

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
April 3, 2022 – 10:15 AM**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

Pastor Ken: Good Morning, welcome to worship here at First Presbyterian Church of Chippewa Falls. I am so glad that we can worship together, both in person and on ZOOM as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Session will meet in the library following worship today,

TIME OF CENTERING

Pastor Ken: will say something here...

So, let's try to set aside the week that has been even for a few moments to seek to be in the presence of God and let God touch us, so our spirits may be renewed. So, I invite you to sit back, relax and get comfortable. Take a couple of deep breaths, close your eyes, and think about God being present with you, where you are, right now. Slowly breathe in God's peace, and slowly exhale your anxieties and fears. Breathe in God's Peace, and exhale your anxieties and fears. Please take a moment to savor that and to invite God's Spirit to be present with you, and with each of us as we seek to worship God together.
(PAUSE)

Centering Prayer:

*Let your Spirit come,
Fall upon us now.
Let your Spirit come,
Fall upon us now.*

*Let your rain fall down,
Fall upon our souls,
Come and wash us now,
Come and make us whole.*

*Let your Spirit come,
Fall upon us now.
Let your Spirit come,
Fall upon us now. AMEN*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

- One: Praise God, for God has set us free.
- All: The past is behind us. Let us be renewed in God's Spirit.**
- One: Come, let us join the circle of Jesus.
- All: We are children of God's household.**
- One: Please join in singing our hymn of praise

HYMN: **"What Wondrous Love is This"** **Hymn 85**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION, PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

- One: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor. (Ps. 34:18)
- All: Gracious God, sometimes we ignore the one who is lost in favor of the many who are available. But then, in the midst of a hundred good thoughts and ideas, we focus on that one remark or a look that leads us down the path of self-doubt and fear. Help us understand which to seek after and which to leave behind. In the spirit of Christ, who promises to walk beside us on the path.**

(Please take a moment for silent prayers of personal confession.) AMEN.

- One: May the God of all mercy, who forgives all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in Eternal Life. Friends hear and believe the Good News:
- All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

SONG RESPONSE **"Gloria Patri"** **Hymn 579**

PASSING THE PEACE:

- One: Peace be with you
- All: And also with you**

(There will be no individual expressions of Passing the Peace.)

BUILDING THE MORNING PRAYER

*"In the mist of early morning, you are there;
In the fading light of evening, you are there;
You are there when we are joyful, you're there when we must grieve,
Yes in each and every moment, you are there."*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

As we go to God in prayer this morning, I will ask, For whom shall we pray? And after you make your prayer, I will say, "Let us say to the Lord:

Response: THIS IS OUR PRAYER"

For the family of Gary Shorrell in their grief, we are grateful for the gift Gary's life and for his presence among us for so many years, now may Barb and the rest of his family experience the presence of God's peace and comfort surrounding them.

"Let us say to the Lord, THIS IS OUR PRAYER

For the people of Ukraine, for the Leaders of NATO and the EU that they may continue to be united as they stand up to Putin...Let us say to the Lord: THIS IS OUR PRAYER

Reconciling God, through Christ you have granted your creatures the hope for new life; we praise your name and give you thanks. In Christ, the old has passed away, and the new has come. We no longer fear the wilderness, nor aimless wanderings, tempted by forces beyond our control. You have sent us a Savior, who has passed through the wastelands, and has born our sins for us, since we could not escape them ourselves. We claim our adoption as reconciled children and approach the dawn of your everlasting covenant with joy in our hearts.

You have opened the doors of your heavenly home and warmly embraced your returning children. Our feet are made light by your Spirit within us; we can run and not grow weary, we can walk and not be faint.

Gracious and loving God, You know each of us better than we know ourselves. We are grateful that you love us just as we are, and you seek to find us when we have lost our way. Be our guide, and a light to our path in the darkness that surrounds us. We pray these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together...

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

...Our Father, who art in Heaven. Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Hymn 376

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 43: 16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

GOSPEL: Luke 15: 1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

SERMON: "Lost and Found: Let's Celebrate!" **Rev. Ken Ribe**

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION:

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

BENEDICTION CHORUS: “Prayer of Good Courage”

POSTLUDE: