

**First Presbyterian Church
Chippewa Falls, WI
Worship Service
October 31, 2021 – 10:15 AM
All Saints Sunday**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

All: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

One: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

All: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

One: Let us worship God!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor. (Ps. 34:18).

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: O God, give me the understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

All: God, have mercy upon us, for we do not obey you.

One: Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

All: Christ, have mercy upon us, since we take no delight in serving our neighbor.

One: Turn my eyes from looking at vanities and give me life in your ways.

All: God, have mercy upon us, because we are selfish and prone to evil.

One: Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life!

All: Christ, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sin, and by your grace may we walk in new life.

One: The testimony of Scripture affirms our pardon when we hear the words “How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living god!” In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sherry Friedel

WE REMEMBER:

God of all times and places, we praise you for all your servants who, have fought the good fight and finished their race and kept the faith and for those dear to us, who are at rest in your presence: especially today we remember: NAMES—

Grant us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them to those things which no eye has seen, nor ear heard, which you have prepared for those who love you. To your name we ascribe all honor and glory and praise, now and forever, AMEN

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 25: 6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

GOSPEL: Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'-this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

SERMON: "You Are Not Far From the Kingdom of God" Rev. Rich Estrem-Fuller

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:**POSTLUDE:**