

PSALM 92:1-4, 12-15



*The Righteous
Flourish Like
The Palm Tree*

(Psalm 92:12, NRSV)

June 13, 2021

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

1315 Central Avenue
Great Falls, Montana 59401

(406) 453-1411

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www.firstpresgfmt.org

 firstpresgfmt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord.” (Ezekiel 17:24)

As summer arrives, we join Creation in recognizing and praising the Giver of all life!

Welcome to worship, as we pray: Speak your word to us, Lord, as we are able to hear it. (from Mark 4:33) 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 well did you live God’s message from Habakkuk 1-3? When did God’s promise of justice overcoming injustice bring you comfort? How did you share that comfort with others?

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, projected, and live streamed with permission, CCLI #2716126, OneLicense A-722348.

If you are comfortable standing, please do so when you see an asterisk “*”. There are **hearing enhancement** devices and **large print** bulletins available from the ushers. Please join us after the service for **fellowship** downstairs in the Social Hall.

*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

Give to Our God Immortal Praise, Arr. Wilbur Held

Time of Silence

Welcome

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

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to God Most High;
to declare God's steadfast love in the morning
and God's faithfulness at nighttime.

**Those who are planted in the house of the Lord flourish;
no matter their age, they bear fruit
and remain lush and fresh, proclaiming:
The Lord is righteous!
God is my rock!**

*Song of Praise #821

How Can I Keep Myself from Sinning?

*Our Confession and God's Forgiveness (Leader **People**)

God will not count our trespasses against us,
longing instead for us to be reconciled.
We come before God, then,
in honesty, humility, and hope.

**Gracious God,
We so often miss your kingdom at work among us.
Captivated by power and prestige,
we overlook the mustard seeds you have planted all around.
Forgive us for failing to notice
where and how you are at work.
Forgive us when we work against your plans and purposes –
fostering divisions when you have called us to a ministry of reconciliation;
beset by apathy when the world has such deep needs;
building walls to keep people out when your branches offer generous nests.
Help us grow in faithfulness, we pray,
so that we might reach our fullest height of faith.
In Christ's name we pray...**

(Silent Personal Prayers of Confession)

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation;
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!

**We are ambassadors for Christ,
for God has reconciled us through Jesus!**

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Message in Music

The Wind Beneath My Wings, Arr. Tom Roed

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Psalm

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

**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.**

The A

*Song of Response #641

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Fantasia in D Minor, Johann Pachelbel

Prayer of Dedication (**Unison**)

Life giving God,

we know that you will accomplish everything you purpose.

Accept, we pray, these offerings from our hands.

May they contribute to what you are doing

so that life may flourish.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Thy Will Be Done, Joyce Elaine Eilers

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Song #17

Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!

*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

*Postlude

Fugue in C Major, Dietrich Buxtehude

May our service be pleasing to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Through our experience with the book “Sailboat Church” we learned that prayer is crucial to being open to the power of the Holy Spirit as we follow Jesus’ call to be his body in the world. Through our experience with the book “Listen: Praying in a Noisy World” we learned there are many prayer patterns that can enhance our prayer life as we communicate with God. In response to the influence these two books are having on our congregation, **Living the Practice of Prayer**, is one way to enhance your personal prayer life while making the act of prayer a critical part of our life as a congregation. Join us Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. for an hour of focused and guided prayer as we listen for God’s voice and discern God’s will for our lives and for our congregation. We’ll gather in the Library and on Zoom.

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.

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

All **church meetings**, classes, and events (including worship) held at the church are hybrid events, which means you can attend in person, or online through either YouTube or Zoom, depending on the event. Please respect the comfort and safety level of others, including honoring social distancing and potentially wearing a mask. Also, if you are not feeling well, please stay home and join us online (either on YouTube or Zoom).

Financial Update:	April	May	Year to Date
Income	\$53,137.67	\$21,396.65	\$170,355.04
Expenses	<u>\$43,215.63</u>	<u>\$39,062.34</u>	<u>\$188,719.62</u>
Difference	\$9,922.04	(\$17,665.69)	(\$18,364.58)

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

Prayer Partners Prayer requests may be made by calling Jane Snowberger (761-0518) or Marla Wilckens (452-0226).

