

John 14:15-21
The Peace of the Holy Spirit



May 17, 2020
6th Sunday of Easter
First Presbyterian Church

1315 Central Avenue
Great Falls, Montana 59401
(406) 453-1411

Sunday Worship – 10:00 am
www.firstpresgfmt.org

secretary@firstpresgfmt.org

 firstpresgfmt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, as the ark carried Noah and his family through the flood waters to a new beginning, you have carried us through the waters of baptism to new life. (1 Peter 3:20-21) For this we praise you!

In the words of the psalmist: “Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of God’s praise be heard.” (Psalm 66:8) **Welcome** to worship. With voices full of excitement, attitudes full of enthusiasm, and spirits full of joy let us actively give our worship to God.

Last week, how well did you live God’s message from Acts 7:55-60? How were you filled with the Spirit as you told the faith story? When did you pray for those who persecute you? In your life, did you stand up for Jesus, so Jesus will stand for you in heaven?

Be sure to check-in through **Social Media** or text message to let your family members, friends and followers know you are here to praise God. And like us on Facebook.

Please use the time before worship begins to prepare yourself for your **offering of worship** to God. Feel free to listen to music; read and meditate on the Scripture reading for today; or silently meditate on God’s grace, emptying your mind of all distractions.

May you be renewed and strengthened through our celebration of the Renewal of our Baptismal Vows.

Those who helped to prepare and lead worship this morning are Butch Steele, April Hansen, Joan Schmidt, Deb Skinner, Alex Rosenleaf, Johnny Ritchie, and John Ritchie.

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* Please stand as able

*We are the Body of Christ
Joyfully Worshiping God
Compassionately Caring for One Another
Humbly Serving God
Continually Growing in God’s Word
Actively Sharing the Good News of Christ
May our worship be pleasing to God!*

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship (Leader **People**)

Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, O peoples,

let the sound of God's praise be heard,
who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;

you laid burdens on our backs;
you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

We will come into your house with burnt offerings;

we will pay you our vows,

those that our lips uttered

and our mouths promised when we were in trouble.

We will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,

with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;

We will make an offering of bulls and goats.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,

and we will tell what God has done for us.

We cried aloud to God,

and God was extolled with our tongues.

If we had cherished iniquity in our hearts,

the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened;

God has given heed to the words of our prayer.

Blessed be God,

because God has not rejected our prayer

or removed God's steadfast love from us.

*Hymn of Praise #300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

*Call to Confession

Brother and sisters,

God not only asks us to repent,
but also assures us of forgiveness.
Therefore,
let us confess our sins to the one who is steadfast love.

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Living God,
You made the heavens and earth,
but we worship our own devices.
You send your Spirit to guide us,
but we try to find our own way.
We have kept silent,
rather than testifying to our belief.
We have broken your law of love.
Forgive us;
give us new life!
Renew the promise of our baptism
and make us ready to receive the life that death cannot destroy;
through Christ Jesus our Lord...**

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers,
God forgives, restores, and strengthens us
through the risen Christ.
Know that we are forgiven
and be at peace.

*Congregational Response

My Chains Are Gone (chorus)

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Prayer for Illumination #281

Holy Spirit, Come to Us

Scripture & Message

John 14:15-21
The Peace of the Holy Spirit

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Sentences of Scripture

Renunciation of Evil

*Profession of Faith

*Affirmation of Faith (Leader, **People**)

The Apostles' Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving for Baptism

*Remembering Our Baptisms

*The Peace of Christ

*Hymn of Response #482

Baptized in Water

Offering

Ballade in B Major, Johannes Brahms (Op. 10, No. 4)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (**Unison**) (Matthew 6:9-13, KJV, Traditional)

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;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory,

forever.

Amen.

SENDING FOR SERVICE

In Christ Called to Baptize

*Sending Hymn #297

*Charge

*Blessing

*Postlude

May our service be pleasing to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget to check our Facebook page and your email for the **latest information** regarding the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church during this time of social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are not receiving emails, please send your current email address to the office, secretary@firstpresgfmt.org. If there is anything the elders, deacons, or staff can do for you during this time, please let us know.

