

**First Presbyterian Church  
Chippewa Falls, WI  
Worship Service  
July 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:**

Psalm 85

One: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**All: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

One: The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**All: Righteousness will go before the Lord and make a path for God’s steps.**

One: Let us worship God!

**HYMN:** “God of Grace and God of Glory”

No 420 vs 1-3

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

One: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need. Let us ask God to forgive us. (Heb. 4:14, 16)

**All: Gracious and generous God, we confess the tendency to apathy and complacency that besets us when we are basking comfortably in the light of your blessings, when our life is singing along as though we had composed the melody and generated the breath ourselves. We forget that it is from your hand alone that blessings flow. We have done nothing to earn or deserve the benefits of your love.**

**Forgive our shallowness of gratitude which dishonors you. And forgive the sinfulness of perfunctory praise when our hearts are disconnected from the words of our lips, when the performance of our ritual is without spirit and life. Forgive us when our praise does not overflow into daily life. Give us new and constant hearts of praise, we pray. AMEN**

One: Hear the good news! “The time has come and the Kingdom of God is near; Repent and believe in the Good News. God is merciful and just, and through Christ promises redemption to all who believe. As we turn from our old ways and respond in faith to Christ’s call, we receive the assurance that we shall be saved through Him.

One: Friends hear and believe the Good News.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**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:            “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”            No. 356**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING    Genesis 18:20-32**

Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.”

So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

**GOSPEL:    Luke 11:1-13**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**SERMON:**                    **“Does Prayer Really Change Things?”**                    **Rev. Sandee Kosmo**

**CLOSING HYMN:**            **“Be Thou My Vision”**    **No. 339**

**CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:**

**POSTLUDE:**