

Romans 7:15-25a
The Inner Conflict



July 5, 2020
14th 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

*King of the nations, thank you for the freedoms we enjoy.
Empower us to work for basic freedoms for all people worldwide.*

Amen.

Welcome to worship this midsummer day! May faith and hope grow in you, as crops and flowers and fruits ripen all around us these days. 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 22:1-14? When did God test you and how did God then provide for you?

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. If you are joining us at home, 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 Deb Skinner, Caroline Houtz, Randy Houtz, Butch Steele, April Hansen, Alissa Brown, Joan Schmidt, 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 & HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Prelude

God Bless America, Irving Berlin

Welcome

*Call to Worship (Leader **People**) (from Matthew 11:28, 30, Psalm 145:8, 14)

Jesus says:

Come to me,

all who are weary and who carry heavy loads,

come to me,

and I will give you rest.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,

full of compassion,

abounding in love.

Jesus says:

My yoke is easy,

and my burden is light.

The Lord supports those who are weak,

and lifts up those who are falling.

*Hymn of Praise #354

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

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

God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

Therefore let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up.

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

Lord of heaven and earth,

have mercy upon us.

**We do the very things we claim to hate,
and fail to do the things we say we love.**

**Evil lies close at hand
and sin dwells within us.**

**Warring impulses and desires torment our spirits
and keep us from living as you command.**

**Forgive us,
gracious God.**

**Enable us to cast our burdens upon you
and find rest...**

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

Scripture & Message

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

Friends, hear the good news of our faith:

God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
showing compassion to all.

**Forgiven and freed,
we rise up with joy
and share our peace with one another.**

Message in Music

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, African-American Spiritual

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

Nothing But the Blood

Offering

La Paix (The Peace), G.F. Handel

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and *The Lord's Prayer*

Malotte

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Communion of God's People

Prayer after Communion (**Unison**)

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Hymn

Go Now In Peace

*Charge

*Blessing

*Response #44

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

*Postlude

Festival Fanfare on God of the Ages, J. Wayne Kerr

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.

Join us for an afternoon of **mini golf** on Sunday, July 12 at Valley View Garden Golf at 12:00 noon. Cost is \$7 per person, \$5 12 years old and younger. We’ll meet there.

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.

If you would like a copy of the July-August *The Upper Room* sent to you, please let the office 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, July 12, 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Alissa Brown will be preaching while John is on vacation

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 26, 2020

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Alissa Brown will be preaching while John is on vacation

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19, 2020

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Alissa Brown will be preaching while John is on vacation

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

August 2, 2020

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Today, July 5	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Monday, July 6 – Monday, July 26		John is on vacation
Thursday, July 9	12:00 noon	Spiritual Life Committee
	5:30 p.m.	Worship Committee
Saturday, July 11	9:00 a.m.	PW
Next Sunday, July 12	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	12:00 noon	Mini Golf @ Valley View Garden Golf

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Monday, July 6 – Sunday, July 26.....	John is on Vacation
Tuesday, July 14	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m. Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 25.....	9:00 a.m., PW
Tuesday, August 4	12:00 noon, Souler Energy Committee
Thursday, August 6.....	5:30 p.m. Worship Committee

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)	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	Brittany Collins, Nursery
Liza Nosich, Treasurer	

Religion in the Republic Despotism may govern without faith, but liberty cannot. Religion is much more necessary in the republic which they set forth in glowing colors than in the monarchy which they attack; it is more needed in democratic republics than in any others. How is it possible that society should escape destruction if the moral tie is not strengthened in proportion as the political tie is relaxed? And what can be done with a people who are their own masters if they are not submissive to the Deity?

—Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-1859)