

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
October 3, 2021 – 10:15 AM**

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

Pastor Ken: Good Morning, welcome worship here at First Presbyterian Church of Chippewa Falls. I am so glad that we can worship together, both in person and on ZOOM as well. Today is World Communion Sunday, a day when we celebrate the sacrament of holy communion with Christians around the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Just so you know, Dick Kemp is turning 90 on October 6th. Since Dick will not be in worship next week, let's shower him with cards wishing him well. Also note that Session will meet in the library following worship today,

TIME OF CENTERING:

Pastor Ken: How are you doing today? How has your last week been? I hope we can set it aside for a few moments so we can invite God to make God's presence known to us. I would like to invite you to sit back, relax and get comfortable. Take a couple of deep breaths, close your eyes, and think about God being present with you, where you are, right now. Slowly breathe in God's peace, and slowly exhale your anxieties and fears. Breathe in God's Peace, and exhale your anxieties and fears. Take a moment to savor that and to invite God's Spirit to be present with you, and with each of us as we seek to worship God together. (PAUSE)

Centering Prayer:

Let your Spirit come,

Fall upon us now.

Let your Spirit come,

Fall upon us now.

Let your rain fall down,

Fall upon our souls,

Come and wash us now,

Come and make us whole.

Let your Spirit come,

Fall upon us now.

Let your Spirit come,

Fall upon us now. AMEN

CALL TO WORSHIP:**Psalm 26**

One: I will sing a song of thanksgiving, O Lord, and tell of all your wondrous deeds.

All: O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

One: But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

All: My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

One: Let us worship God!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

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)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

All: O God of creation, you entrust us as stewards; we confess our abuse of what you place in our care. We foul the water by deliberate disposal; the air is polluted with emissions we create. We burn the forests through carelessness; the oceans are poisoned with toxins. Forgive our neglect of nature's delicate balance, and have mercy on us as we renew our commitment to the created order.

One: As we confess our sin we see Jesus, "who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone." Now be assured that Christ who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. In Jesus Christ 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: Psalm 26:1-12

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering. Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you. I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites; I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked. I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides. Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty, those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes. But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

SERMON: So, What about Divorce?

Rev. Ken Ribe

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: