

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

“It Starts Out Well”



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

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

March 4, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Communion Sunday / Third Sunday of Lent
MARCH 4, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Joy Edgar

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Communion” *by Louis Vierne (1870-1937)*

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

a time of silence

OPENING PRAYER

INTROIT

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place” #219

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

People: Slow to anger and abounding in love.

Leader: The law of the Lord revives the soul;

People: The word of God makes the simple wise.

* GATHERING HYMN:

“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days” See Screen

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison)

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You gave us your law to guide us, but we seek the wisdom of the world. You made us a temple of living stones, but we dishonor the body of Christ. Forgive us, God of grace. Instruct us in our foolishness and strengthen us in our weakness so that we may be holy and whole; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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:

“Let Me Be...” *by Heather Sorenson*

See insert

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING:	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Page 1772
GOSPEL READING:	John 2:13-22	Page 1648
SERMON:	“It Starts Out Well”	Rev. Scott Wipperman
*RESPONSE HYMN	“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”	#639

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
AFFIRMATION (*unison*)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING
PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY **“Improvisation”** *from Suite Medievale by Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*
*DOXOLOGY
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*SENDING HYMN **“What Wondrous Love Is This”** **#314**

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE **“Pasticcio”** *by Jean Langlais*

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	4	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	5	10:00 am	Education Committee meeting
		6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	6	9:30 am	Abigail Circle
		9:30 am	Esther Circle
		11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	7	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday	8	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		4:00 pm	Praise Band practice
		6:30 pm	Youth Group
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book” - AA Group
		7:00 pm	AA - District #11
Friday	9	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
Sunday	11	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		11:15 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)
Carol Gneckow	(442-9309)

Ushers

Ushers Today (4)

Linda Bench, Judy Birch
Mary Wright

Ushers Next Week (11)

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord
John & Carol Gneckow

Don't forget your newspaper insert coupons. Our church helps support the Friendship Center, Rocky Mountain Development Center, and YWCA with coupons. Also, don't forget motel shampoo, soap, etc.

Thank you.



Prayers for Strength and Healing

Sally Luke
Bob Burns
B. J. Burns
Donna Carey
John Gneckow
Bev Donaldson
Elroy Letcher
Doris Casebolt
Mazie Radcliffe
Gale Johnson
Yvonne Moody
Steve Granzow
Linda Granzow
Louise Cramer

Newell Anderson
Jennifer Massman
Amanda Grimmatt
Toston LaFournaise
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
Dave Westenbarger, Carol Carpenter's father

Please keep the Military in your Prayers

Dan Boyer
Barry Mattson
Grant Demaree

Rick Kosticki
Robbie McCain

Prayer Requests - let us know how we can help:

If you have PRAYER NEEDS, please take advantage of our Prayer Chapel after worship, a peaceful place to commune with God. If you would like to have someone pray with you, please seek out an Elder, Deacon or the Pastor, and they will join you or find someone who will pray with you. Other options to make your prayer needs known are:

1. Prayer request cards are found on the shelves behind each pew in the sanctuary, in the Prayer Chapel, and in the youth room. Completed cards can be put in the offering plate, dropped in the prayer request box in the Prayer Chapel, or nailed to the cross in the Youth Room. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can—God knows! If you want the youth of our church to pray for you, nail the prayer request to the cross in the Youth Room.
2. Online prayer requests – go to fpchelena.com and select the button for “prayer” OR send an e-mail to admin@fpchelena.com . Your request will be directly sent to the coordinator of our prayer chain for distribution.
3. Call the church – Anyone who answers the phone can either pray with you, direct you to the Deacon on call, and/or pass on the prayer request to the prayer coordinator.

Seeley Family Memorial Scholarship

Eve and Nelson Seeley, members of the Helena First Presbyterian Church, created an endowment at the Montana Community Foundation in 2015 called the Seeley Family Memorial Scholarship. This endowment will provide annual scholarship awards in perpetuity to benefit members of the church who are attending or planning to attend post-secondary school.

