

Romans 6:1-11

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Baptize – Die and Rise



January 23, 2022
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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 firstpresgfmt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

On a cold winter morning, Holy Spirit, enfold us in the warmth of your love.

We gather for worship because, echoing Nehemiah, “the joy of the Lord is [our] strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10) **Welcome!** 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 Exodus 14:10-31? How did you live out your baptism? When did you seek liberation for those who are oppressed? Where did you feed, heal, teach, and welcome as Jesus did? How did the power of the Holy Spirit work through you to dissolve what divides us?

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 referred 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

Arioso (from *Cantata 156*), J.S. Bach

Time of Silence

Welcome

*Call to Worship (Leader, **People**) Romans 6:3-5 (The Message, adapted)

This is what baptism into the life of Jesus means.

When we are lowered into the water,

it is like the burial of Jesus;

when we are raised up out of the water,

it is like the resurrection of Jesus.

Each of us is raised into a light-filled world by our Father

so that we can see where we're going

in our new grace-sovereign country.

Let us worship God.

*Song of Praise #490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

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

Sin destroys our lives.

Sin destroys our relationships.

Sin destroys our hope.

But through faith in the saving death and resurrection of Jesus,

our lives,

our relationships,

and our future

are no longer enslaved to sin.

Let us trust the love of God

and confess our sin,

that we might receive grace

and find true freedom...

**God our redeemer,
we confess that we remain captivated by sin.
We fail in our love
for you,
forgetting your gracious acts.
You deliver us from evil,
but we continue to live in sin.
We fail in our love
for one another,
forsaking our neighbors in need.
You offer us new life,
but we continue to live in fear.
Forgive us,
God of grace.
Let us be no longer bound by sin,
but released,
restored,
set free
to worship
and serve you
in freedom;
through Jesus our Lord...**

(Silent Personal Prayers of Confession)

If we have died with Jesus,
we believe that we will also live with Jesus.

**Therefore,
we consider ourselves dead to sin
and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

Romans 6:8, 11, adapted

Anyone who is in Jesus is a new creation.

**The old life has gone;
a new life has begun.**

2 Corinthians 5:17

In the name of Jesus,
we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture & Message

Romans 6:1-11
Biblical Practice for Faithful Living:
Baptize – Die and Rise

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

Jesus Gave Me Water, Lucie E. Campbell

Giving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Invitation to Offering (Leader **People**)

Jesus knows every breath we take:
each one is a gift from the Spirit.

**God watches over,
protects,
and provides for us.**

Let us present our offerings of thanksgiving
for the goodness of the triune God.

Offertory

Schonster, Herr Jesu, Hermann Schroeder

Prayer of Dedication (Leader **People**)

God of our salvation,
receive these gifts we offer.

**Bless them,
and us,
for the work of your kingdom,
through Christ, our Lord.**

Amen.

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

Our Father, Which Art in Heaven

SENDING FOR SERVICE

*Sending Song #246

Christ Is Alive

*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 Voluntary, Jeremiah Clarke

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 7th (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 1st week of Ordinary Time in January running up to, at times, the 34th 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.

The **Time of Silence** is an opportunity for you to clear yourself from what might distract you from fully giving your worship to God; for you to sit in the presence of God with nothing to do but simply be there; and to open yourself to the power of the Holy Spirit.

The words attributed to the **Offertory**, *Schonster, Herr Jesu*, are translated:

*Most beautiful Lord Jesus.
Thee will I love, thee will I honor.
My soul delights and rejoices.*

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.



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 through February 18. The items will then be donated to the Rescue Mission.

Tithes and Offerings may be mailed to the church office or made online through our website, 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 10th – Monday, January 24th 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. If you use her personal email address, or the office email of 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.

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>

Financial Update:	December	2021 Total	January to Date
Income	\$86,252.58	\$481,130.78	\$6,791.00
Expenses	<u>\$66,506.26</u>	<u>\$513,814.34</u>	<u>\$33,745.51</u>
Difference	\$19,746.32	(\$32,683.56)	(\$26,954.51)

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 30, 2022

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living:

Baptize – Unity in the Community

February 6, 2022

5th 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

6th 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

February 20, 2022

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Acts 4:32-37; 6:1-7

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Live

in Community – Uplift Those in Need

MAY GOD BLESS THIS WEEK

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

Today, 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
Monday, January 24		Office Closed
	6:30 p.m.	Beth Moore's Rising Up Class
Tuesday, January 25	10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
		Board of Deacons Meeting
Wednesday, January 26	7:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	6:00 p.m.	WOW (Worship on Wednesday)
Thursday, January 27	12:00 noon	Spiritual Life Committee Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	The Biblical Practice of Following Jesus Adult Class (Zoom only)
Next Sunday, January 30	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, February 1.....Souler Energy Committee, 12:00 noon
Thursday, February 3Worship 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
Saturday, February 19..... Presbyterian Women, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 22..... Board of Deacons, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 24 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

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

Facing the Future Don't worry about the future. Worry quenches the work of grace within
you. The future belongs to God. He is in charge of all things. Never second-guess him.

—François Fenelon



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Prayer Requests for the Week of January 23, 2022

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

This week's staff/officer:	Alissa Brown, Christian Education Director	
This week's elder:	Gary McFerrin	
This week's deacon:	Chris Pfof	
This week's ministry:	Board of Deacons	
This week's mission support:	Children in Crisis	
This week's home bound/care center:	Lynn Bloemendaal	
This week's families	LeAnn Feisthamel	LynDee Feisthamel
	Barb Flaherty	

Other prayer requests:

Thelma	Kevin Hicks	Bob
The Family of Lee Pate	Rhonda Grindeand	Donna and Family

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
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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 23, 2022

Romans 6:3-11

Biblical Practices for Faithful Living: Baptize – Die and Rise

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

(Romans 6:9-11, New Revised Standard Version)