



Zephaniah 1-3

Life in the Minor Key: Zephaniah

June 20, 2021

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

1315 Central Avenue
Great Falls, Montana 59401
(406) 453-1411

secretary@firstpresgfmt.org
www.firstpresgfmt.org

 firstpresgfmt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*God, you are the perfect Father of all, the model of unconditional love.
Help fathers – and all people – feel your warm embrace today.*

A blessed Father's Day to the dads and father figures among us, and a blessed Sabbath day to all! **Welcome** to worship. 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 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15?

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

Gathering Music

*Here I Am to Worship
We Fall Down*

Time of Silence

Welcome

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

We gather because we are waiting.

We are waiting for the coming of Jesus anew.

We do ministry and mission because we are waiting.

We are waiting for a world of love and justice.

We worship because we are waiting.

We are waiting for God, whose glory is about to be revealed.

The LORD our God is with us,

the LORD is mighty to save.

The LORD will take great delight in us,

the LORD will quiet us with God's love,

the LORD will rejoice over us with singing.

Zephaniah 3:17, NIV

*Song of Praise

Mighty to Save

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

The prophets called the people to repent.

The great judgment day of GOD is almost here.

It's countdown time:...seven, six, five, four...

Zechariah 1:14, The Message

John the Baptist called the people to repent.

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,

who do the LORD's commands.

Zechariah 2:3, NRSV

Jesus calls us to repent.

Seek righteousness, seek humility;

perhaps we may be hidden

on the day of the LORD's wrath.

Zephaniah 2:3, NRSV

We turn to the one who is both judge and savior,

trusting that repentance opens the door to new life,

and that peace beyond all measure has been promised to us.

We confess our sins to God...

**God of justice and God of mercy,
we confess that we often resist your holy kingdom.**

**You speak to us through your word, your prophets, your teachers,
but we do not listen to your voice.**

Zephaniah 3:2, NRSV

In our pride

**we refuse to be corrected by you,
we fail to trust in you,
we resist drawing near to you.**

Zephaniah 3:2, NRSV

**When our leaders roar like lions
and judge like hungry wolves,
we sit in silence.**

Zephaniah 3:3, NRSV

**In our recklessness and faithlessness,
we violate your law
and profane what you have made holy.**

Zephaniah 3:4, NRSV

**We are soiled,
defiled,
and oppressive...**

Zephaniah 3:1, NRSV

(Silent Personal Prayers of Confession)

Forgive us,
God of grace.

**The LORD is righteous;
the LORD does no wrong.**

Every morning the LORD renders holy judgment,
each dawn without fail.

Zephaniah 3:5, NRSV

So sing, Daughter Zion!

Raise the rafters, Israel!

**Daughter Jerusalem,
be happy! celebrate!**

GOD has reversed God's judgments against us
and sent the enemy of sin off chasing its tail.

**From now on, GOD is Israel's king,
in charge at the center.**

There's nothing to fear from evil
ever again!

**Jerusalem will be told:
"Don't be afraid.**

Dear Zion,
don't despair.

**Our GOD is present among us,
a strong Warrior there to save us.**

Happy to have us back, God will calm us with God's love
and delight us with God's songs.

On Judgment Day

God will bring us back home—a great family gathering!

We'll be famous and honored
all over the world.

We'll see it with our own eyes—

all those painful partings turned into reunions!

That is GOD's Promise.

Zephaniah 3:14-20, NRSV

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Life in the Minor Key: Zephaniah

Zephaniah 1:1-6 – God's Announcement of Judgment Against Jerusalem

Song

I Surrender All

Zephaniah 1:7-18 – The Appeal for Silence

Song

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Zephaniah 2:1-3:7 – The Appeal to Search for the Lord

Song

Draw Me Close

Zephaniah 3:8-13 – The Appeal to Wait for the Lord

Song

All Along

Zephaniah 3:14-20 – A Note of Joy

Song

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

Moment for Celebration – High School Graduates

Giving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Prayer of Dedication (Leader **People**)

We return to you, O God,
the gifts you have given,

that this money,

and our lives,

might bear witness to the good news of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (**Unison**)

Matthew 6:9-13, The Message

Our Father in heaven,

Reveal who you are.

