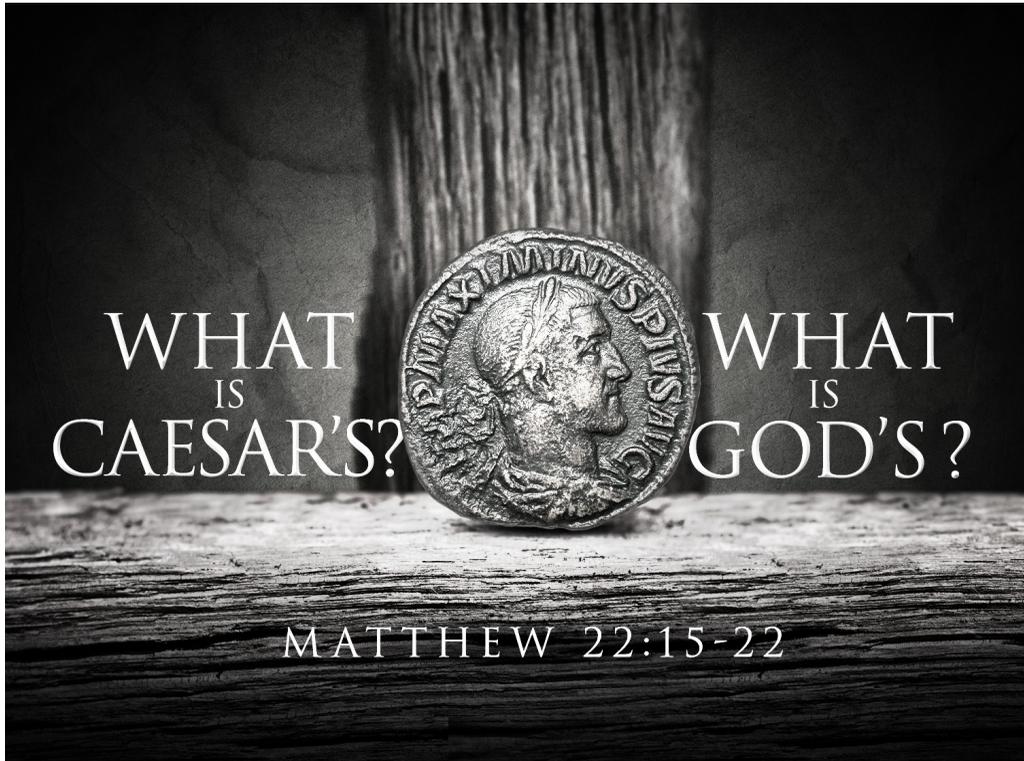


Matthew 22:15-22
The Question About Paying Taxes



October 18, 2020
29th 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

*Jesus, you told the Pharisees to “give...to God what is God’s.” (Matthew 22:21, NIV)
Show us how to give our whole selves to you, for we are yours.*

We gather as one body, with Christ as the head. Each of you brings unique abilities and contributions to our worship and ministry. Thank you for being here, and **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.

All music copied and projected with permission, CCLI #2716126, OneLicense A-722348.

* 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

Gathering Music

*Here I Am to Worship
Heart of Worship
Mighty to Save*

Welcome

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

Psalm 96:1-9, adapted

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**We will sing to the LORD and bless God's name;
we will tell of the Lord's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
the Lord is to be revered above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.

**Honor and majesty are before our God;
strength and beauty are in the Lord's sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
bring an offering, and come into God's courts.

**We will worship the LORD in holy splendor;
joining all the earth as we tremble before God.**

*Song of Praise

Indescribable

*Call to Confession #695

Change My Heart, O God

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

What a debt we owe to you, O God.

You have given us all things in Christ

and yet we withhold from you the honor and glory that are yours.

Instead,

we pay tribute to empire,

plot to entrap the innocent,

mock your truth with empty praise,

and put your patience to the test.

You call us to give all that we are and all that we have in service to Jesus.

