

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
August 22, 2021 – 10:15 AM**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

All: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

One: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

All: O Lord of Hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

One: Let us worship God!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

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).

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

All: O God, redeem us, for we stand in need of forgiveness. We squander your mercy when we abuse your creation. We slander our neighbors and seek not your peace. Nations rise up against nations, and threats of terrorism fill the air. Those without work find no hope of relief. The homeless wander without protection from harm. Christ had compassion on all those who suffered. Cleanse us of the sin that closes our hearts to our brothers and sisters.

One: Know that God hears our prayer and will have mercy on all who humbly repent of their sin. Did not God send Christ our Savior to cleanse us of unrighteousness? Does not Christ intercede on behalf of those who confess? Lay aside your burden then, and take courage from the gospel. God forgives us through Christ.

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

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 84:1-12

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. *Selah* Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*

Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

GOSPEL:

John 6:56-69

"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

SERMON: "Mulligans Are Shameful"

Rev. Gary Hedding

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: