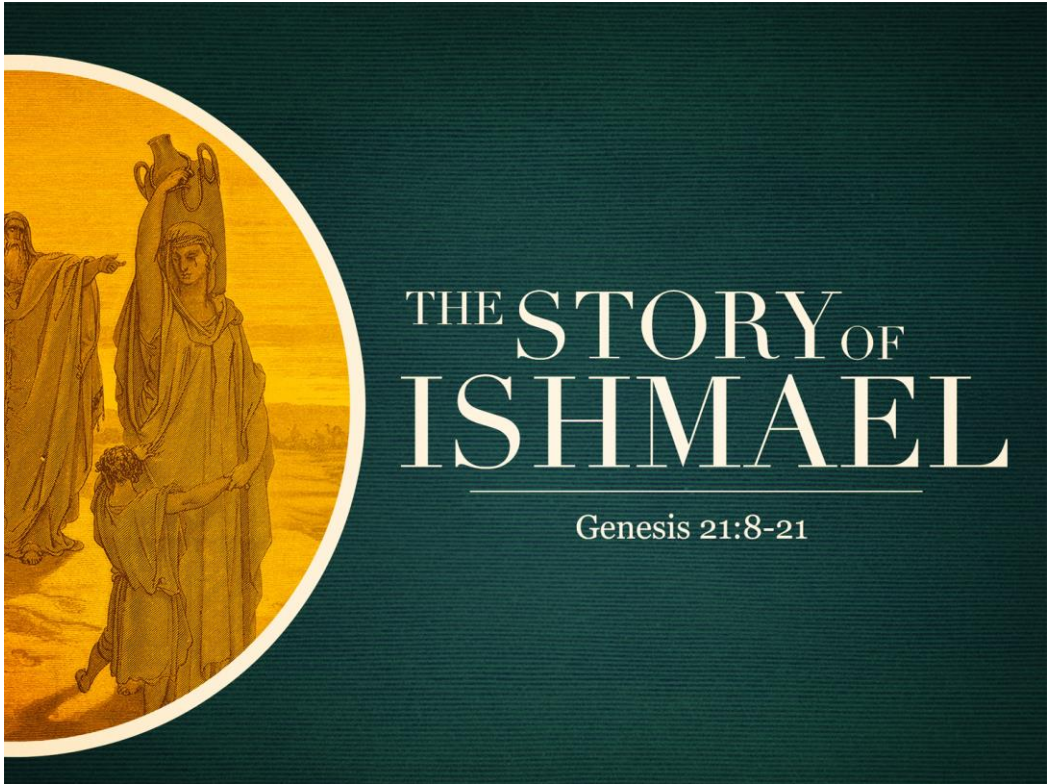


Genesis 21:8-21
What's a Father to Do?




June 21, 2020
12th 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

secretary@firstpresgfmt.org

 firstpresgfmt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*Thank you, Creator God, for this lovely summer day
and for your glory that shimmers in nature. Hallelujah!*

Welcome to worship. We especially thank God for father-figures and male mentors today. Let us praise God for these special people and for all his gifts to us! 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 Genesis 18:1-15? When did you see God's promise fulfilled?

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 Alissa Brown, Butch Steele, April Hansen, Tom Hazen, Joan Schmidt, Kitty Cornwell, Johnny Ritchie, 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

Prelude

This Is My Father's World, Arr. Lorie Line

Welcome

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

God cares for us completely and calls for our total commitment.

Jesus gave his life that we might live and calls us to give our lives to him.

Through Jesus we have died to sin; in Jesus we are fully alive to God.

Come, let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise #645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

*Call to Confession (Leader **People**)

Sin destroys our lives.

Sin destroys our relationships.

Sin destroys our hope.

But through faith in the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our lives, our relationships, and our future are no longer enslaved to sin.

Let us trust the love of God and confess our sin, that we might receive grace and find true freedom.

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

God of justice and fairness,

so many times we let jealousy blind us to your truth.

Instead of living life and trusting you to fulfill your promise,

we often take matters into our own hands,

despising those who we feel do not deserve your blessings.

You are a God who calls and welcomes,

yet many times we are a people who cast away and exclude.

We turn against one another;

failing to care for the weak and poor among us.

We pay no heed to the cries of the powerless;

As we seek our own advantage.

Forgive us, merciful God,

for our short-sightedness

and lack of faith.

Wipe sin from our lives

and let us find ourselves wholly in Jesus, our Savior,

in whose name we pray...

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

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

God,
who loves us,
does not abandon or forsake us.

**Our Savior hears and answers
when we cry out from the wastelands of sin.**

**Death cannot bind us,
for the risen Jesus sets us free.**

Hear the good news:
in Christ Jesus we are forgiven.

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Siyahamba (We Are Singing, for the Lord Is Our Light),
Arr. Hal H. Hopson

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Genesis 21:8-21
What's A Father to Do?

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (**Unison**)

The Apostles' Creed

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

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

*Hymn of Response #286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Offering

Jesus, Savior, Lord, Now to You I Come

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

**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

*Sending Hymn #450

Be Thou My Vision

*Charge

*Blessing

*Response #44

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

*Postlude

Finale (from Concerto No. 5), G.F. Handel

May our service be pleasing to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

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

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.

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).

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

Next Sunday, June 28, 2020

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 22:1-14

Now What’s A Father to Do?

July 5, 2020

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Romans 7:15-25a

The Inner Conflict

July 12, 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2020

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Today, June 21	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Tuesday, June 23	6:30 p.m.	Deacon's Meeting
Wednesday, June 24	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	2:00 p.m.	Chasing Vines Bible Study
Next Sunday, June 28	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

Monday, July 6 – Sunday, July 26.....	John is on Vacation
Thursday, July 9.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
	Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 11.....	PW, 9:00 a.m.
Sunday, July 12.....	Mini Golf @ Valley View Garden Golf, 12:00 noon
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
Alissa Brown
Jan Brown

Sara Buley
Rees Davies
Dave Dobbs

Mary Fagenstrom
Kathy Herman
Randy Houtz (Clerk)

Scott Royce
Dean Schamp

Deacons

Stuart Brown
Bruce Buer (Mod.)
Kitty Cornwell

Shirley Davis
Tom Hazen
Dave Herman

Chris Pfof
Deb Skinner

Robb Sparks
Marla Wilckens

Staff

Rev. John E Ritchie, Pastor (906-322-9490)

Alissa Brown, CE Director
Joan Schmidt, Ministry of Music
Craig Anton, Facilities Manager
Faith Janes, Secretary
Liza Nosich, Treasurer

Kristen McGuire, Peace Place Director
Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator
Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director
Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director
Laura Jerome, Praise Band Director
Brittany Collins, Nursery

The Act of Asking In *Everyday Spirituality*, James Hazelwood explores 27 ordinary activities that are, he asserts, more spiritual than we tend to think. One is asking questions. “We see God in all the questions we ask, whether or not they are religious. The simple act of asking questions indicates that we are meaning-seeking creatures.” The pastor continues: “We inquire of the meaning of life, the purpose of work and relationships. We even ask it of our very own existence. The answers often come not in clear proclamations of certainty but in stories, tales and the myths of life. . . . Inquiry, wonder, and discovery are things that the human mind loves.” Then he offers this thought-provoking statement: “When we ask questions, we are engaging in prayer.” Do you agree? What other daily activities might be more intertwined with your faith than you thought? While you ponder even these questions, do you sense the Holy Spirit moving you?