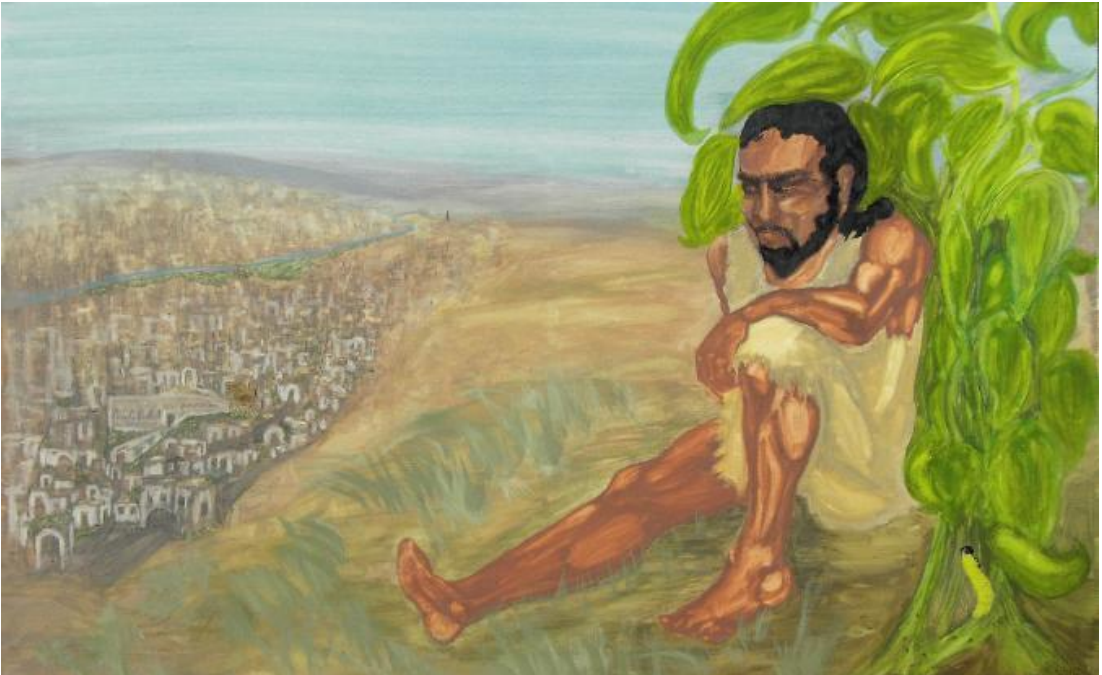


Jonah 4

Jonah's Anger & Jonah is Reproved




September 6, 2020
23rd 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

God, this Labor Day weekend, we thank you for the work to which you have called us — at home and beyond. May we glorify you in all we do.

The psalmist declares that “the LORD takes pleasure in God’s people.” (Psalm 149:4, ESV) As we gather before the God who delights in us, may we also delight in God. **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.

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 Butch Steele, April Hansen, Dave Dobbs, Dwight Holman, Joan Schmidt, Kitty Cornwell, 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 Together in God’s Word
And Actively Sharing the Good News of Christ*

May our worship be pleasing to God!

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

Prelude

Andante Expressivo (from Opus 55), Flor Peeters

Welcome

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

Whether we embrace God's call in our lives
or try to avoid it,

**God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Draw near to the Lord,
who hears our pleas and our praise.

We come to rest in God's holy presence.

Here is bread that the Lord provides;
here is manna to nourish our souls.

We gather to feast on God's sustaining Word.

Remember the Lord's wonderful works each evening;
see God's glory with the morning's light.

**We come to worship the Lord,
praising God's name forever and ever!**

*Hymn of Praise #32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

*Call to Confession #695

Change My Heart, O God

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

Lord, your generosity surprises us.

**You do not hand out grace according to how hard we work,
or how often we worship,
or how closely we follow the rules.**

You generously pour grace upon us according to your own desire.

But we insist on deciding who is deserving and who is not.

**We grumble that some receive too little while others have more than they
deserve.**

**Forgive us,
we pray.**

Help us to live with humility and gratitude

so that our words and deeds might embody your grace...

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

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

God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving,
grace beyond our ability to earn it.