Set the world right;

Do what's best—

as above, so below.

Keep us alive with three square meals.

Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.

Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.

You're in charge!

You can do anything you want!

You're ablaze in beauty!

Yes. Yes. Yes.

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Song

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

*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

*Sending Music

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:	May	June to Date	Year to Date
Income	\$28,456.75	\$5,834.63	\$198,318.47
Expenses	\$42,741.82	\$36,485.02	\$132,483.82
Difference	(\$14,285.07)	(\$30,650.39)	(\$49,429.89)

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

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 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

July 18, 2021

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
VBS Celebration

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

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

Today, 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
	11:30 a.m.	Children & Youth Ministry Committee
Monday, June 21	9:30 a.m.	Sailboat Church Crew 2
	6:30 p.m.	Breaking Free Bible Study
Tuesday, June 22	5:30 p.m.	Living the Practice of Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Board of Deacons
Wednesday, June 23	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Group
	6:30 p.m.	Nominating Committee
Thursday, June 24	10:00 a.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Haggai Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Spiritual Life Committee
	6:30 p.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Haggai Bible Study
Next Sunday, June 27	8:15 a.m.	Life in the Minor Key – Haggai Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	11:30 a.m.	VBS Training

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Tuesday, June 29.....Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 1.....Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 4.....4th of July Parade, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, July 5.....Office Closed
Tuesday, July 6.....Souler Energy Committee
Friday, July 9.....PW, 10:00 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
Saturday, July 17.....PW Garage Sale, 8:00 a.m.
VBS Picnic, 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 18.....VBS Celebration, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, July 22.....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

Ginger Blevins	John Ritchie (Moderator)	Scott Royce
Alissa Brown	Randy Houtz (Clerk)	Jane Snowberger
Mary Fagenstrom	Sharon Lindstrom	Jennie Yates
	Gary McFerrin	

Deacons

Bruce Buer (Mod.)	Barb Flaherty	Dave Herman	Deb Skinner
Kitty Cornwell	Tom Hazen	Chris Pfof	Marla Wilckens
Shirley Davis			

Staff

Rev. John E Ritchie, Pastor (906-322-9490)	Liza Nosich, Accounts Payable/Payroll Financial Secretary
Alissa Brown, CE Director	Butch Steele, Worship Video Coordinator
Joan Schmidt, Ministry of Music	Alex Rosenleaf, Choir Director
Craig Anton, Facilities Manager	Kari Rosenleaf, Bell Choir Director
Keyna Myers, Office Manager	Johnny Ritchie, Music Assistant & Praise Band Director
Faith Janes, Publications Secretary	

Hanging Out With Dad I've always been a "daddy's girl." Growing up, I usually spent Saturdays in the garage with my dad. We'd build something, fix a car part or get into some trouble together. Though Joseph wasn't Jesus' biological father, he certainly served as a father figure for God's Son. Jesus followed in Joseph's footsteps as a carpenter, but we're told little about his childhood. When Joseph advised Jesus to "measure twice and cut once," did Jesus mention he'd get it right on the first measure? How many craftsman tips did Jesus learn from Joseph? And did Joseph learn a few from Jesus? Surely young Jesus looked up to Joseph. What did wonder look like in the eyes of the One who invented wonder? How am I hanging out with God on a regular basis? Am I continuing to learn his "trade"? Do I intentionally mimic his words, his kindness, his ways of loving others well? Take a minute to ponder that. Imagine yourself out in the garage with God (or in the kitchen with God, or at the computer with God). What task do you imagine doing together? What does God say to you as you look into his eyes?

—Janna Firestone