Scholarship Criteria:

1. Student must be a member of the Helena First Presbyterian Church
2. Graduate from a Helena high school
3. Minimum grade point average of 2.0
4. Demonstrate financial need
5. Demonstrate good character

Members of the church may apply online for the scholarship through the Montana Community Foundation website at www.mtcf.org. For further information or assistance with the application process, please call Cathy Cooney, Program Director, at the Montana Community Foundation (ccooney@mtcf.org or 441-4954).

The application deadline this year is March 16, 2018. The recipient of the scholarship will be chosen, among eligible applicants, by a scholarship committee established at the Helena First Presbyterian Church.

MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK

Indeed, it's a privilege to be able to report that our Chancel Choir now ranges in age from 12 to 90! Those attending worship the last few months and weeks have been delighted and inspired by gifts from musicians in this church! They take extra time to refine solos, duets, accompaniments and good blended choral sounds! They also have a great spirit of helping and encouraging each other; again, often the oldest and most experienced assisting the young, promising ones. It is an evolution and a legacy! Nothing makes a choir director feel more fulfilled than to observe this!

Music is right for all ages, no matter what the format or style, and no matter whether vocal or instrumental. And, it's quite common for musicians to embrace both.

As we approach the latter part of Lent and Holy Week, we encourage all to attend the celebrations of Christ's journey for the salvation of all. Much effort and preparation is underway by the choir for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. Extra time rehearsing and refining the music part of worship is one example of excellence on the part of singers and players, young and older. All join me in hoping your worship experience is enhanced by the efforts of these singers and instrumentalists.

Les Cramer
Director of Music

First Presbyterian Church is having VBS again!

June 11th - 15th, 12PM – 3PM

Weird Animals VBS connects with children when they feel different by introducing them to wonderful and weird animals around the world. When "weird" means special, unique, and one-of-a-kind, kids are reminded of Jesus' special love for them and that being different is a GOOD thing!

Available for all children entering grades 1-5
Contact Lexsey Carpenter at 406-442-4775 to register
Accepting early registration NOW!
\$10.00 Fee (*No child turned away if fee cannot be paid*)

Prayer Opportunity

This week we are praying for the Mountain Lakes congregation in Seeley Lake.

Last summer and fall during the intense fire season, they provided HEPA air purifiers to people and groups in their community. The Mountain Lakes congregation has numerous ministries, including Crafting for the Community where members gather most Sundays to work on projects that benefit the community such as knitting or crocheting hats, mittens and prayer shawls.

The Mountain Lakes congregation is served by Pastor Carrie Benton and Clerk Betsey Ellis. You can learn more about this wonderful congregation at <http://mountainlakespreschurch.us/>.

Invitation for Crafty Ladies

Are you crafty and need/want a new project to work on at home?

Willing Workers has a craft table in the Narthex just for you.

Grab one or two kits on your way to coffee. Bring back when completed.

Thank you

Memory Verse	Thought for the Week
They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart. - Ephesians 4:18	All human nature vigorously resists grace because grace changes us and the change is painful... - Flannery O'Connor

LET ME BE

Let me be Your silence,

Let me be Your shout.

Let me be Your riches where poverty cries out.

Let me be Your ocean that brings the waves
of change; the tiny cloud in desert drought that
brings the pouring rain.

Let me be the weakness that shows
Your strength so clear,

Let me be Your whisper shouting grace for all to hear.

Let me be Your stillness that moves peace in place of doubt.

So let me be Your silence, let me be Your shout.

Let me be the grace of God.

Let me be the quill and ink of words You've yet to pen,

Let me be Your bread that feeds the hungry souls of men.

Let me be Your rushing wind that cools the blistered heart.

Let me be the canvas on which anguish turns to art.

Let me be the grace of God,

Let me be Your silence, Let me be Your shout.

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
Nursery Care Attendant

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

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

