

# Exodus 14:10-31

## Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Baptize – Cross the Divide



January 16, 2022  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



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## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*“How precious is your steadfast love, O God!”*

*We thank and praise you that “all people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.”  
(Psalm 36:7)*

**Welcome** to worship, fellowship and Christian education at First Presbyterian Church. We are honored to be with you in the Lord’s presence. 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 Mark 1:1-11? When did you remember your baptism? How did you reclaim the promises of baptism? Where did you hear God say to you, “You are my beloved child, with you I am well pleased.”?

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** is copied, projected, and live streamed with permission, CCLI #2716126, OneLicense A-722348, CSPL 104723.

All **scripture** passages quoted or refereed to are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), unless noted.

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 worship for **fellowship** downstairs in the Social Hall.

*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*

***May our worship be pleasing to God!***

## GATHERING BEFORE GOD

Prelude

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*, arr. Mark Hayes

Time of Silence

Welcome

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

We have been claimed  
by the God  
who calls us children.

**We,  
the redeemed,  
have been called by name.**

As with the Israelites,  
God promises  
to pass with us  
through the water.

**We will not fear,  
for God is with us!**

The rivers shall not overwhelm us  
for God is our guide  
and our protector.

**Through God's saving grace,  
the waters that tested us  
are now the waters  
that wash us  
and nourish us.**

Great is the Fount  
of Every Blessing,  
**ever flowing,  
ever redeeming,  
ever claiming us  
as God's children.**

Come,  
let us worship the God  
who washes us in grace.

\*Song of Praise #52

*When Israel Was in Egypt's Land*

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

Our God is majestic in holiness,  
awesome in splendor,  
and worthy of our highest praise.

**Who is like the Lord?**

Our God blew back the waters,  
prepared a path through the sea,  
and appeared as a pillar of fire  
to light the way.

**Who is like the Lord?**

Our God is great in counsel and mighty in deed,  
ready to forgive,  
gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Who is like the Lord?**

The Lord is our strength  
and our salvation,  
let us confess our sins to our God  
who will not forsake us...

**God of deliverance,**

**you once parted the sea  
so that your people could cross  
from bondage and oppression  
to freedom,  
and yet we often doubt you are at work  
and believe that miracles don't exist in the world anymore.**

**We act as though we have forgotten**

**that you gave us Jesus  
who knows our suffering,  
the Holy Spirit  
who empowers us,  
and one another  
as companions on the journey.**

**Suspicion,  
jealousy,  
and quarrels  
infect our relationships,  
and keep us from building communities  
where everyone feels welcome  
and known.**

**Forgive us,  
we pray.**

**Release us,  
restore us,  
set us free  
to serve you  
and one another...**

*(Silent Personal Prayers of Confession)*

When the waters threaten to overwhelm us,  
God promises to be with us.

**Through the waters of baptism  
and the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we are raised with Jesus  
to a life full of promise.**

Beloved children of God,  
believe the good news.

**In Jesus  
we are forgiven.**

**Amen.**

\*Praising God for God's Forgiveness #581

*Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)*

## HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Exodus 14:10-31  
Biblical Practice for Faithful Living:  
Baptize – Cross the Divide

## RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

\*Song of Response #486

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

\*Affirmation of Faith (**Unison**)

*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 Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Message in Music

*Free at Last, Roger Miller*

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Invitation to Offering (Leader **People**)

God is unfailing  
in blessing and love.

**With thankful hearts,  
we offer up to God**

**a portion of what God has given us.**

Offertory

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, Arr. Wilbur Held*

Prayer of Dedication (Leader **People**)

O God,

we thank you for these gifts.

**Multiply them,  
and enable the work of love  
and the righteousness of your kingdom  
in the world.**

We thank

and praise you,

in the name of Jesus

and the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer #464

*Our Father, Which Art in Heaven*

## SENDING FOR SERVICE

\*Sending Song #772

*Live into Hope*

\*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.**

\*Invitation to Discipleship

\*Blessing

\*Postlude

*Trumpet Tune in C Major, David N. Johnson*

***May our service be pleasing to God!***

## **SPECIAL NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**Ordinary Time** The Christian year, sometimes referred to as the liturgical year, includes two seasons identified as ordinary time. The first runs from January 7<sup>th</sup> (if not a Sunday) to Ash Wednesday. The second goes from Trinity Sunday (which can be as early as May 17 and as late as June 20, depending on the date of Easter) through Christ the King Sunday (the Sunday before Advent begins). The word “ordinary” as used here comes from the ordinal numerals by which the weeks are identified or counted, from the 1<sup>st</sup> week of Ordinary Time in January running up to, at times, the 34<sup>th</sup> week toward the end of November. Ordinary Time is the part of the liturgical year that falls outside the seasons of Advent/Christmas and Easter. Themes usually focus on the teaching of Jesus and growth as disciples of Jesus. The liturgical color is green, representing growth and life.

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* is our “Song of Response” during our look at the biblical practice of Baptism. Written by Ronald S Cole-Turner in 1980 it was first published in *Everflowing Streams* in 1981. Addressed to a newly baptized child each stanza begins with an aspect of the child’s identity, culminating in “child of God”. By being directed to one person rather than the whole congregation, this text occupies a special category among the “songs of encouragement”. Ronald Stephan Cole-Turner was born in 1948 into a minister’s family in Logansport, IN, and grew up in Ohio. He was educated at Wheaton College, IL (BA 1971), and Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv 1974; PhD 1983). He was ordained a United Church of Christ minister in 1974 and served several pastorates before becoming campus minister for Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI. Presently, Cole-Turner is professor of theology and ethics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The tune KINGDOM was written by V Earle Copes in 1959 and used at the National Convocation of Methodist Youth in 1960. It was written as a setting of *For Bread, Which Thou Hast Broken* and appeared in anthem form before being published in *The Book of Hymns* in 1964 for the Methodist Church. Copes was born in 1921 in Norfolk, VA and educated at Davidson College, NC (BA 1940) and Union Theological Seminary, New York City (MSM 1944; BD 1945). An ordained Methodist minister, he served as minister of music in several churches and on the faculty of several colleges.

The **Call to Worship** is adapted from Stephen M. Fearing, [www.stephenmfearing.com](http://www.stephenmfearing.com).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are currently looking at the biblical practice of “Baptism”. We will focus on”

- ~**Remember Your Baptism**
- ~**Cross the Divide**
- ~**Die and Rise**
- ~**Honor the Body**

Following Jesus is a lifelong journey where we learn and do what Jesus said and did. And it takes practice. And practice. And more practice. Not so we main obtain perfection, but rather to open and honestly put our faith and love into action. Learning about and following these different practices will help form our worship, adult education classes, children and youth education classes, even some congregation events. Adult Classes begin Thursday, January 6 and meet every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. (Zoom only) and Sundays at 8:15 a.m. (in the library and on Zoom).

Presbyterian Women is sponsoring a “**Sweetheart Tree**” (formerly known as the “Mitten Tree”) for donations of warm winterwear items. They are asking for new or gently used mittens, scarves, socks, hats etc. to be donated. These items can be pinned to the tree in the Social Hall. The items will be donated to the Rescue Mission at the end of February.

**Tithes and Offerings** may be mailed to the church office or made online through our website, [www.firstpresgfmt.org](http://www.firstpresgfmt.org).

The current Beth Moore Bible study for women is **Wising Up**. This is a 4 parts series with 3 sessions in each part. The first 3-session part will be Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Ross Library, and by Zoom. If you would like more information, please contact Alissa or call the church office.

**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).

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

**Remember:** articles for the PRESS, or eblast, are to be e-mailed directly to Faith at [publications@firstpresgfmt.org](mailto:publications@firstpresgfmt.org). If you use her personal email address, or the office email of [secretary@firstpresgfmt.org](mailto:secretary@firstpresgfmt.org), there is no guarantee they will be noticed for inclusion in a timely manner.

Our times of worship are **live streamed** on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. Search for “First Presbyterian Church Great Falls MT” on either site. Recordings of previous live streams will remain on both sites. Direct links to upcoming live streams can be found on our website and in the weekly Saturday morning email. If for some reason, the live stream fails, we will establish a new stream connection. Return to our YouTube channel home page, or Facebook page, to find the new link.

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

**Pictorial Directory** We will be finalizing our inhouse production of an updated pictorial directory in January. To help us, please send us an individual picture of everyone in your household, as well as a group picture. If you prefer, we can arrange for someone to take the pictures at the church, or in your home. If it is convenient for you, today there will be an opportunity to have pictures taken after worship.

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

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). The normal Zoom meeting ID is 491 101 0646 and the passcode is 406884 or type the following into your web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4911010646?pwd=azRJamU5dFRFdTdXU3R5Um1UZ09wZz09>

<b>Financial Update:</b>	December	2021 Total	January to Date
Income	\$77,572.50	\$472,450.70	\$5,021.00
Expenses	<u>\$54,555.33</u>	<u>\$501,863.41</u>	<u>\$12,446.52</u>
Difference	\$23,017.17	(\$29,412.71)	(\$7,426.52)

**WOW** (Worship on Wednesday) has programs for children, youth, young adults, and adults. Our hope is to attract community members as well as congregation members. Childcare will be available for all under 3. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m., with programs/classes to follow. Invite a neighbor and join us!

## COMING WORSHIP THEMES

### **January 23, 2022**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Romans 6:3-11

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living:

Baptize – Die and Rise

### **January 30, 2022**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living:

Baptize – Unity in the Community

### **February 6, 2022**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 20:1-20

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Live  
in Community – Gather Across Differences

### **February 13, 2022**

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 13:3-10

John 6:1-15

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Live  
in Community – Feast and Listen  
Ordination/Installation of Officers

## MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

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

Today, Sunday, January 16	8:15 a.m.	The Biblical Practice of Following Jesus Adult Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Monday, January 17		Office Closed
	6:30 p.m.	Beth Moore's Rising Up Class
Tuesday, January 18	10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday, January 19	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	6:00 p.m.	WOW (Worship on Wednesday)
Thursday, January 20	6:30 p.m.	The Biblical Practice of Following Jesus Adult Class (Zoom only)
Next Sunday, January 23	8:15 a.m.	The Biblical Practice of Following Jesus Adult Class
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time

## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Tuesday, January 25..... Board of Deacons, 6:30 p.m.  
Thursday, January 27 ..... Spiritual Life Committee, 12:00 noon  
Tuesday, February 1.....Souler Energy Committee, 12:00 noon  
Thursday, February 3 .....Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 5..... Presbytery of Glacier Meeting at First Presbyterian, Kalispell  
Sunday, February 6 ..... Listening Group Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, February 8..... Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.  
Property Committee, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 12..... Presbyterian Women, 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday, February 13 ..... Children & Youth Ministries Committee, 11:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, February 15..... Session Meeting

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  
Mary Fagenstrom

Randy Houtz (Clerk)  
Sharon Lindstrom  
Gary McFerrin

Scott Royce  
Jane Snowberger  
Jennie Yates

**Deacons**

Bruce Buer (Mod.)  
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

**Turning Back** In 1569 Holland, Dirk Willems, a member of the Anabaptist (now known as Mennonite) church, was imprisoned for refusing to belong to the state church. He escaped and was running across a pond's thin ice when the guard in pursuit fell through. Hearing the drowning man's cries, Willems turned back to rescue him, even though it meant his capture and subsequent execution. Four centuries later, civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr. urged us to love our enemies by not defeating them "when the opportunity presents itself." Eventually we'll have chances to get back at people who misuse or gossip about us, he said. But "the meaning of love" is in not doing so. "In the final analysis, love is not this sentimental something that we talk about," said King. "It's not merely an emotional something. Love is creative, understanding goodwill for all [people]. It is the refusal to defeat any individual."



# First Presbyterian Church

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## Prayer Requests for the Week of January 16, 2022

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. (Psalm 25:1)*

<b>This week's staff/officer:</b>	Craig Anton, Facilities Manager
<b>This week's elder:</b>	Sharon Lindstrom
<b>This week's deacon:</b>	Dave Herman
<b>This week's ministry:</b>	Men's Fellowship
<b>This week's mission support:</b>	Haiti
<b>This week's home bound/care center:</b>	Robin Allaire
<b>This week's families</b>	Kurt & Mary Fagenstrom Sarah, Eric, Heather, Erika, Aiden Farris Bonnie Feddes

### Other prayer requests:

Darrell Schamp	Thelma	Kevin
Johnathen Brown	Chris	Kevin Hicks
Bob	The Family of Lee Pate	Rhonda Grindeand

_____	_____
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If an update on prayer requests has not been received after three weeks, the request will be removed from this list. Please call the church to update the prayer list.

# Notes from Worship – January 16, 2022

## Exodus 14:10-31

### Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Baptize – Cross the Divide

*Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. The LORD clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."*

*(Exodus 14:21-25, New Revised Standard Version)*