Tithes and Offerings may be mailed to the church office (we are receiving mail) or made online through our website.

Souler Energy, our weekly Sunday Worship broadcast, can be viewed every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on KFBB TV Channel 5 (cable channel 9).

Beth Moore's **Bible Study for women** entitled "Chasing Vines" continues on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. through June 17. To sign up, or for more information, contact Alissa at 406-231-2348 or cedirector@firstpresgfmt.org.

Our times of worship are now **live-streamed** on our YouTube channel; search for "First Presbyterian Church Great Falls MT" on the YouTube website. Recordings of previous live-streams will remain on our YouTube channel. Links to both live-streams and recordings will be posted to our Facebook page.

Reformation Overview Class will not meet this Thursday or next Sunday due to Memorial Day

Looking to connect with others from the congregation? **Join us** on Zoom Tuesdays at 12:30 pm and/or Thursdays at 6:30 pm for about 30 minutes of sharing whatever is on your mind or going on in your life. The same connection information for Sunday fellowship times will work for these. Let John know if you need the Zoom connection information. (906-322-9490, pastor@firstpresgfmt.org)

Our next week to serve at **FISH** will be Monday June 1 – Friday June from 8:45 – 11:00 am. Tasks include stocking shelves, bagging food, and handing food to the clients. COVID-19 precautions are in place including social distancing and face masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be available. If you are available to help any of those days, or have questions, please contact Dave Herman (847-313-5866, davebikeil@bresnan.net) before May 24.

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

Next Sunday, May 24, 2020

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14

Getting Ready to Act

May 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Offering

Please Wear **Red**

Numbers 11:24-30

Acts 2:1-8, 12-14, 37-42

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

Responding to the Spirit

June 7, 2020

Trinity Sunday

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

The Trinity: Grace, Love, and Communion
Communion

June 14, 2020

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:1-15

Promises, Promises

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Today, May 17	8:15 a.m.	Reformation Overview Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Tuesday, May 19	12:30 p.m.	Zoom Hang Out
	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday, May 20	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Group
	2:00 p.m.	Chasing Vines Bible Study
Thursday, May 21	6:30 p.m.	Zoom Hang Out
Next Sunday, May 24	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Tuesday, May 26.....	Deacons’ Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 31	Pentecost – Wear Red

The Officers and Staff of First Presbyterian Church welcome you
to this time of worship and invite you to join us in ministry!

Head of the Church

Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior

Session

	John Ritchie (Moderator)	
Ginger Blevins	Rees Davies	Randy Houtz (Clerk)
Alissa Brown	Dave Dobbs	Scott Royce
Jan Brown	Mary Fagenstrom	Dean Schamp
Sara Buley	Kathy Herman	

Deacons

Stuart Brown	Tom Hazen	Robb Sparks
Bruce Buer (Moderator)	Dave Herman	Marla Wilckens
Kitty Cornwell	Chris Pfost	
Shirley Davis	Deb Skinner	

Staff

Rev. John E Ritchie, Pastor (906-322-9490)	Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator
Alissa Brown, CE Director	Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director
Joan Schmidt, Ministry of Music	Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director
Craig Anton, Facilities Manager	Laura Jerome, Praise Band Director
Faith Janes, Secretary	Bayley Grove, Preschool
Liza Nosich, Treasurer	Brittany Collins, Nursery
Kristen McGuire, Peace Place Director	

Trust the Artist We must offer ourselves to God like a clean, smooth canvas and not worry ourselves about what God may choose to paint on it, but at each moment, feel only the stroke of his brush. ... It is the same with a piece of stone. Each blow from the sculptor's chisel makes it feel ... as if it were being destroyed. ... All I know is that I must stay immobile in the hands of the sculptor. ... I have no idea what he is doing ... but I know his work is the best possible.

—Jean Pierre de Caussade