

**First Presbyterian Church  
Chippewa Falls, WI  
Worship Service  
November 29, 2020 – 10:15 AM  
Advent 1**

\*\*\*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:**

**CANDLE LIGHTING:**

One: Today we light the first Advent candle remembering how God spoke through the prophets the promise of one who would come to deliver all people from sin and darkness. We are all on this Advent journey together. Travel with us God, during this time of waiting.

**All: Awaken our hearts to your hope.**

One: We light a new candle each Sunday in Advent, reminding us that you, God, are the light along our paths leading us to a more just world.

**All: Awaken our hearts to your hope and light.**

One: Holy One, as we wait, help us to stay awake and present to your love. Help us unlearn ways of harm, and practice ways of kindness.

**All: Awaken our hearts to your hope, light and coming.**

One: Today we once again claim that promise in our lives, and look forward to the coming of our Deliverer in this holy season.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel. Stir up your might and come to save us!

**All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

One: Let your hand be upon us that we may be made strong for yourself.

**All: Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.**

One: Let us worship god!

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION:**

O Shepherd of Israel, you open our lips; our mouths give you praise. You shepherd your flock, gathering us from our wanderings, assembling us in Christ's name to learn of your will. Your covenant names us; your law guides us. The prophets attest to your promise that we shall not be forsaken. With great expectation we watch for your unfolding plan of salvation. Be present with us and guide us toward the truth in Christ's name.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

**All:** Almighty God, “we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.” We fail to call on your name; we don’t stir to take hold of your plan for us. Yet you are our God. “We are the clay, and thou are the potter.” May all that we do be the work of your hand.

**One:** Hear the words of Paul when he writes: “God is faithful, by whom you were called into fellowship of God’s Son, Jesus Christ.” By God’s grace you will be sustained to the end, and through Christ’s mercy, you will be found guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. To God be all praise and glory.

### **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:**

##### **Isaiah 64: 1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

**GOSPEL:**

**Mark 13: 24-37**

“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

**SERMON:**

**“Figgy Pudding and the Great Reversal”**

**Rev. Sandee Kosmo**

**CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:**

**POSTLUDE:**