

Spreading the Good News of Christ
Through Our Love, Words, and Actions

“Ascended Advocate”



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601

May 28, 2017

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 28, 2017

Ascension Sunday / Seventh Sunday of Easter

Lay Liturgist - Art Bumgardner

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Adagio from Op. 29, Trio I” by E. Friedrich Richter (1808-1879)

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

a time of quiet contemplation

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) *adapted from Psalms 47:1, 6; 93:4; Ephesians 1:20*

Leader: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

People: Alleluia: The Lord is risen indeed!

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with joy!

People: Sing praises to God; sing praises!

Leader: Christ is risen from the dead and reigns in heaven.

People: How majestic is the Lord on high.

*OPENING PRAYER

Based on Luke 24:44–53; Acts 1:1–11; Ephesians 1:15–23

*HYMN

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

See screen

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Hebrews 4:14, 16

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Living God, we confess that we look for the living among the dead. You made Christ the head of the church; still we seek to exalt ourselves. You put all things under his feet; still we seek to humble others. Forgive us; give us new life! Lift up our hearts to heaven, where your new life awaits us, the life that death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(observe a moment of silent personal reflection and meditation)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON – *Passing the Peace (responsive) Based on I John 2:1-2*

Leader: Speak the good news of the gospel:

People: If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,

Leader: Jesus Christ the righteous;

People: He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,

Leader; not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

People: In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you,

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us share signs of Christ’s peace with one another.

*GLORIA PATRI

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Creator Rhythm” by Pepper Choplin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON:

Acts 1:1-11 (page 1690 Pew Bible)

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascends into heaven.

EPISTLE LESSON:

Ephesians 1:15-23 (page 1818 Pew Bible)

Christ is seated at God’s right hand, above every earthly power.

GOSPEL LESSON:

Luke 24:44–53 (page 1644 Pew Bible)

Jesus interprets the Scriptures; then he is carried up into heaven.

SERMON

“Ascended Advocate”

CRE Arlyn “Butch” Plowman

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*responsive*)

Adapted from Heidelberg Catechism Q49 PC (USA) Book of Confessions 4.049

Leader: How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us?

People: First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.

Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself.

Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit’s power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand.

RESPONSE HYMN

“I Love to Tell the Story”

See screen

INVITATION TO OFFERING

from Hebrews 13:16

OFFERTORY

“Blessed Are You Who Live in Faith” by Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*DOXOLOGY

*OFFERTORY PRAYER:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

culminating with the Lord’s Prayer

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

caring, sharing, news and announcements

*SENDING HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

See screen

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“God Be With You”**

See screen

POSTLUDE

“Andante sostenuto from Op. 65, No. 9” by Johann G. Herzog (1822-1909)

Welcome, Guests!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us. We pray for all of us a spiritually satisfying and challenging encounter with the Living Christ. If you would like to know more about the people and programs of this church, be in touch with our pastor, Rev. Wipperman, 442-4775, visit our website: www.fpchelena.com, or take a copy of our monthly church newsletter, *The Mustard Seed*. If possible, return next Lord's Day!



STAFF

Ministers
Pastor
CRE of Pastoral Care
Director of Christian Education
& Financial Coordinator
Director of Music and Media
Administrative Assistant
Outside Custodian
Organist

Every Member
Rev. Scott Wipperman
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman
Lexsey Carpenter

Les Cramer
Bruce A. Luke
Kelly Craigle
Ann Swisher

ELDERS

Linda Bench - 2019
Marvin Carpenter - 2017
Kathy Chambers - 2019
Marsha Davis - 2018
Marshall Gingery - 2017
John Gneckow - 2018
Dianna Goodman - 2019
Rose Leavitt - 2017
Melissa Stiles - 2018
John Warren - 2018
Deb Whitcomb - 2017
Elaine Gingery, Clerk

DEACONS

Judy Birch - 2017
Rena Bumgardner - 2019
Joy Edgar - 2019
Carol Gneckow - 2018
Barrie Heinecke - 2017
Merle Korizek - 2017
Corky Lord - 2018
Carole Massman - 2018
Carol Meyeres - 2017
Jim & Charlotte Meyer - 2018
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman - 2019
Jeannie Pullin - 2017
Ward & Mary Stiles - 2019

**First Presbyterian Church of Helena
535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601**

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM
Church Office: (406) 442-4775**

**E-mail: admin@fpchelena.com
Website: www.fpchelena.org**



CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	28	8:45 am	Small Group
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	29	OFFICE	CLOSED - Memorial Day
Tuesday	30	10:00 am	VBS training
		11:00 am	Bridge Club - ACBL Unit 411
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
Wednesday	31	9:30 am	Willing Workers
Thursday	1	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		4:00 pm	Praise Band practice
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book” - AA Group
Friday	2	12:00 pm	Small Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot in Ruth Room
		7:00 pm	AA- Friday Night Speaker
Sunday	4	8:45 am	Small Group
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour / Pentecost Sunday (wear red!!)
		11:15 am	Usher Training
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group

Spring Clean Up

Mark your calendars!! June 2 & 3 (Friday and Saturday) will be your next opportunity to help “spruce up” the church. Soon, sign-up sheets will be available by the entry for you to signal how you’d like to participate.

