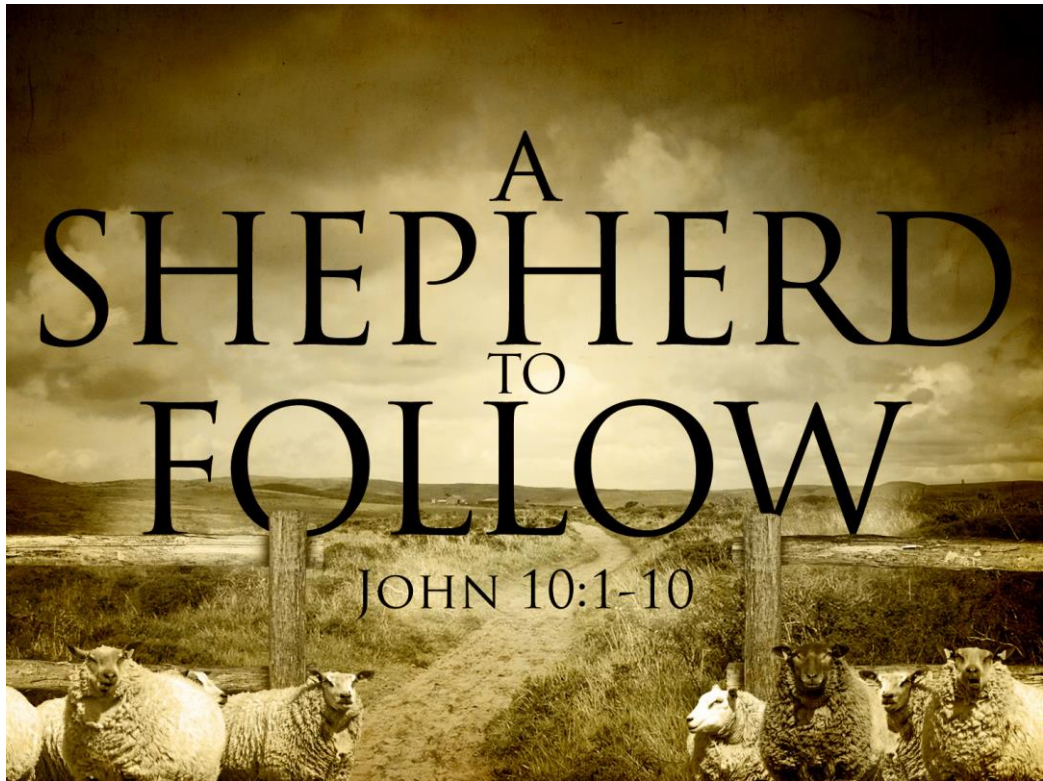


John 10:1-10
Jesus, The Good Shepherd




May 3, 2020
4th 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

*Kind Shepherd, thank you for guiding us all our lives,
and for leading us here, today, to this worship.*

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church! May you experience the love of our good Shepherd, Jesus, and share it with others throughout the week. 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 Luke 24:13-35? When did the word of God burn in your heart and move you to share the message of God's love through Jesus with others? How were you the living, breathing, presence of Jesus for one who did not understand?

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 this morning through our celebration of **Communion**. The Presbyterian Church (USA) has an open communion table. We welcome all who are Baptized "in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" by any Christian denomination to join us in communing with our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. Be sure to have something ready for the bread and juice at the appropriate time. You will be instructed when to eat and drink.

Those who helped to prepare and lead worship this morning are Butch Steele, April Hansen, Laura Jerome, Ginger Blevins, Rick Blevins, Paula Jackson, Johnny Ritchie, Tom Hazen, Joan Schmidt, Jacob Schmidt, 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

Gathering Music

*Heart of Worship
Oh, How He Loves You and Me
Grace Flows Down
Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

Welcome

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

Psalm 23

The LORD is our shepherd, we shall not want.

The Lord makes us lie down in green pastures;
the Lord leads us beside still waters;
the Lord restores our souls.

The Lord leads us in right paths
for the sake of God's name.

**Even though we walk through the darkest valley,
we fear no evil;**

**for you are with us;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort us.**

You prepare a table before us
in the presence of our enemies;
you anoint our heads with oil;
our cups overflow.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us
all the days of our lives,
and we shall dwell in the house of the LORD
our whole life long.

*Song of Praise

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

*Call to Confession

Friends,
in as much as God is our shepherd,
let us not fear,
but confess our sin that God may restore our souls.

*Prayer of Confession

The Good Shepherd calls to us.
**We know our shepherd's voice,
but fail to heed it.**
Merciful God,
to walk paths of righteousness and enjoy your life abundant,
we must follow you in trust and obedience.
**Though you call us by name,
we pretend to not hear
And we go our own way.
Though you defend us,
we are filled with fear.**

You are light!

But we flounder in dark valleys.

You spread a table before us.

Our cups overflow.

We judge those with whom we are seated.

We worry there will not be enough.

In your mercy,

forgive us, Lord.

Take us by the hand,

and guide us in your ways.

**Help us to rest with your flock, in your company,
and there learn to be grateful and generous...**

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, the promise of our faith is that
if we entrust ourselves to the One who judges justly,
we need not feel threatened,
for we will be returned to righteousness.

**Having been brought back into the safety of God's fold,
we share God's peace with one another.**

The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

*Congregational Response

My Chains Are Gone (chorus)

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Bist Du Bei Mir (When Thou Art with Me), J.S. Bach

Scripture & Message

John 10:1-10
Jesus, The Good Shepherd

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith

Lord, I Believe

*Song of Response

O Surrender All

Moment for Ministry – Children & Youth Ministries Committee

Offering

Give Thanks

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and *The Lord's Prayer*

Kriewald

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

The Communion of God's People

Prayer after Communion

**God of grace, you invite us to your table and welcome us as part of your family.
You feed us with your body and satisfy our deepest hunger. We thank you for
these gifts. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Spirit that we
may be your witnesses, sharing the life-giving news of the gospel. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Song

Shine, Jesus, Shine

*Charge

*Blessing

*Postlude

Largo Staccato, John Stanley

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.

Beth Moore's **Bible Study for women** entitled "Chasing Vines" will meet on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. beginning May 13 for 6 weeks. Workbooks can be ordered online through Amazon. 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. Recording of previous live-streams will remain on our YouTube channel. Links to both live-streams and recordings will be posted to our Facebook page.

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).

Winter Faith Institute Class *Caring For Creation* continues to meet Sunday mornings @ 11:30 a.m. This class is taught by Jan Brown and will run through May 10.

Reformation Overview Class John Ritchie leads this six-week video-based class which is an introduction on a movement that decisively influenced the shape of our modern world and the Christian churches. This "Overview" will introduce some key moments, people, and issues of the Protestant Reformation. We meet every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday at 8:15 a.m. (a repeat of the Thursday class).

In our next lesson: Though not without his faults, one of the most influential men in all of history was Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk whose search for peace and righteousness in his own soul led him on a spiritual journey and adventure which brought Europe to a crucial turning point in its history. Luther's groundbreaking views on justification by faith, freedom in Christ, the authority of Scripture, and the priesthood of all believers made him the leading figure in the launch of the Protestant Reformation.

COMING WORSHIP THEMES:

Next Sunday, May 10, 2020

5th Sunday of Easter
Acts 7:55-60
The Stoning of Stephen

May 17, 2020

6th Sunday of Easter
Renewal of Baptismal Vows
John 14:15-21
The Peace of the Holy Spirit

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

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Today, May 3	8:15 a.m.	Reformation Overview Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:30 a.m.	Caring for Creation Class
Tuesday, May 5	12:00 noon	Souler Energy Committee
	5:30 p.m.	Property Committee
Wednesday, May 6	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	5:30 p.m.	Building Re-Opening Committee
Thursday, May 7	10:00 a.m.	Reformation Overview Class
	5:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
Saturday, May 9	9:30 a.m.	PW
Next Sunday, May 10	8:15 a.m.	Reformation Overview Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:30 a.m.	Caring for Creation Class

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Tuesday, May 12.....	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
	Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 13.....	Chasing Vines Bible Study Begins, 2:00 p.m.

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	

Ministry In Daily Life Thomas Dreier (1884-1976) was on the path to ministry, according to a biographer, but then decided to “preach broadly, free from orthodox limitations.” During successful careers in publishing and business, Dreier offered much inspiration — including these words to which we all can aspire: “To greet the day with reverence for the opportunities it contains ... to hold ever before me, even in the doing of little things, the Ultimate Purpose toward which I am working; to meet men and women with laughter on my lips and love in my heart; to be gentle, kind and courteous through all the hours; to approach the night with ... the joy that comes from work well done, this is how I desire to spend wisely my days.”