

**Genesis 18:1-15**  
**Promises, Promises**




**June 14, 2020**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**First Presbyterian Church**

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

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

[www.firstpresgfmt.org](http://www.firstpresgfmt.org)

[secretary@firstpresgfmt.org](mailto:secretary@firstpresgfmt.org)

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## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*As Abraham and Sarah welcomed you, Lord, in the three men who visited them, may I receive you eagerly however you reveal yourself. Amen.*

Dear friends in Christ, God loves you and delights to be with you – here and everywhere, today and always. **Welcome.** 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 2 Corinthians 13:11-13? When did the grace of Jesus lead you into the love of God leading you to act with the communion of the Holy Spirit?

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.

Those who helped to prepare and lead worship this morning are Dwight Holman, Randy Houtz, Kitty Cornwell, Butch Steele, April Hansen, Tom Hazen, Laura Jerome, Rick and Ginger Blevins, Paula Jackson, Johnny Ritchie, Alissa Brown, Joan Schmidt, Alex Rosenleaf, 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

*Come, Now is the Time to Worship  
Awesome God  
Lord, Be Glorified*

Welcome

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

Whether we stray like sheep  
or follow faithfully,

**God welcomes us here.**

Whether we seek healing and wholeness,  
or stand ready to extend compassion,

**God welcomes us here.**

Whether exhausted from journeys across rough terrain,  
or renewed and refreshed,  
we gather to hear the good news:

**The kingdom of heaven is at hand!**

**\*Song of Praise**

*My Lord, What a Morning*

**\*Call to Confession**

The mystery of God brings the promise of life,  
even when we doubt the Spirit's power to overcome death.

The resurrection of Jesus,  
reveals that nothing is impossible with God.

Let us confess our sin and receive new life.

**\*Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**O God,**

**who makes and keeps promises;  
forgive us for the times you come into our lives,  
yet we are too tired to recognize you,  
or too lazy to welcome you.**

**Forgive us for the times you promise us a "fruitful" future,  
and all we do is laugh.**

**Forgive us for the times you confront us  
and all we do is deny our actions.**

**Forgive us!**

**In the name of Jesus...**

*(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)*

\*Assurance of Forgiveness (Leader **People**)

Jesus gave his life to save us from the wrath of God.

**Therefore,**

**since we are justified by faith,**

**we have peace with God through our Lord Christ Jesus.**

Trust the good news of the gospel:

in Jesus our sins are forgiven.

### **HEARING THE GOOD NEWS**

Message in Music

*Good Good Father*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Genesis 18:1-15  
Promises, Promises

### **RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS**

\*Affirmation of Faith

*Lord, I Believe*

\*Song of Response

*Be Not Afraid*

Offering

*Give Thanks*

Prayers of the People and *The Lord's Prayer*

Kriewald

### **SENDING FOR SERVICE**

\*Sending Hymn

*You Never Let Go*

\*Charge

\*Blessing

\*Response

*Song of Hope (May the God of Hope Go with Us)*

\*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](mailto: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.

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.

**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).

Even though School is remote learning, we are still helping the **Longfellow School** families. There have been several opportunities to help families as their circumstances have worsened. The Mission Committee is trying to make sure we have funds to help in these needs as well as help fund their food pantry which is distributing 15 boxes of food per week with another 15 available for pickup. We are praying you will help us in this mission. Please make any contributions to the church and mark them Longfellow Mission Fund. Thank you so much for your generous support!

Beth Moore's **Bible Study for women** entitled "Chasing Vines" continues on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. through June 24. To sign up, or for more information, contact Alissa at 406-231-2348 or [cedirector@firstpresgfmt.org](mailto:cedirector@firstpresgfmt.org).

## COMING WORSHIP THEMES

**Next Sunday, June 21, 2020**

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 21:8-21

What's A Father to Do?

**July 5, 2020**

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Romans 7:15-25a

The Inner Conflict

**June 28, 2020**

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 22:1-14

Now What's A Father to Do?

**July 12, 2020**

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

*All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom*

Today, June 13	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Tuesday, June 16	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday, June 17	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	2:00 p.m.	Chasing Vines Bible Study
Next Sunday, June 21	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time

## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

*All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom*

Tuesday, June 23.....	Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 9.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
	Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 11.....	PW, 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, July 14.....	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
	Property Committee, 5:30 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	Sara Buley	Mary Fagenstrom	Scott Royce
Alissa Brown	Rees Davies	Kathy Herman	Dean Schamp
Jan Brown	Dave Dobbs	Randy Houtz (Clerk)	

**Deacons**

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

**Staff**

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

**Too Great to Grasp** For more than three decades, St. Augustine of Hippo toiled over the mind-boggling doctrine of the Trinity. According to legend, one day the church father was strolling along a shore, wrestling with this puzzle. He saw a boy running back and forth, using a seashell to pour water from the ocean into a hole he'd dug in the sand. When Augustine asked what he was doing, the boy proclaimed, "I'm going to pour the entire ocean into this hole!" "That's impossible," replied Augustine. "The sea is so great, and the shell and the hole are so little." "That's true," the boy said. "But it would be easier to draw all the water out of the sea and fit it into this hole than for you to fit the mystery of the Trinity and his divinity into your little intellect." Indeed, only through faith can we accept the infinite nature of our Three-in-One God; for our finite human minds, it's simply too great to grasp.