

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
December 25, 2022 – 10: 15 AM
Christmas Day**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CANDLE LIGHTING

Today we remember Simeon, a man who waited faithfully for the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Messiah. (Light all candles)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 98

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

All: We will sing praises to the Lord with the lyre and the sound of the horn.

One: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

All: We will sing you a new song, O God, for the marvelous things you have done.

One: Let us worship God!

HYMN:

“Joy to the World!”

No. 40

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

One: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him we dare to approach God with confidence. Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor. (Rom. 5:8 & Heb. 4:16)

All: Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and turned from our neighbors. We have refused to bear the troubles of others. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor and the oppressed.

O God, in your great mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthens us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

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 AND 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: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” No. 41

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

SERMON:

CLOSING HYMN: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” No. 28

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: