

REPRESENTATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



February 14, 2021
Transfiguration 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

“We love because [God] first loved us.” (1 John 4:19, NIV) Valentine’s Day is fun, but we pray, God, that you show us how to share your love every day of the year.

This Transfiguration Sunday, we remember that Jesus is with us in both the mountaintops and valleys of life. **Welcome**, as we do what the voice from heaven commanded: “Listen to him.” (Mark 9:7) 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 did the fruit of the Holy Spirit ripen in you? When and how did the Spirit produce in and through you love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?

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 the **ordination and installation** of officers.

All music copied, projected, and live streamed 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

Prelude

Allegro Maestoso (from *Water Music*), G.F. Handel

Welcome

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

The glory of God shines
like a consuming fire.

**We have seen the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

The voice of God thunders
like a mighty storm.

**Out of the cloud, God speaks:
This is my beloved Son; listen to him!**

*Hymn of Praise #309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

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

God alone is righteous;
God alone is perfect;
God alone is judge.

**Yet this holy, righteous God
comes to us in love, to save us.**

**Rejoicing in God's grace,
we confess our sin...**

*Prayer of Confession (**Unison**)

**God of all glory, beauty, and grace,
we have tried to hide from you—
to hide our faces, to hide our sin—
yet you have never hidden your love for us.**

**We have tried to search for you—
in sanctuaries, in clouds, on mountaintops—
yet you have already revealed yourself to us
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

**Forgive us, and transform us
so that our lives may shine with your glory, beauty, and grace...**

(Silent Personal Prayers for Forgiveness)

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

Our God comes and does not keep silence;
God speaks to us with grace and love,
saying: You are my beloved child.

**This is the good news of the gospel:
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

Draw Us Together, Pepper Choplin

Prayer for Illumination #288

Spirit of the Living God

Scripture & Message

Representations of the Holy Spirit

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (**Unison**)

A Brief Statement of Faith, 11.4

We trust in God the Holy Spirit

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

The same Spirit

**who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

**to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

*Hymn of Response #7

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Offering

Andante Religioso (from *Sonata 4*), Felix Mendelssohn

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Statement on Ordination/Installation

Presentation of Officers to be Ordained/Installed

Elders to be Installed:

Sharon Lindstrom (Class of 2021)

Gary McFerrin (Class of 2021)

Alissa Brown (Class of 2022)

Elders to be Ordained and Installed:

Jane Snowberger (Class of 2023)

Jennie Yates (Class of 2023)

Deacons to be Installed:

Shirley Davis (Class of 2021)

Dave Herman (Class of 2023)

Barb Flaherty (Class of 2023)

Re-Affirmation of Baptismal Vows including 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.**

Ordination/Installation Questions

Questions of the Congregation

Prayer of Installation

Declaration of Installation

Charge to Service

Blessing

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4, NRSV)

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.

Amen.

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Hymn #192

Shine, Jesus, Shine

*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

Fugue in C Major, Dietrich Buxtehude

May our service be pleasing to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The session has **rescheduled** the **Annual Meeting** of the congregation and corporation to Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Use this link to join from your computer, tablet or smart phone: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4911010646?pwd=azRJamU5dFRFdTdXU3R5Um1UZ09wZz09>.

You can type it into your browser, or if you would like it emailed to you let the office know. Then just click on the link. 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).

If you would like the **Annual Report** mailed to you ahead of the Annual Meeting, please let the office know.

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World is our Lenten theme this year. This 40-day experience will assist us in knowing how to pray, and how to hear and respond to God's guidance. Together, each week, we will experience different prayer practices or habits, a daily prayer pattern for each week, daily scripture readings, a weekly story or reflection, and thought-provoking quotations. Beginning Thursday, February 18 there will be 3 times each week you can participate in a video-based small group discussion on each week's theme: Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 pm, and Sundays at 8:15 a.m. Sign up by contacting John or the office so we can get you a book and Zoom connection information. Come and listen to God with us!

Ash Wednesday is this coming Wednesday, February 17. If you would like to receive the imposition of ashes (ashes on your forehead), we will be having 3 drive-through ash imposition opportunities that day in the alley behind the church: 7:00 – 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Our Ash Wednesday worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

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.

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

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.

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).

Upper Room, Bulletins, Sermon Manuscripts If you would like any of these mailed to you on a weekly basis please let the office know.

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.; and Fridays at 4:00 p.m.

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

Next Sunday, February 21, 2021

1st Sunday in Lent

2 Peter 1:16-21

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World – This Is
My Son, Listen to Him

February 28, 2021

2nd Sunday in Lent

John 17:2-24

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World – Pray
Like This

March 7, 2021

3rd Sunday in Lent

Psalm 139:1-10

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World – A
Trusted Mentor

March 14, 2021

4th Sunday in Lent

1 John 4:7-10

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World –
Everybody Needs Help

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

All Events Live-Streamed or via Zoom Unless Noted

Today, Sunday, February 14	10:00 a.m.	Worship (Limited seating in the Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:30 p.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 1
Monday, February 15	9:30 a.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 2
	7:00 p.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 3
Tuesday, February 16	2:00 p.m.	“Stepping Up” Bible Study by Beth Moore
	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday, February 17	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Group
		Imposition of Ashes (in the alley)
	11:30 a.m.	Imposition of Ashes (in the alley)
	2:00 p.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 4
	5:00 p.m.	Imposition of Ashes (in the alley)
	6:00 p.m.	Mid-week Ministry
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship
Thursday, February 18	10:00 a.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 5
	11:15 a.m.	Listen: Praying in a Noisy World Class
	16:30 p.m.	Listen: Praying in a Noisy World Class
Friday, February 19	4:00 p.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 6
Saturday, February 20		Glacier Presbytery Meeting
Next Sunday, February 21	8:15 a.m.	Listen: Praying in a Noisy World Class
	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

Monday, February 22.....Bible 101 Class Begins, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, February 23..... Board of Deacons Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 28Children & Youth Committee, 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, March 2.....Souler Energy Committee, 12:00 noon
Thursday, March 4.....Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 9.....Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 11 Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
Saturday, March 13PW, 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, March 16.....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

The Power of Love By comparing love to everything from oxygen and fire to wind and war, songs and poetry emphasize its immense power – for good or for ill. Christian author Patrick Morley uses metaphors that focus on love’s practicality in everyday life: “Love is the glue that holds us together and the oil that keeps us from rubbing each other the wrong way.” He also calls love “the WD-40 of relationships” because it “can seep into tight places where logic, threats and even promises just can’t seem to penetrate.” St. Augustine, who predated WD-40 by centuries, knew that love not only eases friction in personal interactions but, with God’s help, can change hearts and lives. “Love all [people], even your enemies,” he advises. “Love them, not because they are your brothers, but that they may become your brothers. Thus you will ever burn with fraternal love, both for him who is already your brother and for your enemy, that he may by loving become your brother.”