Building & Grounds Committee

Deacons-On-Call

Need a ride, a meal or a home repair?
Call a Deacon on Call

Carole Massman (443-5281)
Merle Korizek (443-3793)

Ushers

Ushers Today ⁽²⁸⁾

Kathy Chambers, Carole Massman, Mary Wright

Ushers Next Week ⁽⁴⁾

Linda Bench, Judy Birch, Mary Wright

BINGO

NIGHT

June 9th at 6:00 pm

Lost Soles Hike



will be on **Sunday, June 11**. Everyone wanting to hike will **meet at the church parking lot at 2 pm**.

“Pray without ceasing.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17



Prayer for Strength and Healing

Bob Burns	Mazie Radcliff
Sally Luke	Steve Granzow
Hal Radcliff	Linda Granzow
Donna Carey	Louise Cramer
Jinx Sampson	Newell Anderson
Doris Casebolt	Heather Voeller Waters
Yvonne Moody	Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son
Marshall Gingery	Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister
Toston LaFournaise	Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law
Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother	Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law
Carolyn Coefield, the Coefields' daughter	Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter
Julianne Curtis, Barrie Heinecke's friend	Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law

Please keep the Military in your Prayers

Dan Boyer	Rick Kosticki
Barry Mattson	Robbie McCain
Grant Demaree	

If you have PRAYER NEEDS, please take advantage of our Prayer Chapel after worship, a peaceful place to commune with God. And, should you desire, Prayer Request Cards are available in the Prayer Chapel (leave the card in the chapel, and it will be picked up), as well as in the back of the pews (place card in the offering plate). If you would like someone to pray with you, please see the pastor or any deacon or elder.

Calling all Green Thumbs!

The Memorial Committee is seeking friends with love for growing things to help weed and nurture the Memorial Garden. You are welcome to volunteer a specific time, random drop-ins or whatever fits your schedule. Please visit with Merle Korizek, Rose Leavitt or Kathy Chambers if you are interested joining us in adding to the beauty of the church grounds. Thank you.

“Lost Soles” Returns

Our next Lost Soles hike will be **Sunday, June 11**. Jane and Pastor Scott are still brainstorming where we will hike (possibly a quick trip to K2!?!). Wear good walking shoes and bring some water and sun screen - *trail-mix* if you like!



Family Promise of Greater Helena



TODAY and tomorrow we are hosting Family Promise, and if you would like to help this mission of the church, we will be serving dinner today and tomorrow, Monday, May 29. Lucille and Elaine will be out of town on those dates so we are looking for other people to step in and make these dinners happen. This is a mission of this church.

We are looking for people to prepare parts of the meal and to eat dinner with our Family Promise guests. We also need someone to spend the night at First Baptist Church along with a volunteer from the Baptist Church.

If you know of someone who could use the help of Family Promise, the contact number is 465-9467.

Questions or to volunteer, call Lucille Letcher at 443-3497 or Elaine Gingery at 461-0561 or email at megingery@bresnan.net

Congregational Fellowship...volunteers needed to provide treats on Sunday mornings. There's a sign-up sheet on the coffee table, if you're able to bake or buy cookies, bars, fruit, etc., to go along with our coffee and punch after the church services. Thanks!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING *Tuesday, May 30, 2017, at 10:00 am*

There will be training for the volunteers. Many community children have signed up, so we need lots of church volunteers for various parts of VBS.
Contact Lexsey for more details at 442-4775 or 4715.

Next Presbytery Retreat!

The next Presbytery Retreat is June 17 & 18 in Hot Springs, MT. We are having another great guest speaker, Ben Mathes, the founder of Rivers of the World. For over 20 years, ROW has tackled critical needs in some of the most remote areas on the planet, providing both medical care and "spiritual care" - leading thousands to Christ. Ben is also an ordained Presbyterian Pastor. The Hot Springs congregation is inviting you to come early on Friday the 16th and enjoy the hot springs and/or fellowship at the church. Some reserved rooms are at Alameda's (406-741-2283); ask for the Presbytery/Risa Paul block. See poster around the church for more information.

PW CIRCLE MEETINGS

Abigail Circle	1st Tuesdays	9:30 am
Esther Circle	1st Tuesdays	9:30 am
Rebekah Circle	1st Thursdays	9:30 am

PRAYER REQUEST

This week we are praying for the Cut Bank congregation. Cut Bank is located northwest of Great Falls on U.S. 2, just east of the Blackfeet Reservation. They are a part of the Hi-Line/Missouri River Cluster. This is the church our own Butch Plowman served for about a year and a half while they were between pastors.

Cut Bank PC has started a new Sunday evening contemporary worship service, and they stream their Sunday morning service using Facebook-Live. You can learn more about them on their Facebook Page. Ric Beals serves as their pastor, and Shawn Christiaens serves as their clerk.

Lanham Lectures & Come to the Waters at Glacier Camp

Come to the 7th annual “Tim Lanham Lectures” at Glacier Camp on July 9-11. Tim is the pastor of Sunrise Presbyterian Church in Great Falls, MT - and is very good at “original languages” (i.e., Hebrew and Greek). The title of the retreat is “Creation, Redemption, and the Kingdom of God.” The Bible gives witness to God’s acts of creation in more than just the first two chapters of Genesis. Tim will explore where and why these themes of creation occur, and we’ll discuss the significant connection between the Bible’s understanding of God as Creator and God as Redeemer. See posters for more information and call Marsha Anson to register (406.871.2135)

USHER TRAINING

June 4, 2017

11:15 a.m.

There will be Usher Training following the worship service on Sunday, June 4, 2017, in Lib. West.

Memory Verse

Jesus prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me.
Yet not my will, but as you will.”

- Matthew 26:39 (NIV)

Thought for the week

I will trust the path that God lays before me.