

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
February 7, 2021 – 10:15 AM**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Gathering Song: “Take, O Take Me As I Am”

GTG698

Take, O take me as I am;
Summon out what I shall be:
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

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:

Psalm 147

One: It is good to sing praises to our God. God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.
All: Great is the Lord, and abundant in power, whose understanding is beyond measure.
One: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God with the lyre.
All: You take pleasure in those who fear you and hope in your steadfast love.
One: Let us worship God!

HYMN:

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

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INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

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).

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

All: O God, you heal the brokenhearted; save us from sin when we inflict pain on our neighbors. We bear grudges against those who deceive us. We seek revenge on those who hurt us. Some we judge inferior, since they don't meet our standards. Others we deem unworthy of our respect and support. Jesus had compassion upon all who were afflicted. Forgive us, O God, when our hearts are hardened against neighbors in need.

One: The assurance of our pardon resides in Christ, “who, though he was in the form of god... emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.” Today, he intercedes on behalf of human weakness before the great throne of God. Therefore, let every knee bow, and let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Therein lies our assurance that we are forgiven!

HYMN:

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c

Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre. He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills. He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner; but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

SERMON: "Discerning When to Stay or Leave"

Rev. Ken Ribe

HYMN: "Spirit of the Living God"

Hymn #322

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: