

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
October 16, 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 119

One: Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

All: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

One: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

All: I understand more than the aged. How sweet are your words to my taste.

One: Let us worship God!

HYMN:

“Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”

No. 426

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

One: This is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. I will forgive their evil deeds, and I will remember their sin no more. In penitence and faith, let us confess our sins to almighty God. (Jer. 31:33, 34).

All: O God, our Judge and Redeemer, we confess that we have failed in our ministry to others. We listen for teachings to our own liking. We yearn for doctrines that boost our egos. We follow those who flatter us. We seek comfort and not challenge from our confessions of faith. Renew a right spirit within us, O God, and train us in righteousness as you forgive our sin.

One: Brothers and sisters, ”continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.” For the truth of the gospel abides. 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: "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" No. 422

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 1:26-27, 31

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-15

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels.

But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them or mortals that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do 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.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

SERMON:

"Destiny"

Rev. Richard Blood

CLOSING HYMN:

"Come Sing, O Church, In Joy!"

No. 430

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: