

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

“Into The Light”



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

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

March 11, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Lent

MARCH 11, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Patti Borsberry

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE: “Adagio” by Marcel Dupre (1886-1971)

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS *a time of silence*

OPENING PRAYER

*UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

People: Slow to anger and abounding in love.

Leader: The Lord of life is lifted up!

People: Let us look to him and live.

* GATHERING HYMN: “Arise, Your Light Is Come!” See screen

CALL TO CONFESSION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Lord, we stray from the path; we look up and we are waist deep in the weeds. The dark encompasses us, we suffer afflictions from our own inequities. Bring us back into the light, your light! Remind us of your love, guide us back to your path, open the door that we may return to a right relationship with you. (*time for silent confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE

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

“In The Shadow Of Your Wings” *by John Leavitt*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING: **Numbers 21:4-9** **Page 242**

EPISTLE READING: **Ephesians 2:1-10** **Page 1818**

GOSPEL READING: **John 3:14-21** **Page 1650**

SERMON: **“Into the Light”** **Rev. Scott Wipperman**

*RESPONSE HYMN: **“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”** **See screen**

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY **“Christ Jesus, Who Makes Us Blessed”** *by Marcel Dupre*

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. Amen.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*SENDING HYMN: **“We Are Marching in the Light of God”** **See screen**

*BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“God Be With You”** **#232**

POSTLUDE: **“All Men Are Mortal”** *Marcel Dupre*

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

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
Monday	12	6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	13	10:00 am	Worship Committee meeting
		11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		5:30 pm	Administration Committee meeting
		6:00 pm	Mission Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Building & Grounds Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Elizabeth Circle
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	14	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		11:30 am	Congregational Fellowship Committee meeting
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday	15	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
Friday	16	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
		6:00 pm	Bingo Night
Sunday	18	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:

Patti Borsberry	(439-6442)
Carol Gneckow	(442-9309)

Ushers

Ushers Today ⁽⁴⁾

Sheryl Eriksen, Corky Lord
John & Carol Gneckow

Ushers Next Week ⁽¹⁸⁾

Elroy & Lucille Letcher
Matthew Richards

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 Grimmett
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

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.

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*)

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

Prayer Opportunity

This week we are praying for the congregation of First Presbyterian in Great Falls. They are a part of the Missouri River Cluster.

Long-time Pastor Steve Hundley has retired. Steve faithfully served the congregation for 12 years. He and his wife Elaine are moving to Ennis, Montana. Please keep them in your prayers as they move and make this transition to retirement.

Chuck Carlson will be serving as Interim Pastor. Chuck is a new member of Glacier Presbytery, but he is not new to Great Falls – he grew up there. He also served in our church early in his career. Chuck has vast experience as pastor and interim pastor and is also a Certified Spiritual Director.

Terilyn Lawson serves as their Associate Pastor. In addition to her service to the congregation, she is preparing to become a military chaplain in the Navy. Please keep this congregation and their wonderful pastors in your prayers this week.

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

Willing Workers Thanks & Request to Church Family

Your response to our request for new or gently used pillow cases has been amazing - THANK YOU! If you come across additional pillow cases that you would like to re-purpose, we would happily take them off your hands.

We have an additional request for items that you might like to re-purpose. We need gently worn T-shirts, Size M or S. We cannot use anything larger than M. The T-shirts can be colored &/or have pictures & designs on them. The shirts will be used in our Mission Sewing to make "Little Britches" for little boys. We didn't make any "Little Britches" last year because we had used up all our T-shirts. So please help us replenish our T-shirt supply so we can again send "Little Britches" as well as Layettees & Little Dresses with our Mission Sewing.

You can place the T-shirts in the Willing Workers Basket in the church office. THANK YOU!!

Welcome, Guests!

Memory Verse

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of [God] who called you out of darkness into [God's] marvelous light.

- 1 Peter 2:9

Thought for the Week

Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!

- Dr. Seuss

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

