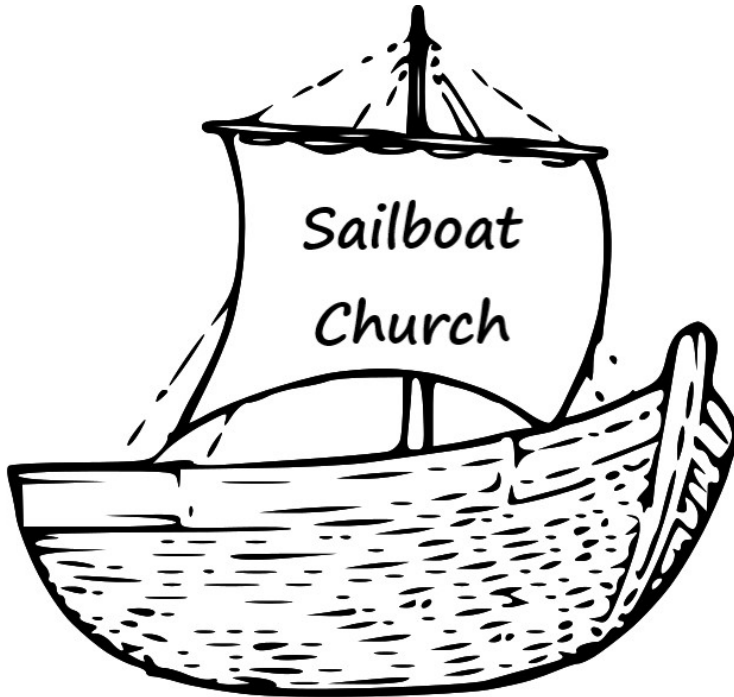


**Selected verses from Genesis 1-2; Ezekiel 37;
Luke 2; John 1; Acts 2; Revelation 2-3, 22
Key Biblical Appearances of the Holy Spirit**




**January 10, 2021
Baptism of the Lord Sunday
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, thank you for the gift of baptism, when you claim us,
as you claimed Jesus, as your beloved.*

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1): sky, waters, ground; sun, moon, stars; plants, animals, people. Then God rested. So, **welcome** to this time for rest and worship. 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.

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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 *Freu Dich, O Meine Seele (Rejoice, O My Soul)*, Sigfrid Karg-Elert, Op. 65

Welcome

*Call to Worship (Leader **People**) see Genesis 1-2; Ezekiel 37; Luke 2; John 1; Acts 2; Revelation 2-3, 22

When God began to create the universe, the Spirit of God was moving over the water.

When God breathed the breath of life into the man's nose, the man became a living person.

Ezekiel prophesied to the valley full of dry bones, "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

Then the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple took the child Jesus in his arms.

Simeon praised God for the light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to God's people.

After John baptized Jesus, John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."

John also testified that Jesus is the Son of God.

When the day of Pentecost had come, there came a sound from heaven like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where the disciples were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Then, with the Spirit, we say to Jesus, "Come."

We gather to worship God, who creates and gives the breath of life.

We gather to worship the Spirit, who guides and leads us to praise God, and fills us with godly ability.

We gather to worship Jesus.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

*Hymn of Praise #488

I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

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

see Acts 19:4; Mark 1:2-5

A prophet appeared in the wilderness,
calling the people to repent,
be baptized,
and prepare the way of the Lord.

**We return to the water to confess our sins,
giving thanks for the grace of Jesus,
the one who has come to save us.**

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**God whose spirit moved over the waters,
you have washed us in your mercy,
claimed us as your own,
bound us in community,
and called us to lives of baptismal grace.**

**Forgive us, O God,
for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people.
We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness.
We prioritize our own selfish interests.
We are slow to disrupt the status quo,
even when it means ignoring our neighbors' suffering.**

**Forgive us, O God,
and by your forgiveness,
lead us back to your waters of transformation...**

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

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

see Mark 1:11

Hear the good news of the gospel:
As a voice from heaven said to Jesus,
so God says to each of us:
You are my beloved child,
and with you I am well pleased.

**In Jesus we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

***Praising God for God's Forgiveness #581**

Glory Be to the Father

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

Holy Spirit, Live in Me, Crosby/Kirby/arr. Schrader

Prayer for Illumination #288

Spirit of the Living God

Scripture & Message

Selected Verses from Genesis 1-2; Ezekiel 37; Luke 2;
John 1; Acts 2; Revelation 2-3, 22
Key Biblical Appearances of the Holy Spirit

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (**Unison**)

The Nicene Creed, 1.3

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

*Hymn of Response #279

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Offering

Sarabande, Arcangelo Corelli

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 #286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Prayer after Communion (**Unison**)

**We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy
and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each
day, that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Hymn #291

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

*Charge (Leader **People**)

We are the Body of Christ;

Joyfully worshiping God,

compassionately caring for one another,

humbly serving others,

continually growing together in God's Word,

and actively sharing the Good News of Christ.

