

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Before the Lord no creature is hidden, the one to whom we must render an account.

All: Since, then, we have a great high priest, let us hold fast to our confession.

One: For we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

All: Let us approach the throne of grace, that we may find grace to help in every time of need.

One: Let us worship God!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

Jesus said, ‘Come to me all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor. (Matt. 11:28-30)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

All: God who creates us, Christ who redeems us, Spirit who renews us, hear our confession. We hide from you when we should heed you; your voice we neglect. Disobedience hinders our being more faithful. We claim that others mislead us when we stray from your will, but it is our doing. Have mercy upon us and grant us forgiveness, so that we may rest in your peace.

One: Scripture reminds us that “in the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears.... and was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.”

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 22:1-15

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame. But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; "Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver — let him rescue the one in whom he delights!" Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help. Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age — houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions — and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

SERMON: "The Camel Cannot Go Through the Eye of a Needle"
Rev. Rich Estrem-Fuller

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: