

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

“Who Do You Say You Are?”



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

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

October 18, 2020

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless God's name; tell of God's salvation from day to day.

Declare the Lord's glory among the nations, God's marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; God is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before the Lord; strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary. (Psalm 96:1-6)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, like those religious leaders long ago, we, too, have malice in our hearts. We wish ill upon those we do not like and fail to recognize our own shortcomings. We are certain in our opinions rather than humble about our assumptions. We think the best of ourselves and the worst of others, despite your admonishment to tend to the log in our own eye, rather than the speck in our neighbor's. We want to partition off our lives, offering you a portion of our loyalty, time and resources, when we are called to give our whole selves to you. Forgive our pettiness, our hard-heartedness and our stubbornness. Use our repentance as a means for the Spirit to work in us and remake us into a closer likeness of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

(time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SPECIAL MUSIC

"O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE"

Felix Mendelssohn (Munich Songbook)
Text William Walsham How 1867
Elizabeth Adler, piano

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS:

Exodus 33:12-23

Ex. 33:12 Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.'¹³ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

Ex. 33:14 The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Ex. 33:15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

Ex. 33:17 And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

Ex. 33:18 Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

Ex. 33:19 And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

Ex. 33:21 Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²² When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

Matthew 22:15-22

Matt. 22:15 Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

Matt. 22:18 But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “**You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax.**” They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, “**Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?**”

Matt. 22:21 “Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “**Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.**”

Matt. 22:22 When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

SERMON

“Who Do You Say You Are?”

Rev. Scott Wipperman

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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 the glory forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.org, or take a copy of our monthly church newsletter, The Mustard Seed. If possible, join us again for our next worship service!

STAFF

Ministers	Every Member
Pastor	Rev. Scott Wipperman
CP of Pastoral Care	Arlyn "Butch" Plowman
Sunday Camp Director	Ashley Burke
Director of Music and Media	Les Cramer
Administrative Assistant	Bruce A. Luke
Accounting Services	Atwood Accounting
Keyboardist	Liz Adler
Nursery Care Attendant	Aleigha Drynan

ELDERS

DEACONS

John Coefield - 2021	Julie Chaffee - 2021
Joe Steffens - 2021	Candace Coefield - 2021
John Warren - 2021	Corky Lord - 2021
Mary Wright - 2021	Jim & Charlotte Meyer - 2021
Linda Bench - 2022	Rena Bumgardner - 2022
Kathy Chambers - 2022	Louise Cramer - 2022
Karen Witte - 2022	Elaine Gingery - 2022
Sheryl Eriksen - 2022	Arlyn "Butch" Plowman - 2022
Mary Craigle - 2023	Patti Borsberry - 2023
Carol Gneckow - 2023	Art Bumgardner - 2023
Rose Leavitt - 2023	BJ Burns - 2023
Carol Stebbins - 2023	Pearle Plowman - 2023
Elaine Gingery, Clerk	

DEACONS-ON-CALL

Need a ride or a meal? Deacon-on-Call:

Arlyn and Pearl Plowman 449-8705

FPC Financials

Average weekly giving needed to meet 2020 budget: \$5,524.

For September we received \$19,754 in income against \$20,709 in expenses - for a negative net of \$956. This slightly increased our YTD deficit to -\$19,878. Your continued support of the ministries of FPC is greatly appreciated.

PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

Sally Luke
Joyce Berry
Betty Brown
Elroy Letcher
Joyce Andrews
Steve Granzow
Linda Granzow
Yvonne Moody
Newell Anderson
Jennifer Massman
Toston LaFournaise

Heather Voeller Waters
Rick Armstrong, Mary Stiles son
Court Bourne, Pastor Scott's son
Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother
Susan Byasson, Sister of Rose Leavitt
Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law
Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law
Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law
Kristi Armstrong, Mary Stiles daughter-in-law
Kimberly Krugman, Newell and Bonnie
Anderson's daughter

PLEASE KEEP THE MILITARY IN YOUR PRAYERS

Steven Pullin currently deployed to Kuwait - Jeannie Pullin's son and Patty Borsberry's brother

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER REQUESTS - please let us know how we can help.

If you have PRAYER NEEDS, please:

- Send an email to our prayer chain coordinator, Pearle Plowman- pearlynp@msn.com, phone number 449-8705 -- cell 459-6332, or
 - 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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PRAYER OPPORTUNITY:

Spirit, may your holy wind blow us toward truth and instill in us the willingness to face the reality of our nation's origins and the humility to learn from those who have been harmed how to make amends. May our belief that a just world can exist always be paired with the action necessary to make that world a reality.

MEMORY VERSE:

“The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

- **John 3:8**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Remember the wind. Remember her voice. She knows the origin of this universe.

- **Joy Harjo, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, "Remember"**

Porch Visit

The persistence of the Covid Pandemic has kept us apart from one another for 8 months now. If you'd like a masked porch visit from Pastor Scott, simply call the church and we can arrange it. Pastor Scott will be glad to visit and pray with you on your porch in a manner that is safe. Don't have a porch?? Still call and we can arrange to meet in a neighborhood park, schedule a phone call, or plan a Zoom meeting.

Placer Pantry Project

The Mission Committee is sponsoring another “drive by community” event. On Sunday, October 25, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm you can drive by and donate shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc. (see the newsletter article for a complete list) to support the Good Samaritan's “Pantry Shelf.”

Pumpkin Patch

The pumpkins are here!! So, come by M-F from 2:00 - 6:00 pm or S & S from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and select your favorite ones. Also, sign up for the enjoyment of watching others pick their favorites. The are sign up sheets posted outside the main entrance of the church. Swing by and reserve you slots!

If You Need to Come Into the Church...

We are in Phase 2 of the “Reopening of the Big Sky” state plan. If you do need to come into the church we ask that you wear a mask for everyone’s protection. If you do not have a mask there is a limited supply on the mantel of the fireplace just inside the door.

**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**