

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

“Make Ready a People”



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

535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601

December 3, 2017

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

** Please stand if you are able*

WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC **“Savior of the Nations, Come”** *by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD MOMENT: ***#MoreHope***

*OPENING HYMN: **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” #244**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

I invite you to pass the peace and hope of Christ with your neighbors, for each time we connect with one another, hope grows.

GLORIA PATRI

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 1:5-25, 57-80** *(adopted from The Voice translation)*

THE WORD IN MUSIC **“An Advent Alleluia”** *by Douglas Wagner, Charles Wesley*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD **“Make Ready a People”**
Rev. Scott Wipperman

WE RESPOND

*RESPONSE HYMN: **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** **#245**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CONFESSION

GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY **“Bouree in G minor”** *by J.S. Bach.*
Performed by Madisyn Gard, flute; Hezekiah Rowland, clarinet

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN **“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”** **#251**

THE MISSION TO THE MESSENGERS

BENEDICTION

MUSIC FOR GOING OUT **“Canon”** *by Andre Wormser*
Performed by Madisyn Gard, flute; Hezekiah Rowland, clarinet

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|----------|---|
| Sunday | 3 | 8:30 am | Sunday Morning Small Group Study |
| | | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Education Hour |
| | | 12:00 pm | AA Study Group |
| Monday | 4 | 10:00 am | Education meeting |
| | | 6:00 pm | Helena X-Press Singers |
| | | 7:00 pm | Girl Scouts |
| Tuesday | 5 | 9:30 am | Abigail Circle |
| | | 9:30 am | Esther Circle |
| | | 11:00 pm | Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411 |
| | | 5:30 pm | Personnel Committee meeting |
| | | 7:00 pm | Elizabeth Circle |
| | | 7:00 pm | AL-ANON meeting |
| | | 7:00 pm | Boy Scouts |
| Wednesday | 6 | 10:00 am | Willing Workers |
| | | 11:30 am | Congregational Fellowship Committee meeting |
| | | 5:00 pm | Advent meal |
| | | 6:00 pm | Advent worship service |
| Thursday | 7 | 9:30 am | Rebekah Circle |
| | | 11:00 am | Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411 |
| | | 4:00 pm | Praise Band |
| | | 7:00 pm | “It’s In the Book - AA Group |
| Friday | 8 | 12:00 pm | Friday Study Group |
| | | 1:00 pm | Hand & Foot - Ruth Room |
| Sunday | 10 | 8:30 am | Sunday Morning Small Group Study |
| | | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Education Hour |
| | | 12:00 pm | AA Study Group |

Deacons-On-Call

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

Jim & Charlotte Meyer (449-3030)

Ushers

Ushers Today ⁽³⁾

Linda Bench, Judy Birch
Mary Wright

Ushers Next Week ⁽¹⁰⁾

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord
John & Carol Gneckow

Prayers for Strength and Healing

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sally Luke | Gale Johnson |
| Bob Burns | Newell Anderson |
| B. J. Burns | Jennifer Massman |
| Donna Carey | Heather Voeller Waters |
| John Gneckow | Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son |
| Doris Casebolt | Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother |
| Mazie Radcliffe | Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister |
| Yvonne Moody | Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law |
| Steve Granzow | Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law |
| Linda Granzow | Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law |
| Louise Cramer | Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter |
| Toston LaFournaise | Nicole McAllister, Pastor Scott's grand-daughter |
| Amanda Grimmert | Annaliese Rose Hammerschmidt - Amanda Grimmett's daughter |

Please keep the Military in your Prayers

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Dan Boyer | Rick Kosticki |
| Barry Mattson | Robbie McCain |
| Grant Demaree | |

Prayer Request Cards

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) or next to the cross in the Youth room, 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.

Prayer Request

This week we are offering prayers of thanksgiving for Rev. Dr. Chuck Carlson. Chuck recently moved from Illinois to Lakeside and has become a member of Glacier Presbytery. While Chuck is a new member of our Presbytery, he is not new to our area. Chuck grew up in Great Falls and later served as the Associate Pastor for us from 1974-1976. He also is a certified Spiritual Director. It is a blessing to welcome Chuck to Glacier Presbytery.

