

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

“Confession and Repentance”



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

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

September 12, 2021

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Lay Liturgist – Art Bumgardner

* *Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Fugue in C Major” *J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

WELCOME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

a time of silence

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 116)

Leader: I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice and my supplications.

People: Because God heard me, I will call on God as long as I live.

Leader: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

People: Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray, save my life!”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Holy God, we make so many mistakes. We speak, and words of poison come from our mouths. We sow division, break others down and seek to dominate rather than dialogue. And mid-sentence we hear what we are saying and realize how that is harming those who hear and distancing ourselves from you. Yet, we finish the sentence, embroiled in guilt.

Forgive us, God. Tame our tongues. Guide us in our turn from unwholesome speech and actions, so our words and deeds can bless and build up.

(time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

*GLORIA PATRI

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Siciliana” *from Sonata BWV 1031 by J. S. Bach*

Madisyn Gard, flute
Ann Swisher, organ

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Ezekiel 18:21-23, 25-30

Page 1310

EPISTLE READING:

Acts 26:19-23

Page 1740

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 3:1-11

Page 1499

SERMON

“Confession and Repentance”

Rev. Scott Wipperman

*RESPONSE HYMN

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

GtG #182 (vs. 1 & 2)

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the church, our neighbors in need and the whole world.

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.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Psalm 19” *Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)*

PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

Sally Luke	Toston LaFournaise
Joyce Berry	Heather Voeller Waters
Betty Brown	Rick Armstrong, Mary Stiles son
Elroy Letcher	Vella Raucy, Susan Steffens' mother
Joyce Andrews	Susan Byasson, Rose Leavitt's sister
Steve Granzow	Terry Heinecke, Barrie's sister-in-law
Linda Granzow	Jamie Heinecke, Barrie's daughter-in-law
Yvonne Moody	Cathy Leavitt, Rose Leavitt's daughter-in-law
Jennifer Massman	Kristi Armstrong, Mary Stiles daughter-in-law
Drew Kaiser, Jennifer's son	Kimberly Krugman, Bonnie Anderson's daughter

DEACONS-ON-CALL

Deacon-on-Call: Julie Chaffee 431-3400

PLEASE KEEP THE MILITARY IN YOUR PRAYERS

PRAYER OPPORTUNITY

Help us to live wholeheartedly, committed to reflecting your holy truth in all our encounters. Let us do your works with boldness and creativity.

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.

Called Congregational Meeting

We will hold a Called Congregational Meeting **TODAY** after worship. The two purposes of this meeting are to:

- Ratify all the actions taken in the two online Congregational Meetings held in February and April of this year.
 - To approve changes to the FPC Bylaws to allow for non-gathered Congregational and Session Meetings when deemed necessary or prudent.
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WILLING WORKERS

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

In preparation for the **Craft Fair** to be held **October 22 & 23**, Willing Workers would like to have your hand-crafted items as early as possible. Please bring your *priced* items to our Willing Workers gatherings on Wednesday morning between 9 and 11:30 and feel free to join us for the morning. If you are unable to come at that time, please leave your items at the church office AND call Rena (468-8341) or Karen (449-6012) and let us know so the items can be safely stored. We have begun putting together gift baskets to sell, so we'd like to know what items are available. Thank you in advance for helping to make the Craft Fair a success.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

For August, giving continued to buck the typical “summer slump” trend. Total income for August was \$20,834. FPC’s expenses were unfortunately higher at \$23,966 (August is one of the quarterly insurance payment months of \$3,699). Our net for August is -\$3,133, bringing our YTD net to -\$30,879.



Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

- Proverbs 3:27

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

The truth does not change according to our ability to stomach it emotionally.



- Flannery O'Connor (American novelist)



Come and enjoy a low-impact exercise that's easy, free and available to EVERYONE!