But we hold tightly to our treasure,

afraid we will not have enough for ourselves.

We hold back our talents,

afraid these gifts will not be enough.

Forgive us, O God,

unclench our fists and help us to give fully and freely

so that, in all things, we might serve and glorify you.

By your grace

restore in us the image of your face;

through Christ Jesus our Lord...

*Praising God for God's Forgiveness #654

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (France)

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

All My Praise, Audrey Hatcher/Selah

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Matthew 22:15-22
The Question About Paying Taxes

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (Leader **People**) The Second Helvetic Confession, 5.023, adapted
GOD ALONE IS TO BE ADORED AND WORSHIPPED. **We teach that the true God alone is to be adored and worshipped. This honor we impart to none other, according to the commandment of the Lord, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.” Indeed, all the prophets relentlessly protested against the people of Israel whenever they adored and worshipped strange gods, and not the only true God. But we teach that God is to be adored and worshipped as God has taught us to worship, namely, “in spirit and in truth”, not with any superstition, but with sincerity, according to God’s Word; lest at any time God should say to us: “Who has required these things from your hands?” For Paul also says: “God is not served by human hands, as though God needed anything.”**

*Song of Response

Give Thanks

Offering #708

We Give Thee but Thine Own

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

Kriewald

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Song

Forever

*Charge

*Blessing

*Sending Music

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.

Trunk or Treat will be Saturday, October 31, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the parking lot. Volunteers are needed to provide and/or hand out candy. Call the church office for more information or to sign up.

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.

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).

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 Wednesdays 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)!) This class will begin meeting on Zoom. When Midweek Ministry begins, there will be limited seating available in the church library. 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. or Sundays at 8:15 a.m. 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. This week we’ll learn about the history and purpose of The Westminster Confession of Faith, The Shorter Catechism, and the Larger Catechism. Next week, we’ll focus on The Theological Declaration of Barmen. 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.

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

Next Sunday, October 25, 2020

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reformation Sunday

Matthew 22:34-46

Reformed and Always Reforming

November 1, 2020

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

All Saints’ Day

Communion

1 John 3:1-7

Children of God

November 8, 2020

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 25:1-13

Faithful Preparation

November 15, 2020

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Talents

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

Today, Sunday, October 18	8:15 a.m.	Creeds & Confessions Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Tuesday, October 20	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday, October 21	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	6:00 p.m.	MidWeek Ministry
	6:30 p.m.	What It Means To Be A Presbyterian Class
Thursday, October 22	10:00 a.m.	Creeds & Confessions Class
Next Sunday, October 25	8:15 a.m.	Creeds & Confessions Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:45 a.m.	Children & Youth Ministries Committee

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

Tuesday, October 27	Board of Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 31	Glacier Presbytery Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
	Trunks or Treats, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 3	Souler Energy Committee, 12:00 noon
Thursday, November 5.....	Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 10.....	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
	Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 12.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
Saturday, November 14	PW, 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, November 17	Session Meeting, 6:30 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)

Liza Nosich, Accounts Payable/Payroll

Alissa Brown, CE Director

Financial Secretary

Joan Schmidt, Ministry of Music

Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator

Craig Anton, Facilities Manager

Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director

Keyna Myers, Office Manager

Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director

Faith Janes, Publications Secretary

Johnny Ritchie, Music Assistant & Praise

Band Director

Perfectly Given When Jesus speaks of perfection, writes Kathleen Norris in *Amazing Grace*, he's referring to being "mature enough to give ourselves to others." For Norris, that brings to mind theology professor Catherine LaCugna, who, despite a terminal diagnosis, worked until the end of her life. Instead of checking out or indulging in self-pity, LaCugna kept the news from her students and continued teaching. Norris writes: "Now, whenever I recite the prayer that ends the church's liturgical day, 'May the Lord grant us a peaceful night, and a perfect death,' it is her death that I think of. A perfect death, fully acknowledged and fully realized, offered for others."