**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

 Transfiguration Sunday February 19, 2023 9 am

 Liturgist: Howard Gomer

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let the radiance of Christ be evident among us:

**P: in our songs and our words;**

L: in our deepest thoughts and desires;

**P: in the youthful and the experienced, the exhausted and the energetic;**

L: in the hungry and the scared.

**P: We are here together. We join our voices and our hearts in praise.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

**O God, We open our eyes and we see Jesus, the months of ministry transfigured to a beam of light, the light of the world, your light. May your light shine upon us. We open our eyes and we see Moses and Elijah, your word restoring us, showing us the way, telling a story, your story, his story, our story. May your word speak to us. We open our eyes and we see mist, the cloud of your presence which assures us of all we do not know and that we do not need to fear. Teach us to trust. We open our eyes and we see Peter’s constructions, his best plans, our best plans, our missing the point, our missing the way. Forgive our foolishness and sin. We open our eyes and we see Jesus, not casting us off, but leading us down, leading us out -to ministry, to people. Your love endures forever. We open our ears and we hear your voice, ‘This is my beloved Son, listen to him!’ And we give you thanks. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN ***God of Grace and God of Glory*** #577

CHILDREN’S TIME Roxie Hostrawser

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 99, Matthew 17)

**Mighty and glorious God, even as we tremble in your presence, we rejoice in your willingness**

**to live among and within us. Forgive us when we act as if we can separate ourselves from your powerful presence. Forgive us when we hide ourselves from you, forgetting that in you, nothing is hidden. Lift our eyes to see your glory. Lift our hearts to receive your grace. Lift our lives to reflect the mountain of your love, that we may shine for all to see. In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Matthew 17)

Don’t be afraid. We are beloved children of God. We belong to a God whose love and grace always draw us to our home in God.

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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (2 Peter 1, Matthew 17)

As God has blessed us with the glory of love and light, so God invites us to share these gifts to light God’s world.

SPECIAL MUSIC ***We are Marching in the Light of God*** (a South African Hymn) Choir

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Shon

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 4:14-20

**14**Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

**15**Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. **16**From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

**17**So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. **18**They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. **19**Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. **20**That, however, is not the way of life you learned **21**when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

HYMN OF PRAISE ***You Alone Are Holy***#2077

MESSAGE **Grow & Build up the Church in love & faith** Pastor Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN***Since Jesus Came into My Heart***#2140

**\***BENEDICTION Pastor Shon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

 The Radio Broadcast this morning is in celebration of Pastor Inwha’s Birthday, which is

 Tomorrow, by Sarah and David Shon.

**PRAYER FAMILIES:** Please pray for people in Turkey and Syria whose lives have been

devastated by two earthquakes this week. The UMCOR is collecting contributions for relief. The link to donate may be reached via their Facebook page. Continue to pray for peace in Ukraine. Also pray for the victims of wars in other parts of the world including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. War is devastating no matter where it takes place.

 Also pray for all immigrants throughout the world as they seek a place of safety. Pray for

 those who need healing, physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

 Also, pray for Marcia Hagen as she left February 17 for Guatemala on a medical mission trip

 with Viterbo University. She will carry with her 28 pillowcase dresses from our church family

 for children there. May God bless her and all those that are served by this mission trip.

**VISIONING 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.

**THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**: Selling out their napkins and greeting cards. Cards are

 $.25 each and napkin packages are $.50 each. These great buys are on a table in the Gathering

 Area. Questions, see Carol Hornby.

**NORTH CENTRAL UWF SPRING RETREAT:** will be held on Sat. May 6 at Pine Lake

 Camp. Registration deadline is April 21. Cost is $20 (including lunch), after April 21st, $25.

**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

**PRETZEL SUNDAY:** Fellowship with pretzels will be following the worship service.

**DRIVE THRU IMPOSITION OF ASHES:** Wed. Feb. 22,9-10 am and 2-4 pm.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:** Wed. Feb. 22at 6 pm

**NEWSLETTER**: All articles are due in the office by Wed. Feb. 22.

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

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

 Wed: Ash Wednesday Service 6 pm Fri: Visioning Retreat 5-8 pm

 Sat: Visioning Retreat 8 am-3 pm

**Bible Trivia Question of the week**

 What city shall be called "the Lord our righteousness"?

    A. Rome          B. Bethlehem         C. Jerusalem           D. Babylon     *See Jeremiah 33:16*

**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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