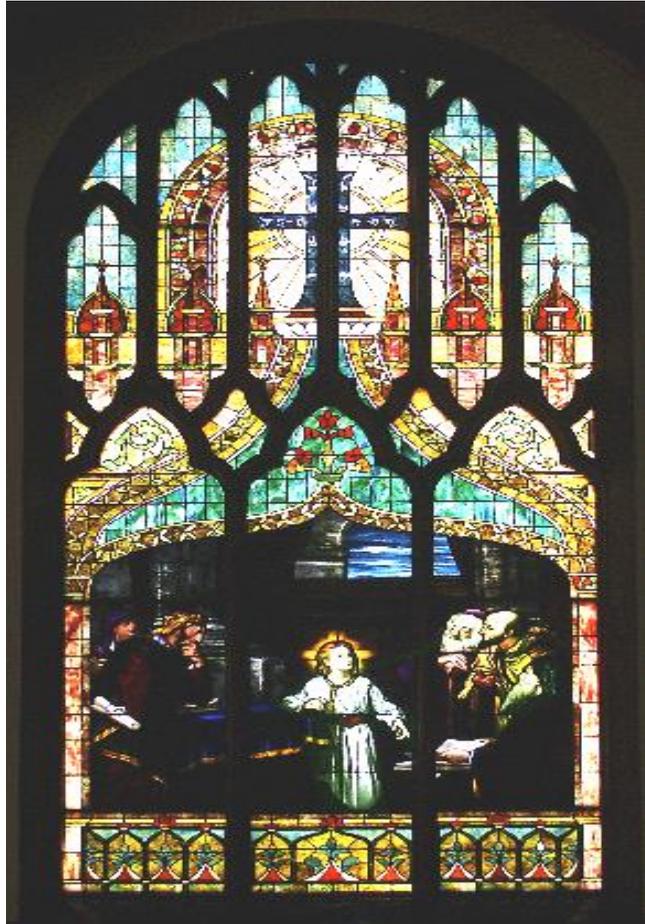


Spreading the Good News of Christ  
Through Our Love, Words, and Actions



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

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

**December 30, 2018**

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 30, 2018**  
*Lay Liturgist – Kathy Chambers*

*\* Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS *a time of silence*

\*INVOCATION

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

Leader: All God's people—Boys and girls, women, men:

**People: Come and worship!**

Leader: Shepherds, Magi, saints, and angels:

**People: Come and worship! Come and worship!**

Leader: All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort:

**ALL: Come and worship, come and worship Christ, the newborn king!**

\*GATHERING HYMN: **"Angels From The Realms of Glory"** #259

LITURGY OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE AND PEACE (*Responsive*)

Leader: When Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, he became like us in all things but sin. May we who have been

reborn in him be free from our sinful ways.--*from Hebrews 4:16*

**People: Let us make our confession to God.**

Leader: When we allow darkness to overcome the light,

**People: forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: When we reduce Christmas to plastic and tinsel,

**People: have mercy on us, Father.**

Leader: When hardness of heart keeps us from seeing and hearing and touching,

**People: let your grace consume us Lord**

Leader: When the wars around us are of no concern,

**People: move us to compassion for those who suffer,**

Leader: When our caring does not prompt action

**People: move us to seek justice for all God's people**

Leader: When we grow complacent and lazy

**People: Help us to grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man**

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *Based on 1*

*Timothy 1:15*

**People: In Christ we are forgiven! Thanks and Praise be to God.**

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with  
you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: As God has given us peace through Christ, so let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

\*GLORIA PATRI

**"Glory Be to the Father"**

See screen

SPECIAL MUSIC

**"O Holy Night"** *Ray Andrews (Trumpet) and Charlotte Dike (piano)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

**1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

**Page 421**

*The story of the childhood of Samuel, who would become the last judge and the first prophet to Israel.*

EPISTLE LESSON

**Colossians 3:12-17**

**Page 1834**

*Paul exhorts the readers to clothe themselves with practices that embody the peace of Christ.*

GOSPEL LESSON

**Luke 2:41-52**

**Page 1592**

*During the family's annual Passover pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Jesus, stays behind to engage in rabbinic debate with the teachers in the temple.*

SERMON

**"Growing in 19"**

CRE Arlyn **"Butch"** Plowman

\*RESPONSE HYMN:

**"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"**

**#267**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR THE NEW YEAR *(Unison)*

**My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.** *from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1 Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Confessions §4001*

INVITATION TO OFFERING:

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

**“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

See screen

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

**Sharing Joys and Concerns, Lord’s Prayer**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

\*SENDING HYMN:

**“Another Year is Dawning”**

**#811**

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING *(responsive)*

Leader: Jesus is the Word made flesh in our midst. May his incarnation fill our hearts with joy and peace.

**People: O Lord, give us peace.**

Leader: Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary. May his birth among us renew our hope.

**People: O Lord, give us hope.**

Leader: Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. May the gift of his presence bring forth rejoicing.

**People: O Lord, give us joy.**

Leader: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever

**People: Thanks be to God**

Leader: We go in Christ’s peace to love and serve the Lord

**People: Happy New Year**

\*RESPONSE

**“God Be With You”** *(first verse only)*

See screen

POSTLUDE

## CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>30</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:30 pm	AA Study Group
<b>Monday</b>	<b>31</b>	4:30 pm	Worship Committee meeting
		5:30 pm	Education Committee meeting
		6:00 pm	Helena X-Press Singers
		7:00 pm	Girl Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>HAPPY</b>	<b>NEW YEAR – OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2</b>	10:00 am	Willing Workers
		7:00 pm	Choir practice
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3</b>	11:00 am	Bridge Club – ACBL Unit 411
		6:30 pm	AA - Group District #11
		7:00 pm	“It’s In the Book” - AA Group
<b>Friday</b>	<b>4</b>	1:00 pm	Hand & Foot - Ruth Room
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service / Education Hour
		12:30 pm	AA Study Group

### 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](http://fpchelena.com) and select the button for "prayer" OR send an email to our prayer chain coordinator, Pearle Plowman- [pearlynp@msn.com](mailto: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.

---

**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** (6)

**Ushers Next Week** (6)

Sheryl Eriksen, Carol Stebbins, Corky Lord

Linda Bench, Karen Witte, Mary Wright

---

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!

---

**FPC FINANCIALS**

Attendance last week:

61

Giving last week:

\$8,355.25

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.

---

**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.

---



### Night

**Friday, January 11, 2019**

**6pm**

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

## MEMORY VERSE

You show me the path of life. In your  
presence there is fullness of joy;  
in your right hand are pleasures  
forevermore.

- Psalm 16:11 (NRSV)

---

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Today I will look for the wonder of God in  
creation.

# 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](http://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 Craige - 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](mailto:admin@fpchelena.org)  
Website: [www.fpchelena.org](http://www.fpchelena.org)**

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