New Walkers Wanted! Our Church "weekly walking group" is looking for additional people -- men, women, and children -- get some exercise, visit with friends, and enjoy our beautiful Montana summer. **We meet each Tuesday at 10:00 am in Centennial Park by the flagpole next to the YMCA**, a group from our church family ventures out into the fresh open air to enjoy a time of exercise and fellowship as we walk along the park walking path. Come and join us if you're looking for walking partners...or even if you're not because **EVERYONE** is welcome to join, and it's **FREE!!**



HAND AND FOOT

Good news for you **Hand and Foot** card players. Games are now on **Fridays at 1:30 pm**



BINGO NIGHT COMING SOON

Bingo is just around the corner -- this fall, if Covid cooperates, Bingo will be back!



COUPONS, WE NEED YOUR COUPONS!!

We need your help by bringing in coupons for those in need here in our community. Please drop them off in the basket in the lobby as you come in the front door, or contact Tonna Strasko for more information.



PLEASE JOIN US UPSTAIRS, RIGHT AFTER CHURCH, SEPTEMBER 26TH, FOR BRUNCH, FELLOWSHIP, AND TIME TO SHARE YOUR DREAMS FOR MATTHEW 25!



CALLING ALL VETERANS



We are compiling a list of veterans with plans to honor them for Veterans Day. If you are a veteran or know of someone in our church family who is, please contact the church office at 442-4775. Your help is greatly appreciated.

GLACIER PRESBYTERY MATTHEW 25 VIDEO CONFERENCE

On **Sunday afternoon, September 19**, Glacier Presbytery is holding a Matthew 25 video conference with Rick Ufford-Chase, a past moderator of the General Assembly. Rick will lead us in a study on the three parables in Matthew 25 with an eye towards how the church can grow in mission with and for those who are most vulnerable. The conference will be a Zoom session from 2:30-5:00 pm, and there are two ways you can join in the study and conversation. We will be hosting a Zoom connection here at the church that afternoon. Feel free to come and join us upstairs by Potters House.

Alternately we can join in the Zoom session from home. Just register for the conference by emailing our Stated Clerk, Kirk Kestler, at

clerk.glacierpresbytery@gmail.com and he will send you the Zoom link.

Rick is a wonderful presenter; this will be a very interesting and enlightening session. All are urged to join.

FOOD SHARE – MISSION SUNDAY

Helena Food Share is once again accepting food donations from the community. In coordination with Mission Sunday, the Mission Committee is asking First Presbyterian folks to participate in collecting staples for them. **Beginning September 12th and continuing to Mission Sunday, September 26th**, we will have crates placed in the Narthex. Let's see if we can fill them up!

IF YOU NEED TO COME INTO THE CHURCH...

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 in the office or on the mantel of the fireplace just inside the door.

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

CLP of Pastoral Care

Director of Christian Education

Director of Music and Media

Administrative Assistant

Accounting Services

Organist

Nursery Care Attendant

Every Member

Rev. Scott Wipperman

Arlyn "Butch" Plowman

Ashley Burke

Les Cramer

Bruce A. Luke

Attwood Accounting

Ann Swisher

ELDERS

Linda Bench - 2022

Kathy Chambers- 2022

Karen Witte - 2022

Sheryl Eriksen - 2022

Mary Craige - 2023

Carol Gneckow - 2023

Rose Leavitt - 2023

Carol Stebbins - 2023

John Coefield - 2024

Barb Leland - 2024

Mary Stiles - 2024

Mary Wright - 2024

John Gneckow, Clerk

DEACONS

Rena Bumgardner - 2022

Louise Cramer - 2022

Merle Korizek - 2022

Arlyn "Butch" Plowman - 2022

Patti Borsberry - 2023

Art Bumgardner - 2023

BJ Burns - 2023

Pearle Plowman - 2023

Julie Chaffee - 2024

Candace Coefield - 2024

Marie Fuhrmann - 2024

Lonna Weidemann - 2024

Rena Bumgardner - 2022

**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**