**God has granted us the privilege of believing in Jesus;
therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people!
Thanks be to God!**

*Praising God for God's Forgiveness #654

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Be Not Afraid, Bob Dufford/Arr. Jack Schrader

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Jonah 4

Jonah's Anger & Jonah is Reproved

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
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 #449

Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love (Psalm 85)

Offering

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, Pritchard/Arr. Wilbur Held

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 #515

I Come with Joy

Prayer after Communion (**Unison**)

God our Savior, we give you thanks that you have prepared this feast for us – the rich feast of our redemption. By the nourishment of this holy meal, make us more ready for the day when you will wipe away all tears and swallow up death forever; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Hymn

Go Now in Peace

*Commission (Leader **People**) Inspired by Jonah 3-4 (J. Harader, spaciousfaith.com)

The word of God came to Jonah:

The word of God comes to us:

Go

Despite your fears

Speak

the truth of God

Love

your neighbor and you enemy

Forgive

as you have been forgiven

Receive

grace upon grace

overflowing from the fullness of God.

*Charge

*Blessing

*Postlude

Jubilate Deo, Alfred J. Silver

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 or made online through our website.

If you are not receiving **emails**, please send your current email address to the office, secretary@firstpresgfmt.org.

Upcoming **Adult Education** opportunities:

“What It Means to Be Presbyterian” If you have been wondering what it means to be a Presbyterian in the Presbyterian Church (USA), or desire a refresher course, join us beginning Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. as we discover what makes us unique as Presbyterians. (Eventually, we’ll discover which method of making coffee best describes the PC(USA)!) While this class will be available on Zoom, limited seats will be available in the church library. Please reserve your spot by calling John or the church office. If you’d like, you can come early for dinner at 6:00 p.m. with Midweek Ministry in Faith Village. Social distancing will be observed at dinner, Midweek Ministry, and during our class; and properly worn masks (covering the face and nose) will be required at all times, except while eating dinner. Let John or the office know if you need the Zoom link sent to you, and videos of all sessions will be posted to our YouTube page.

“Creeds and Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)” Join us for a study of the *Book of Confessions*, the first part of the Constitution of the PC(USA), on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. (beginning September 10) or Sundays at 8:15 a.m. (beginning September 13). It will be helpful to have a copy of the Book of Confessions. We have several copies available, or a free pdf can be downloaded from www.pcusastore.com. We’ll begin by looking at the importance of creeds and confessions and the role they play in our lives as Christians. In our next session, we’ll learn about the history and purpose of the Nicene Creed. Let John or the office know if you need the Zoom link sent to you, or if you would like a physical copy of the *Book of Confessions*. Videos of all sessions will be posted to our YouTube page after the Sunday class.

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, September 13, 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 18:21-35
The Value of Forgiveness

September 27, 2020

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 17:1-7
Putting the Lord to the Test

September 20, 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Beth McCaw will be Preaching while John
is on Vacation

October 4, 2020

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Communion Sunday
Philippians 3:4b-14
Breaking with the Past

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

Today, Sunday, September 6	8:15 a.m.	Jonah Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Tuesday, September 8	3:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
	5:30 p.m.	Property Committee
Wednesday, September 9	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
Thursday, September 3	10:00 a.m.	Creeds & Confessions Class
	12:00 noon	Spiritual Life Committee
	5:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
Next Sunday, September 13	8:15 a.m.	Creeds & Confessions Class
	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 Unless Noted

Monday, September 14-Sunday, September 20.....	John is on Vacation
Tuesday, September 15.....	Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 22.....	Board of Deacons Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 1.....	Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 4.....	Church BBQ & Mission/Ministry Fair, 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 8.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon

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

All Workers are Essential The concept of vocation, Latin for “to call,” previously referred only to a calling to church work. But then Martin Luther emphasized the importance — and even sanctity — of *all* types of labors. The reformer pointed out that “God doesn’t need our good works, but our neighbor does.” RJ Grunewald, in a blog post titled “God Makes Pizza,” describes how this looks today: “God is busy about *his* work in the midst of *your* work whether you realize it or not. The laundry, the spreadsheets, the phone calls and the cups of coffee are all deeply spiritual because God is at work in the world. He is serving your family, your coworkers and your community through the work you do. God is at work providing ‘daily bread’ through the work that you do, no matter what that work is.”