During the pandemic, some folks turned to cooking. Perhaps they were bored, or finally had enough time to tackle that complex recipe their mother made for special occasions, or to try out five-alarm chili or five-layer chocolate cake. That led Presbyterian Women to decide it's time for a new **church cookbook**. Between now and July 16, the women ask that you share some of your favorite recipes. Whether it's 100-year-old directions for filled cookies or newly updated Pandemic Popovers, recipes of all sorts are welcome. Submit as many as you like. There is no guarantee all will be selected, but feel free to include all you like. If the recipe has a history, or a story about why you chose it, include that, too. Paper forms for submitting recipes are available in the church office and may be returned to the church office. It is also possible to submit recipes online at morriscookbooks.com. Click on typensave, then on login (upper right corner).

User name or group login: PresbWomen1PC

Password: butter487

To type in the recipe, click on submit, edit (lower left corner), then on the next page, choose what action you want to take. That's it! The cookbooks will be ready to give as holiday gifts to friends and family. If you have questions, contact Marla Wilckens.

Faith Formation & Spiritual Growth Events

Breaking Free by Beth Moore, Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m., through June 15. This women's Bible study draws parallels between the captive Israelites of the Old Testament and New Testament believers in Jesus as the Promised Messiah. Using the Book of Isaiah, we'll look through the lives of the kings who ruled during the prophet's ministry. These kings exemplify many of the obstacles to freedom with which we must deal. Using Scripture to help identify spiritual strongholds in our lives, no matter how big or small, we'll see that anything that hinders us from the benefits of knowing God is bondage.

Life in the Minor Key Thursdays 10:00 a.m. (hybrid) and 6:30 p.m. (Zoom only), and Sundays 8:15 a.m. (hybrid), from through July 4. This study, in parallel with Sunday worship themes, will look at the 12 books of the Bible known as "the minor prophets". Often these books are left out of the worship lectionary rotation because of the harsh nature of the words and ideas they contain. As Israel is being devastated by war and is in the grip of idolatry, God sends these prophets to plead with Israel so they will denounce evil and turn back toward God. Amid the sorrow we find God's great grace: an unconditional love for God's people and a desire to save them from their own wickedness and the wickedness of the world around them. Through the entire Old Testament, we see the world's need for a Savior. The books of the minor prophets represent the pinnacle of that need. Alongside

(and inseparable from) some of God's harshest judgments are God's greatest promises of mercy.

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 float for the 4th of July Parade will include items for the **food bank** as part of our decorations. After the parade, all the food will then be donated to the food bank. Items may be brought to the church any time before July 3rd. Talk to Alissa for more information.

COMING WORSHIP THEMES

Next Sunday, June 20, 2021

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 1-3

Life in the Minor Key: Zephaniah

June 27, 2021

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Haggai 1-2

Life in the Minor Key: Haggai

July 4, 2021

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zechariah 9:9-12

Life in the Minor Key: Zechariah – The
Coming Ruler of God's People

July 11, 2021

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 3:1-4

Life in the Minor Key: Malachi – The
Coming Messenger

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

Unless noted, all events are hybrid (in person and live-streamed or via Zoom)

Today, Sunday, June 13	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Monday, June 14	9:30 a.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 2
	6:30 p.m.	Breaking Free Bible Study
Tuesday, June 15	2:00 p.m.	Breaking Free Bible Study
Wednesday, June 16	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	6:30 p.m.	Nominating Committee
Thursday, June 17	10:00 a.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Zephaniah Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Zephaniah Bible Study
Next Sunday, June 20	8:15 a.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Zephaniah Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Unless noted, all events are hybrid (in person and live-streamed or via Zoom)

Tuesday, June 22	Board of Deacons, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 24.....	Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon
Tuesday, June 29	Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 1	Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 4	4 th of July Parade, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, July 5.....	Office Closed
Tuesday, July 6.....	Souler Energy Committee
Saturday, July 10	PW, 9:30 a.m.
Monday, July 12-Friday, July 16	VBS, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Monday, July 12 – Saturday, July 31	John is on Vacation

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

Ginger Blevins
Alissa Brown
Mary Fagenstrom

John Ritchie (Moderator)
Randy Houtz (Clerk)
Sharon Lindstrom
Gary McFerrin

Scott Royce
Jane Snowberger
Jennie Yates

Deacons

Bruce Buer (Mod.)
Kitty Cornwell
Shirley Davis

Barb Flaherty
Tom Hazen

Dave Herman
Chris Pfof

Deb Skinner
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

No Boundaries Love is a commitment to seek the good and to work for the good and welfare of others. It doesn't stop at our front door or our neighborhood, our religion or race, or our state's or [our] country's border. This is one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth, as the hymn goes. It often calls us to step outside of what we thought our boundaries were, or what others expect of us. It calls for us to sacrifice, not because doing so feels good, but because it's the right thing to do.

—Bishop Michael Curry, *Love Is the Way*