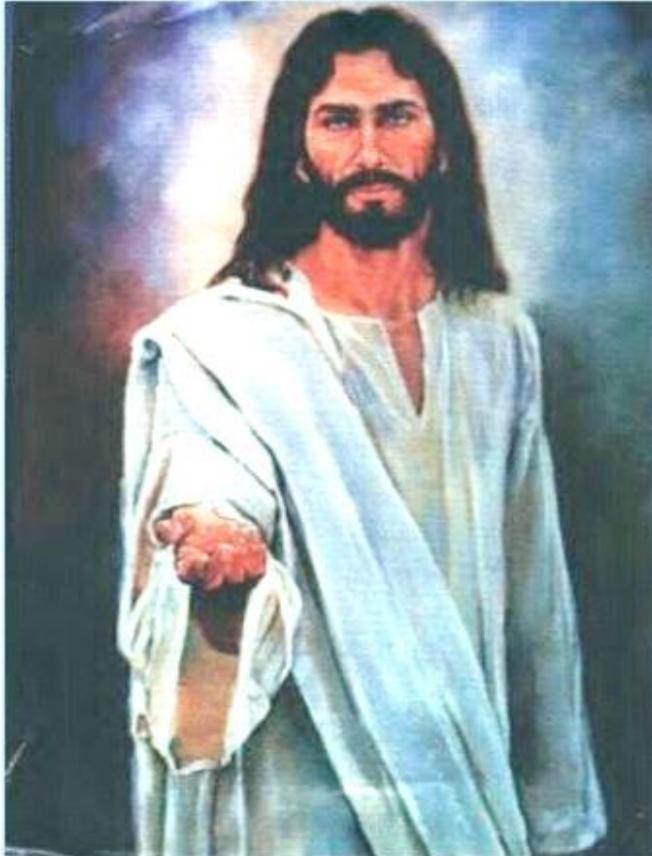


Spreading the Good News of Christ
Through Our Love, Words, and Actions

“Your Invitation to Failure”



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

535 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601

March 18, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Lent

MARCH 18, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Les Cramer

** Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE: “If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee” *by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

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 makes a new covenant with us.

People: We are God’s people; the Lord is our God.

* GATHERING HYMN: “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” See screen

CALL TO CONFESSION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Lord, You remind us of the covenant you have made with us. And while we fall short the covenant stands. We are still your people. As you reveal yourself to us, make plain that which you have written on our hearts and on our minds. Help us peel back the debris we have covered your words with so we may adhere to your guiding love.

(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

“Rivers Of Living Water” *by Karen Marrolli*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING: **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

GOSPEL READING: **John 12:17-33**

SERMON: **“Your Invitation to Failure”** **Rev. Scott Wipperman**

*RESPONSE HYMN: **“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”** **See screen**

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY **“Christ, the Lamb of God”** *by J. S. Bach*

*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: **“If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”** **See screen**

*BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE: **“All Men Are Mortal”** *by J. S. Bach*

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday	18	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:00 pm	AA Study Group
Monday	19	11:00 am	Staff meeting
		6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
Tuesday	20	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		6:30 pm	Session meeting
		7:00 pm	AL-ANON meeting
		7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	21	9:30 am	Willing Workers
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
Thursday	22	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	23	12:00 pm	Friday Study Group
		1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
Sunday	25	8:30 am	Sunday Morning Small Group Study
		10:00 am	Palm Sunday - 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 (18)

Elroy & Lucille Letcher
Matthew Richards

Ushers Next Week (25)

Kathy Chambers, Carole Massman
Mary Wright

Prayers for Strength and Healing

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.

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

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering is collected across Presbyterian churches this time of year. It supports three missions: the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self Development of People.

You are invited to pray for the people who support these missions, and to pray for those who deliver these missions.

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

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

Memory Verse

... Rather, let your adornment be the inner self with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in God's sight.

- 1 Peter 3:4

Thought for the Week

And what my mother meant when she said you can't eat beauty was that you can't rely on how you look to sustain you. What does sustain us ... what is fundamentally beautiful is compassion for yourself and for those around you. That kind of beauty enflames the heart and enchants the soul.

- Lupita Nyong'o

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00 am Worship Service
PALM SUNDAY
CELEBRATE THE KING
March 25, 2018



Maundy Thursday

March 29

Worship Service

7:00 pm

March 30
12 Noon
GOOD FRIDAY
SERVICE

April 1, 2018
**EASTER
SUNDAY**
Worship Service 10:00 am

YOUTH GROUP LAZER ICE SKATING!

Wednesday, March 21st

6:30-8:00 PM

Adults - \$8.00

Youth age 11 to 18 - \$6.00



If you are an adult who wishes to get to know the teens in ACTS 29 Youth Ministries, we encourage you to join us at the youth group ice skating night.

This event is open to all youth groups in Helena, and we will get to skate to contemporary Christian music. If you do not wish to skate, you are still invited to come drink hot chocolate with and watch the youth as they skate.

Please contact Lexsey Carpenter at 406-442-4775 if you wish to attend.

Per Capita

Some denominations have a hierarchal structure; all donations go to the top and then are proportioned-out down the structure. PC(USA) is a grass roots structure; the donations stay at the local church and each church contributes funds up the structure to support the Presbytery, the Synod, and the national church. These contributions are called “Per Capita”; the 2018 Per Capita donation is \$45.00 per member of the church. Of this amount, Glacier Presbytery receives \$33.77, \$3.50 goes to the Synod of the Rocky Mountains, the national church (PC(USA)) receives \$7.73. Please consider making your 2018 Per Capita offering today; writing a separate check on noting “Per Capita” will help ensure it will be recorded correctly. You can also make your donation through our website, just select “Per Capita” as the donation type. We are thankful to those who have already made their donation, and appreciate those donations to come.

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

