p.m.

Bell Choir 3:30 p.m.

	POET Society Dinner 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 7	Sarah & Rebekah Study 10 a.m. <i>Holy Spirit</i> Bible Study 12/Noon
Friday, May 8	Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	Worship Service 10 a.m. Social Time 11 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

Patti Borsberry (Worship Chair)	John Bryan (Christian Ed Chair)	Jim Meyer (Administration Chair)
Jeff Chaffee (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	Bonnie Anderson	Vicky Bryan
Kathy Chambers	Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator	Art Bumgardner, Moderator
Jill Cook		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.