

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

“Realizations, Revelations, and Epiphanies”



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

**535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601**

January 7, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Epiphany of the Lord/Communion Sunday
JANUARY 7, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Arlyn “Butch” Plowman

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“The Star Proclaims the King is Here” *by Flor Peeters (1903-1986)*

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

a time of silence

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: There is good news of great joy for all!

People: Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.

Leader: Tell the good news throughout the earth:

People: the saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all.

* GATHERING HYMN:

“We Three Kings”

#288

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison)

God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. You have searched for us, and yet we hide from you. You have lavished us with blessing, and yet we treasure earthly things. Forgive us, God of grace. Let the mystery of your saving love be revealed, even in our lives, according to your eternal purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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 PATRIA

CHOIR ANTHEM:	“Falan-Tiding” <i>17th Century Tyrolese Trad</i>	
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION		
OLD TESTAMENT READING:	Genesis 1:1-3 Isaiah 60:1-5a	Page 1 Page 1155
PSALM READING:	Psalm 72:1-4, 12-14	Page 908
GOSPEL READING:	Matthew 2:1-12	Page 1497
SERMON:	“Realizations, Revelations, and Epiphanies”	Rev. Scott Wiperman
*RESPONSE HYMN	“As with Gladness Men of Old”	#290

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From “The Confession of 1967, 9.18”)

God expressed love for all humankind through Israel, whom God chose to be a covenant people to serve him in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, God disciplined the nation with judgment and maintained the covenant through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a true servant of God in whom God’s purpose would be realized.

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY **“God’s Son Has Come”** *by Helmut Walcha (1907-1991)*

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*SENDING HYMN **“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”** **#293**

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE **“We Three Kings”** *by Gordon Young (1919-1998)*

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	7	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	8	6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	9	11:00 pm	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		5:30 pm	Administration Committee meeting
		6:00 pm	Mission Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Called Session meeting
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	10	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		11:30 am	Congregational Fellowship Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Building & Grounds Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday	11	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		6:00 pm	AA - District #11
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book - AA Group
Friday	12	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
Sunday	14	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		11:30 am	Deacons meeting
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group

Deacons-On-Call

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

Patti Borsberry (439-6442)
Carole Massman (443-5281)

Ushers

Ushers Today (7)

Linda Bench, Judy Birch
Mary Wright

Ushers Next Week (14)

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord
John & Carol Gneckow

Prayers for Strength and Healing

Sally Luke
Bob Burns
B. J. Burns
Donna Carey
John Gneckow
Doris Casebolt
Mazie Radcliffe
Gale Johnson
Yvonne Moody
Steve Granzow
Linda Granzow
Louise Cramer
Toston LaFournaise
Amanda Grimmatt

Newell Anderson
Jennifer Massman
Heather Voeller Waters
Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son
Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother
Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister
Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law
Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law
Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law
Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter
Annaliese Rose Hammerschmidt - Amanda
Grimmett's daughter

Please keep the Military in your Prayers

Dan Boyer
Barry Mattson
Grant Demaree

Rick Kosticki
Robbie McCain

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 praying for this year. May 2018 bring blessings and peace to all; particularly those who have experienced a tough 2017. We pray for the ongoing in-breaking of the Kingdom God; may love, forgiveness, respect, compassion, and giving blossom through the year. May all awaken spiritually and make a home for the new born King of Kings in our hearts.

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!!**

Per Capita - 2018

Thank you for your Per Capita contributions in 2017! The Presbyterian tradition is for churches to make their full Per Capita payment by the end of February for that year - so the Presbyteries, Synods and PC(USA) have funds for the operating year. We'd like to ask all who have pledged to make a Per Capita contribution, and any who did not pledge but would like to do so, to make their \$45 per member contribution prior to the end of February for 2018 to meet that schedule.



Warm Hearts: Blanket and Towel Drive

Needs: New twin blankets, bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths

Warm Hearts is ecumenical ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Associates of Helena. The poor in Helena are in need of new twin blankets, bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths. During January we are collecting these items in the big orange donation box for distribution on Valentine's Day. These donations will be distributed through organizations serving the poor, including: God's Love, Florence Crittenton Home, Good Samaritan Ministries, Rocky Mountain Development Center, The Friendship Center, and the YWCA. Let's help share the love of God with those in need in our community.

Meetings - What Presbyterians Are Particularly Good At!

We have two noteworthy meetings coming up! The Annual Congregational meeting will be held after worship on January 28. The report for the annual meeting will be available to be picked up on Sunday, January 21. And then on the 24th and 25th of February (Saturday and Sunday), FPC will be hosting the Glacier Presbytery Retreat. All are welcome to attend the retreat gatherings - a great way to see friends from around the Presbytery again. Mark your calendars.

**There is a Called Session meeting scheduled for
January 9th at 7:00 pm.**

Memory Verse

In all your ways acknowledge [God], and [God] will make straight your paths.

- Proverbs 3:6

Thought for the Week

May I say to you my friends, as I come to a close, and just giving some idea of why we are assembled here, that we must keep-and I want to stress this, in all of our doings, in all of our deliberations here this evening and all of the week and while—whatever we do, we must keep God in the forefront. Let us be Christian in all of our actions.

- Martin Luther King Jr.

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
Director of Music and Media
Administrative Assistant
Financial Coordinator
Organist

Every Member
Rev. Scott Wipperman
Arlyn "Butch" Plowman
Lexsey Carpenter
Les Cramer
Bruce A. Luke
Jill Lloyd
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

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

