**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2023 9 am.

 Liturgist: Katrina McGillivray

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We come seeking God,

**P: the one who guides us and protects us.**

L: People of God, there is nothing to fear,

**P: for God dwells in our hearts.**

L: Let us shout with joy, for God is here!

**P: Let us sing praises to the Holy One!**

\*OPENING PRAYER(Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1)

**Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN ***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*** #160

CHILDREN’S TIME Paul Hoffman

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1)

**Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things to our friends. We have forgotten our true identity, wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. And because of this, you have a quarrel with us. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world’s scorn and derision. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 27)

God has called us and blesses us when we live God’s ways and not the world’s. God’s love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions. Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor Shon

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(In Unison)*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS (Micah 6, Matthew 5)

We have been called to lives of justice, love, and truth. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved community of love, justice, truth, and blessing.

SPECIAL MUSIC ***Songs of Peace*** by Joseph M. Martin Choir

**\***DOXOLOGY *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* #95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Shon

SCRIPTURE Philippians 4:4-9

**4**Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! **5**Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **6**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7**And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**8**Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. **9**Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE ***O Holy Spirit, Root of Life*** *#2*121

MESSAGE **Guard Your Hearts and Minds in Christ Jesus** Pastor Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN***O Spirit of the Living God*** #539

**\***BENEDICTION Pastor Shon

POSTLUDE Matt Schluntz

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER FAMILIES:** Pray for all those who need healing, or have health issues. Specifically,

pray for those who are in need. Also continue to pray for those in Ukraine and other areas of the

 world where people are suffering.

**PRYAER WORKSOP:** It’s time to pray for our church, nation, and the world together.If you

 are interested in Corporate Prayer, come join us. Jan. 29, Sunday, 10:30 am

**SPRC TRAINING:** Feb. 4, Sat. 9 am – 12 pm, First UMC, Tomah, or Feb. 5, Sunday, 1:30 pm –

 4 pm, Grace UMC, Wautoma.

**LEADERSHIP RETREAT:** “*Renewing the Church in a Post-Pandemic World*,” Feb. 24, Fri,

 5-8 pm – 25, Sat. 8 am-3 pm. Meals will be provided. Rev. Scott Carlson, a director of

 Congregational development of Wis. Conference will be leading this workshop. Everyone is

 Welcome! He will be preaching for us on Sunday, Feb. 26.

**UMC of WISCONSIN’S VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION:** Is putting together a group to go to Marion Alabama, February 4-12, 2023 to partner with a Marion group to do home repair. More information available on the mission outreach bulletin board.  If interested contact Charlene Galston, 715-896-9055.

**YOUTH:** Snow sledding and fellowship at Bruce Mound Ski Resort, on Feb. 5. After worship

 service. Anyone is welcome!

**SCRIP CARDS:** When you are thinking of ideas for gift giving or personal use, consider Scrip

cards**.** Stop at the gathering area on Sundays or call Marcia at 715-284-3346

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** Meals will be served by Esther Shon at 4:45-6 pm.

**FELLOWSHIP**: will be served by Esther Shon

**WORSHIP LEADER EVENT:** On Sunday January 29th there will be a brief informational

 learning session for anyone interested in serving as a worship leader.

**USHER/GREETERS**: Jim & Carol Hornby

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

 Wed: Prayer Meeting 10 am Wed. Connections 4:45- 6 pm

 Pre-Con 5-6 pm Youth Group 6-7 pm

 Confirmation Class 7-8 pm Choir Practice 6-7 pm

 Bell Choir Practice 7-8 pm

 Sat: UMM 8 am

**Bible Trivia Question of the week**

Who said that he had ‘fought with beasts’?

 A. Paul B. Samson

 C. Solomon D. Jesus

 *→ See 1 Corinthians 15:32*

**Black River Falls**

**United Methodist Church**

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**UMC Mission Statement:**

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

 PASTOR Rev. Inwha Shon

 ORGANIST Matthew Schluntz

 MUSIC DIRECTOR Amanda Lang

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