

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
January 1, 2023 – 10:15 AM**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

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:

Isaiah 63

One: I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of God most high.

All: Because of all that the Lord has done for us, according to the abundance of God’s love.

One: It was your presence that saved the house of Israel, your love and pity redeemed them.

All: We join with them as your people, O God, your children who sing you our praises.

One: Let us worship God!

HYMN: **“As With Gladness Men of Old”**

No 63

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: Merciful God. We confess that we have often failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and have refused to hear the cry of the needy.

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

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep in you 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 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: “We Three Kings of Orient Are” No 66 vs 1-3

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely” and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

SERMON: “New Year’s Pep Talk” Rev. Terri Koca

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION:

“Let Us Break Bread Together” No. 513

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

BENEDICTION CHORUS: “Be Known to us in Breaking Bread” No. 505

POSTLUDE: