

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
April 24, 2022 – 10: 15 AM**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GATHERING SONG: **“Take, O Take Me As I Am”** **GTG698**

TIME OF CENTERING:

(We share a communal time of silence as we center our hearts and minds for worship. Worship Leader will end the silence with an Amen.)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Praise the Lord! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

All: **We will praise you for your mighty deeds, O God, according to your surpassing greatness!**

One: Praise the Lord with the sounds of the trumpet, with tambourine and the dance!

All: **We will praise you with strings and pipe and loud clanging cymbals.**

One: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

HYMN: **“The Strife Is O’er”** **No 119**

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

One: Our God is a God of justice, waiting to be gracious to you, yearning to have mercy on you. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord. In penitence and faith, let us confess our sins to almighty God. (Isa. 30:18)

All: **God in whom alone we find rest, we confess that we often turn from the gifts of identity, purpose, and meaning that you would give us.**

Instead of serving others, we serve ourselves.

Instead of being motivated by love, we are motivated by fear.

Instead of seeking wisdom, we seek possessions.

Instead of working for peace, we work for security.

Instead of seeking our good in you, we look to so many other places, trading your abundant and enduring love for the shiny things of this world.

Draw us back to you, O God, and remind us that all that we have and need we find in relationship with you and with each other. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who came as one of us, tempted as we are, yet without forsaking trust in you.

One: In the name of Jesus, who suffered temptation and prevailed, who was crucified on the cross and raised on the third day, hear the word of the Gospel: you are a beloved child of God, forgiven, redeemed, renewed, and called to lives of wholeness and life.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG RESPONSE**“Gloria Patri”****No. 579****PASSING THE PEACE:**

One: Peace be with you

All: **And also with you**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**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:**“Seek Ye First”****No 333****FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:****Acts 5:27-32**

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

GOSPEL:**John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON: **“Honest Doubter”** **Rev. Terri Koca**

CLOSING HYMN: **“Spirit“** **No. 319**

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: