

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

Calm & Bright:

HOPE

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

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

December 23, 2018

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 23, 2018

Lay Liturgist – Dianna Goodman

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE:

WE GATHER

WELCOMING THE LIGHT

*Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, "Alleluia" to our King:
"Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born."*

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THRESHOLD MOMENT

*GATHERING CAROL: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” See screen

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: It was the night when hope was born

People: (sing softly) *Silent night*

Leader: And just as now, the world was torn

People: (sing softly) *Holy night*

Leader: But all was calm and all was bright

People: (sing) *Silent night*

Leader: The star above gave out its light

People: (sing) *Holy night*

*CAROL OF CONTEMPLATION: “In the Bleak Midwinter” See screen

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*GLORIA PATRI

CHOIR:

"Will We Know Him?" by *Don Besig, Nancy Price*

WE PROCLAIM

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 9:6

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GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 2:1-12

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SERMON:

"Calm and Bright: Hope"

Rev. Scott Wipperman

WE RESPOND

*RESPONSE CAROL:

"Who Would Think That What was Needed"

See screen

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Gesù Bambino" by *Pietro Yon* *Sung by Joy Edgar and Les Cramer*

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH

*SENDING CAROL:

"Angels from the Realm of Glory"

See screen

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

"God Be With You"

See screen

POSTLUDE:

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|--|
| Sunday | 23 | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Education Hour |
| | | 12:30 pm | AA Study Group |
| Monday | 24 | 7:00 pm | Christmas Eve service |
| Tuesday | 25 | Office | Closed – CHRISTMAS DAY |
| Wednesday | 26 | 10:00 am | Willing Workers – <i>will not meet</i> |
| Thursday | 27 | 7:00 pm | “It’s In the Book” - AA Group |
| Friday | 28 | 1:00 pm | Hand & Foot - Ruth Room |
| Sunday | 30 | 10:00 am | Worship Service / Education Hour |
| | | 12:30 pm | AA Study Group |

Attention members of Sarah Circle. Since our January meeting day falls on New Year’s Day, we will meet on Wednesday, January 2nd at 10:00 AM at the church.
We will be studying Lesson 4.

DEACONS-ON-CALL

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

Art Bumgardner (406) 468-8341
Rose Leavitt 443-4783

USHERS

Ushers Today ⁽²³⁾

Kathy Chambers, Carole Massman
Mary Wright

Ushers Next Week ⁽³⁰⁾

Sheryl Eriksen, Carol Stebbins
Corky Lord

FPC FINANCIALS

Attendance last week: 124
Giving last week: \$6,807.50
Average weekly giving to meet budget: \$5,406.00

Through the end of November, we have received \$236,920 in income, and our expenses have been \$260,231 for a shortfall of -\$23,311.

PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Bob Burns | Newell Anderson |
| B. J. Burns | Jennifer Massman |
| Joyce Berry | Toston LaFournaise |
| Donna Carey | Heather Voeller Waters |
| Elroy Letcher | Rick Armstrong – Mary Stiles son |
| Doris Casebolt | Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son |
| Joyce Andrews | Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother |
| Yvonne Moody | Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister |
| John Gneckow | Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law |
| Marilyn Fisher | Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law |
| Steve Granzow | Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law |
| Linda Granzow | Heather McAllister, Pastor Scott's daughter |

PLEASE KEEP THE MILITARY IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dan Boyer

Rick Kosticki

Barry Mattson

Robbie McCain

PRAYER REQUESTS - please 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 in a small holder attached to the back of each pew in the Sanctuary, or in the Prayer Chapel.
 2. Online prayer requests - go to fpchelena.com and select the button for "prayer" OR send an email to our prayer chain coordinator, Pearle Plowman- pearlynp@msn.com, phone number 449-8705 -- cell 459-6332.
 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 chain coordinator.
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PDA in Action

Want to help the victims of the fires in CA? You can do so confidently through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). 100% of what you give goes to the victims. The PDA is staffed largely with well trained volunteers, and the administrative expenses of the agency are covered through the PC(USA) budget. Just write "PDA - Wildfires" in the note section on your check made out to FPC. Or, you can go the PDA website (<http://pda.pcusa.org>) and donate there. This is what being a "connectional church" is about. Thanks for your support and help to those in need.

Pastor Scott

Prayer Opportunities

Let us pray for tomorrow; where our faith based hope sees a world better than today. A time and place where justice rolls on like a river, righteousness like a never ending stream. A land where others occupy even more of our attention and focus than that spent on ourselves.

Pastor Scott

Help Us Finish Strong

Over the last few years FPC has been catching up on building maintenance that had been differed for some time. Building and Grounds has replaced heaters, water heaters, added A/C to the sanctuary, resurfaced the parking lot, fixed and upgrade outside lighting, secured appropriate storage for outside B&G and Education, repaired the rock wall, capstone, and pillar footings, and much more. This year we have also enhanced our children's' and youth programs, attracting larger participation with both groups. Many exciting things are happening at FPC. And to support all this Session manages the budget very well. In spite of repairs made this year (which are significantly greater than what is budgeted for "building repairs") we are still on track with our overall budget for the year. Unfortunately our receipts are not keeping up with the "faith budget" Session adopted for 2018. Through the end of November our expenses of \$260,231 have exceeded our income of \$236,920 by \$23,311.

Help FPC finish the year meeting our faith budget! Your year-end giving to FPC is greatly appreciated, and will help us close our shortage gap. Additionally, if you had pledged a 2018 Per Capita donation, and have yet to offer it, this would be a great time to make that gift too. Help us end the year in a sound position.

A promotional graphic for a bingo night event. It features a red rounded rectangular border. At the top, there are three bingo cards and several colorful bingo balls. The word "BINGO!" is written in large, bold, blue and yellow letters. Below this, the text "Night" is in bold black, followed by "Friday, January 11, 2019" and "6pm" in bold black. At the bottom, it says "don't miss the fun, food and fellowship! Pizza, pop and snacks. Prizes, too!" in a regular black font.

BINGO!

Night

Friday, January 11, 2019

6pm

don't miss the fun, food
and
fellowship! Pizza, pop
and snacks.
Prizes, too!

First Presbyterian members provided more than 40 gifts and many extras for the clients at West Mont, extending Christmas joy to others. Thank you, Church Family, for being such a blessing in our community!



MEMORY VERSE

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- **Romans 15:13**

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going.

What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith and hope.

- **Thomas Merton**

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

Accounting Services

Keyboardist

Nursery Care Attendant

Every Member

Rev. Scott Wipperman

Arlyn "Butch" Plowman

Nicole Carpenter, Pro tem

Les Cramer

Bruce A. Luke

Jill Lloyd

Charlotte Dike

Aleigha Drynan

ELDERS

Linda Bench - 2019

Kathy Chambers - 2019

Marvin Carpenter - 2019

Dianna Goodman - 2019

Judy Birch - 2020

Marshall Gingery - 2020

Matthew Richards - 2020

Mary Craigle - 2020

John Coefield - 2021

Joe Steffens - 2021

John Warren - 2021

Mary Wright - 2021

Elaine Gingery, Clerk

DEACONS

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

Julie Chaffee - 2021

Candace Coefield - 2021

Corky Lord - 2021

Jim & Charlotte Meyer - 2021

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.org

Website: www.fpchelena.org



**Weekly Sermon on HCTV Cable Channel 189
Wednesdays at 6 PM & Saturdays at 9 AM**