*Blessing

*Response #291

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (refrain)

*Postlude

Fantasy in C Major, J.S. Bach

May our service be pleasing to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tithes and Offerings may be mailed to the church office or made online through our website, www.firstpresgfmt.org.

As the session continues to discuss the budget for 2021, be on the lookout for the 2021 **Stewardship Brochure and Pledge Card** coming soon!

Our times of worship are **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 upcoming live-streams can be found on our website and in the weekly Saturday morning email.

Mid-Week Ministry has been eating take-out pizza and sandwiches. If individuals, committees or groups would like to help with dinners, they could provide full or partial meals. A group could provide most of the items on the menu, or individuals could bring cooked hamburger in 1-pound bags, ready to use or be frozen for future use. Menu suggestions are available. This would be a BIG help! Questions?? Call Sara Buley, 406-788-3370, or Alissa Brown, 406-231-2348. Thank you!

If you are not receiving **emails**, including the Saturday morning “Church Update”, please send your current email address to the office, secretary@firstpresgfmt.org.

Our **Sailboat Church** journey is under way. But it is not too late to climb aboard and join us on a journey that will help us rethink our mission and practice as a congregation. The Sailboat Church is a time for us as a congregation, as well as individuals, to open ourselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, giving us the power to move into the future as the disciples of Jesus God is calling us to be. The more of us who participate, the better. Let the office know if you have not received a book. It’s also not too late to join a small group discussion crew, call the office to do so. Crews are scheduled for Sundays at 11:30 a.m.; Mondays at 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.; Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.; Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.; Fridays at 4:00 p.m.; and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

While we welcome those who wish to join us for worship in the **sanctuary** on Sunday mornings, please be reminded of the precautions the session has put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic: seating in the sanctuary is limited as we honor the 6 feet of social distancing; everyone’s temperature will be checked upon entering the building; masks are required while in the building; pew supplies have been removed; singing is prohibited; bulletins will be available after worship when exiting the building; prolonged socializing in the building is discouraged; gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer are readily available.

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).

The session has called a **congregational meeting** to elect officers today at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. To join from your computer, tablet or smart phone use this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4911010646?pwd=azRJamU5dFRFdTdXU3R5Um1UZ09wZz09>. To call in on a landline or non-smart cell phone use any of these phone numbers. (346-248-7799) (669-900-6833) (253-215-8782) (312-626-6799) (929-205-6099) (301-715-8592) They are not toll free, and while you can hear and speak, there will be no video. You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID (491 101 0646) and the Passcode (406884). The nominating committee will nominate the following:

Elder Class of 2021

Sharon Lindstrom

Gary McFerrin

Elder Class of 2023

Jane Snowberger

Jennie Yates.

Deacon Class of 2021

Shirley Davis

Deacon Class of 2023

Dave Herman

Barb Flaherty

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

Next Sunday, January 17, 2021

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Attributes of the Holy Spirit

January 24, 2021

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Works of the Holy Spirit

January 31, 2021

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

February 7, 2021

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fruit of the Holy Spirit

Communion

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

Today, Sunday, January 10	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 6 10:00 a.m. Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 11:30 a.m. Called Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers 12:00 p.m. Sailboat Church Crew 1
Monday, January 11	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 7 9:30 a.m. Sailboat Church Crew 2
Tuesday, January 12	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 8 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee 5:30 p.m. Property Committee 7:00 p.m. Sailboat Church Crew 3
Wednesday, January 13	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 9 7:00 a.m. Men's Group 10:00 a.m. River Readers 2:00 p.m. Sailboat Church Crew 4 6:00 p.m. Mid-week Ministry
Thursday, January 14	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 10 10:00 a.m. Sailboat Church Crew 5 12:00 noon Spiritual Life Committee
Friday, January 15	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 11 4:00 p.m. Sailboat Church Crew 6
Saturday, January 16	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 12 1:00 p.m. Sailboat Church Crew 7
Next Sunday, January 17	Sailboat Church Guide to 40 Days of Prayer – Day 13 10:00 a.m. Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 11:30 a.m. Sailboat Church Crew 1

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

- Tuesday, January 19.....Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, January 24 Children & Youth Ministries Committee, 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 26..... Board of Deacons Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 2.....Souler Energy Committee, 12:00 noon
- Thursday, February 4.....Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 9.....Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, February 11 Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
- Saturday, February 13.....PW, 9:30 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

Keyna Myers, Office Manager

Faith Janes, Publications Secretary

Liza Nosich, Accounts Payable/Payroll
Financial Secretary

Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator

Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director

Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director

Johnny Ritchie, Music Assistant & Praise
Band Director

An Ongoing Goal Still searching for a New Year's resolution? None is more worthy than becoming Christ-like. In fact, 19th-century evangelist Henry Drummond calls it "the only thing in the whole world worth caring for." Two modern-day authors offer more insights. Stormie Omartian points out that we're either making progress or backsliding on this goal. "There is no neutral position in the Lord," she writes. "You are either becoming more like Christ every day or you're becoming less like him." And followers of Jesus must keep the goal always in focus. Christ-likeness is our "eventual destination," writes Rick Warren, but the "journey will last a lifetime."