Come and enjoy a low-impact exercise that's easy, free and available to EVERYONE!



Each Tuesday & Thursday, at 10:00 am in Centennial Park by the flagpole next to the YMCA, a group from our church family ventures out into the fresh open air (*now that there is no forest fire smoke*) to enjoy a time of exercise and fellowship as they walk along the park walking path. Come and join them if you're looking for walking partners...or even if you're not because **EVERYONE** is welcome to join and it's **FREE!!**

2017 Per Capita

If you pledged to offer a Per Capita contribution for 2017 and have yet to do so, this would be a great time to make that donation! And, even if you didn't pledge to do so, FPC would appreciate it if you made such a donation. The Per Capita rate for 2017 was \$40 per member. Thanks to all who have made Per Capita donations in 2017! If you are making your 2018 pledge, please consider pledging to offer the Per Capita donation - \$45 dollars per member for this coming year. Per Capita funds the operations of our connectional church from the Presbytery, up through Synod, to the General Assembly.

Year-End Donations

As you consider making year end donations, please keep FPC in mind! Session began 2017 with a \$62k "faith budget", meaning that we moved forward in faith that the \$62k gap between our anticipated income and our budgeted expenses would be closed. Through the generosity of members, friends, and guests and careful stewardship of our budget, FPC's expenses through October are just \$12,831 greater than our income (had we not been meeting our faith budget at all we'd be \$51.67 in the red through October). Your gifts to FPC before the end of the year will help position FPC in good shape for 2018, and they will likely earn you a deduction on your taxes if you itemize. So, please consider the ministries of FPC in your year-end giving!

Memory Verse

And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

- Luke 1:45

Thought for the Week

You are the stars and the world is watching you. By your presence you send a message to every village, every city, every nation. A message of hope. A message of victory.

- Eunice Kennedy Shriver



Annaliese Rose Hammerschmidt Baby Shower

Please join us in welcoming Annaliese Rose, daughter of Amanda Grimmert and Brian Hammerschmidt, the newest addition to our church family. All are welcome to join us for cake and coffee following the worship service during our fellowship time in the narthex.

John Floridis Seasonal Benefit Concert for Family Promise

Tuesday, December 12, 7:00pm
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
512 Logan Street, Helena

John Floridis, Missoula guitarist and singer-songwriter, will be performing a benefit concert for Family Promise of Greater Helena on **Tuesday, December 12, at 7:00pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church**, 512 Logan Street, in Helena. Attendance is free of charge. Monetary contributions are encouraged and will be accepted at the performance. The concert is generously supported by **Big Sky Brokers** of Helena.

Floridis will be performing material from his two seasonal releases "**December's Quiet Joy**" and "**The Peaceful Season**" both of which feature his fingerstyle acoustic guitar arrangements of traditional Christmas/Winter melodies, as well as original compositions. Floridis will also include uplifting and positive vocal songs in the performance. The audience will escape the frantic stress that too often pervades the holiday season and relax in an intimate listening environment with music to warm the heart and soul.

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

Marsha Davis - 2018
John Gneckow - 2018
Melissa Stiles - 2018
John Warren - 2018
Linda Bench - 2019
Kathy Chambers - 2019
Marvin Carpenter - 2019
Dianna Goodman - 2019
Judy Birch - 2020
Marshall Gingery - 2020
Matthew Richards - 2020
Mary Craigle - 2020
Elaine Gingery, Clerk

DEACONS

Carol Gneckow - 2018
Corky Lord - 2018
Carole Massman - 2018
Jim & Charlotte Meyer - 2018
Rena Bumgardner - 2019
Joy Edgar - 2019
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman - 2019
Ward & Mary Stiles - 2019
Art Bumgardner - 2020
Patti Borsberry - 2020
Rose Leavitt - 2020
Judy Patton - 2020
Pearle Plowman - 2020

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

