

**First Presbyterian Church  
Chippewa Falls, WI  
Worship Service  
September 4, 2022 – 10:15 AM**

**PRELUDE:**

**WELCOME:**

**Pastor Ken:** Good Morning, welcome to 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.

**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*

**GATHERING SONG:**      "Take, O Take Me As I Am"      GTG698

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**      Psalm 1

One: Happy are those who take delight in the law of the Lord.

**All: They are like trees planted by streams of water. In all that they do, they prosper.**

One: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous.

**All: May God number us with the righteous as we worship the Lord.**

One: Let us worship God!

**HYMN:**

**“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”**

**No. 411**

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

**One:** 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)

**All:** **God in Christ, who endured the cross in your own flesh for our sakes, hear us as we confess our sin. We would be your bold disciples, but we fear suffering. We would carry our cross, but it weighs too much. We count the cost of following you – as long as there are benefits; but to renounce all we have is a devastating prospect. Forgive the conditions we make when we try to obey, and free us by your grace to forsake all and follow you.**

**One:** God is just and takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. Through Christ there is hope of eternal forgiveness. Turn back from your past and embrace God’s promised assurance: In Christ there is redemption and release from all sin.

**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.)

**BUILDING THE MORNING PRAYER**

*“In the mist of early morning, you are there;*

*In the fading light of evening, you are there;*

*You are there when we are joyful, you’re there when we must grieve,*

*Yes in each and every moment, you are there.”*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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: “Change My Heart, O God”**

**No. 695 GTG**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 30:11-20**

“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

**GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33**

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

**SERMON: Rev. Ken Ribe**

**COMMUNION HYMN OF PREPARATION: “Here I am, Lord” No 525 vs. 1,3**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS:**

**CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION:**

**BENEDICTION CHORUS: “Prayer of Good Courage”**

**POSTLUDE:**