

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
November 8, 2020 - 10: 15 AM**

***Regulars and visitors alike, thank you for being here and bringing your worship to share with us. To enhance everyone's worship experience, please silence your cell phones. Thanks for helping.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth

All: We will tell of your glorious deeds, O Lord, and the wonders that you have done.

One: Tell your children and your children's children that they should set their hope in God.

All: And not forget your works, O God, but keep your commandments.

One: Let us worship God!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

We incline our ears to the words of your mouth and will tell us your glorious deeds, O Lord. Your righteousness is like streams of goodness washing our soul. You purify the thoughts of our minds by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, and sanctify our actions by the gift of your Son Jesus Christ. We appear now before you as children renewed by your mercy, to give you all praise in response to your grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

All: Far be it from us that we should forsake you, O Lord, to serve other gods. Yet, we confess our allegiance is not what it should be. You brought our ancestors out of Egypt, yet we do not always trust you to hear of our needs. You protected them all along the way that they went; yet we wonder if you hear us when we cry to you. We hear you are a jealous God and will not forgive our transgressions or our sins, yet we are bold to lay them before you and implore you, have mercy upon us and give us your grace.

One: Paul delivers words of comfort when he writes, "May the God of peace ... sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." God who calls you is faithful and in Christ we hear again the words of assurance, we are forgiven!

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

1 Thess. 4: 13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 25: 1-13

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.¹

SERMON:

“Jesus, Pins, Needles and Lamps”

Rev. Sandee Kosmo

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: