

Matthew 6:11-12

Luke 11:3-4b

Exodus 16:13-21

Matthew 6:19-21

ILLUMINATING LENT – THE LORD’S PRAYER

Downward: What God Gives to Us – Providential Provisions



March 22, 2020

4th Sunday in Lent

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

Holy Spirit, show each of us someone who needs a friendly word, a kind smile, a gentle touch; may we share your love with all we meet.

Just as God instructed Samuel to anoint David as Israel's king, God has anointed each of us for special work. May this time of worship strengthen you for service! **Welcome** to worship, one and all. 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 Matthew 6:10 and Luke 11:2? How did God's kingdom come to you in your life? When did you share God's kingdom with others? How was God's will done in our community?

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 the music; read and meditate on the Scripture readings for today; or silently meditate on God's grace, emptying your mind of all distractions.

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*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

How Great Thou Art, arr. Lorie Line

Welcome & Opportunities for Service

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

Psalm 104 & 32, adapted

Bless the LORD our God, who is very great.

You, O Lord, set the earth on its foundations.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; giving drink to every wild animal.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, bringing forth food from the earth,

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

All creatures look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever!

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

We will confess our transgressions to the LORD, who forgave the guilt of our sin.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

We will sing to the LORD as long as we live; we will sing praise to our God while we have being.

*Hymn of Praise #625

How Great Thou Art

*Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, hear us as we confess our sins with shame.

We have hoarded and misused the bread you so generously send.

We have carelessly paved over places that are better suited for growing food and sustaining life.

We have poisoned waters better used for drinking.

We have polluted the air your creation breathes every day.

Give us open eyes to see the way of renewal.

You forgive with love and mercy,

we forgive with anger and hate.

You forgive through the death of your Son,

we forgive only when we feel justice has been served.

You forgive by erasing our sins and the debt we owe because of those sins,

we forgive by pointing out the faults in others and demanding restitution.

Forgive us God, for the way we forgive...

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

The psalmist assures us that God's goodness and mercy will follow us,
even pursue us,

all the days of our life.

As God's forgiven people,

receive this goodness and mercy,

and live a new life in the grace of Jesus.

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Our Father, Which Art in Heaven, West Indies Folk Tune

Scripture & Message

Matthew 6:11-12

Luke 11:3-4b

Exodus 16:13-21

Matthew 6:19-21

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RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, 4.125-.126, adapted

What is the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

“Give us this day our daily bread.” That is: May God be pleased to provide for all our bodily needs so that thereby we may acknowledge that God is the only source of all that is good, and that without God's blessing neither our care and labor nor God's gifts can do us any good. Therefore, may we withdraw our trust from all creatures and place it in God alone.

What is the fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” That is: be pleased, for the sake of Jesus' blood, not to charge to us, miserable sinners, our many transgressions, nor the evil which still clings to us. We also find this witness of God's grace in us, that it is our sincere intention heartily to forgive our neighbor.

*Hymn of Response #441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

Moment for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4)

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.

Amen.

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Hymn

Step by Step

*Charge

*Blessing

*Congregational Response #765

Song of Hope

*Postlude

Give to Our God Immortal Praise! arr. Wilbur Held

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.

Please note the staff's new email addresses:

John Ritchie – pastor@firstpresgfmt.org

Alissa Brown – cedirector@firstpresgfmt.org

Faith Janes – secretary@firstpresgfmt.org

Joan Schmidt – musicdirector@firstpresgfmt.org

Craig Anton – manager@firstpresgfmt.org

Liza Nosich – treasurer@firstpresgfmt.org

FISH is still open daily 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. distributing food to those in need. The Loaves & Fishes Dinner scheduled for April 24th has been canceled because of the coronavirus. It is planned to still have the dinner later this year when the crisis is over.

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). If you would like to support the continued broadcast of this program, note Souler Energy on your check and mail it to the church. Thank you!

Winter Faith Institute Classes Both classes will continue this week via the online meeting platform Zoom. Those who have been attending will be contacted with connection information. If you would like to join either class, please let the office know.

Illuminating Lent – Sunday mornings @ 8:15 a.m. and Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. This class is taught by Pastor John and will run through April 6th.

Creating For Creation – Sunday mornings @ 11:30 a.m. This class is taught by Jan Brown and will run through May 3rd (with no class on April 12th).

COMING WORSHIP THEMES:

Next Sunday, March 29, 2020 – 5th
Sunday in Lent – Alissa Brown will be preaching while John is on vacation

April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday – Matthew 6:13; Luke 11:4c; Matthew 3:1-12; Luke 14:25-33 – ILLUMINATING LENT – THE LORD’S PRAYER Forward: Where God Leads Us - Discipleship

April 9, 2020 – Maundy Thursday – Live-Streamed

April 10, 2020 – Good Friday – Community Worship at noon Live-streamed – Evening worship with Our Savior’s Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. Live-streamed

April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday – Matthew 28:1-10 – Not Here: Try Everywhere Else

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)

Liza Nosich, Treasurer

Alissa Brown, CE Director

Joan Schmidt, Ministry of Music

Craig Anton, Facilities Manager

Faith Janes, Secretary

Ancient Guidance on Prayer When we pray, we are not to pray for ourselves alone. We do not say, “My Father, who art in heaven” or, “Give me this day my daily bread”; we do not ask for our own trespasses alone to be forgiven; and when we pray that we may be delivered from evil, we are not praying only for ourselves either. Our prayer is for the general good, for the common good. When we pray, we do not pray for our own single selves; we pray for all God’s people, because they and we are one.

—Cyprian, bishop of Carthage (third century)