

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



July 19, 2020

16th 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, God, that we need not climb to you, like the angels on Jacob's ladder
(Genesis 28:12) — indeed we cannot —
but that in Jesus you came down to all the world, in love.*

After a vision, Jacob declared, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God.” (Genesis 28:17) The worship space you are in right now, too, is the house of God, and so is your heart. **Welcome.** With voices full of excitement, attitudes full of enthusiasm, and spirits full of joy let us actively give our worship to God.

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.

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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

Lobe Den Herren (Praise Ye the Lord), Arr. Diane Bish

Welcome

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

People of God,

let us gather to worship and praise God's name.

We give thanks to you, O God, with our whole heart.

We will glorify your name forever!

For great is God's steadfast love for us.

You have delivered our souls from the depths.

God says,

“Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.”

*Hymn of Praise #35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

*Call to Confession

Trusting in God's mercy,

let us acknowledge to ourselves and each other

those ways we fall short from what God intends for us,

all of which God already knows.

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

Merciful God,

your creatures cry—creation groans—

but we turn away;

we surround ourselves with noise.

We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility:

we are young;

we are old;

we are tired;

we are busy.

It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference.

Life-giving God,

wash us clean.

Restore our imaginations and our hearts.

Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins

until we love with abandon

and our hands reach out in blessing...

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, hear the word of the Lord.
In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
God says unequivocally, irrevocably:
you are my own;
you are forgiven;
and I need you to be about my business in the world.

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

On Eagle's Wings, Michael Joncas

Scripture & Message

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (**Unision**)

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 #441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

Offering

Arioso (from *Concerto in F Minor*), J.S. Bach

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 #36

For the Fruit of All Creation

*Charge

*Blessing

*Response #44

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

*Postlude

Allegro Maestoso (from Water Music), 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.

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, July 26, 2020

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-50

The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...

August 2, 2020

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 14:13-21

The Feeding of the Five Thousand

August 9, 2020

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-50

August 16, 2020

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jonah 1

Running Away from God

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom

Today, July 19		John is on vacation through July 24
	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Wednesday, July 22	7:00 p.m.	Mission Committee (at Dave & Kathy Herman's)
Saturday, July 25	9:00 a.m.	PW
Next Sunday, July 26	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 – Friday, July 24	John is on Vacation
Tuesday, August 4	12:00 noon, Souler Energy Committee
Thursday, August 6.....	5:30 p.m. Worship Committee
Sunday, August 9	Gates of the Mountains Boat Trip, 12:00 noon
Tuesday, August 11	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m. Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 13.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
Tuesday, August 18	Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, August, 22.....	PW, 9:00 a.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

Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator

Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director
Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director
Laura Jerome, Praise Band Director
Brittany Collins, Nursery

Treasure the Present Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest...to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient, we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later, and somewhere else. Let's be patient and trust that the treasure we look for is hidden in the ground on which we stand.

—Henri Nouwen