**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

 Second Sunday in Lent March 5, 2023 9 am

 Liturgist: Tom Epps

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

**P: We are learning to follow Jesus.**

L: When God says, “Go!” without telling us the destination,

**P: Show us, Christ, how to go forward in faith.**

L: When re-birth is the impossible way forward,

**P: Christ, be our midwife as we accept God’s call to be reborn.**

L: When we find ourselves in the in-between of where we’ve been and where we’re going,

**P: Christ, meet us on the way and bless us in the going.**

L: Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

**P: We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 32, Matthew 4)

**Righteous God, we need your presence in our lives if we are to resist temptation. Send your angels to minister to us when the tempter comes to call. Put not our hearts to the test, but shelter us in your protective love. For you are our God and we are your people. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN ***Be Thou My Vision*** #451

CHILDREN’S TIME Tom Epps

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Matthew 4)

**Lord, we are such stubborn people. We want to know all the answers. We find it hard to place our trust even in your Son. When Jesus proclaims that we can have a new life, we want to know how this is possible. How can we get rid of the old burdens and difficulties and start over again? Wouldn’t it be just like climbing back into the womb to make a fresh start? How we have misunderstood what Jesus has said. New life is possible. We can place our trust in God’s healing care. Forgive us, and help us, gracious Lord. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 32)

New life is given to you. You can place your trust in God and follow God’s way. God is with you. AMEN.

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)

Through this invitation to share our gifts, we acknowledge that God has blessed us abundantly, and that we are to be a blessing to the world. In the very act of giving, in every act of bestowing blessings on another, we find that we are blessed yet again. I encourage you now to enter fully into this amazing cycle of blessing.

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Shon

SCRIPTURE Luke 4:1-14

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, **2**where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. **3**The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” **4**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’” **5**The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. **6**And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. **7**If you worship me, it will all be yours.” **8**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” **9**The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. **10**For it is written: “‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; **11**they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” **12**Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **13**When the devil had finished all this tempting,

he left him until an opportune time. **14**Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

HYMN OF PRAISE ***Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*** #269

MESSAGE **Calling for Life in the World**  Rev. Inwha Shon

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (Genesis 12, Psalm 121, John 3)

The God who made heaven and earth has created us in God’s glorious image. Come to God’s banquet table and partake of Godself. Remember the blessings we have received and the blessings we are called to be. Come to be blessed. Come to be fed. Come, for the Spirit is calling, inviting us to be nourished and born anew.

HYMN OF PEACE ***Bless the Lord*** #2013

COMMUNION #12-15

\*CLOSING HYMN***Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*** #301

**\***BENEDICTION Rev. Inwha Shon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

devastated by two earthquakes this week. 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. 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.

**BIBLE STUDY in LENT:** “Jesus in the Wild”, Sunday at 10:30 am/Wednesday at 5:45 pm.

**St. Patrick’s Day CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE Dinner:** Prepared and served by United Methodist

 Men Friday, March 17, 4-7 pm. Available for take out or dine in. Great time to introduce friends to our

 church family or take a meal. Cost is TBA.

**SEWING DAY:** Wednesday, 8 from 1-4 pm to try to assemble 1 or 2 quilts to donate for the Sleep in

 Heavenly Peace bed build. Donations of fabric and batting will be needed. Please let Charlene know if

 you are able to participate in this sewing day. Call 715-896-9055

**THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**: Annual Spring Retreat will be held on Saturday, May 6 at Pine

 Lake Camp. Register by April 21. Cost is $20 ($25 after April 21) and includes lunch

**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.

**UMCOR** (United Methodist Committee on Relief)will be taking a special collection on Sunday, March

 19.UMCOR has provided an initial solidarity grant to IBC to provide basic supplies to earthquake

 victims.

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** A meal will be served by UWF.

**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

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS:** Sunday, 12th.

**FELLOWSHIP:** will be served by Jone Hoffman.

**USHER/GREETERS**: Carol Anderson & Linda McCullough

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

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

 Bible Study 5:45-6:30 pm

 Pre-Con. Class 5-6 pm Youth 6-7 pm

 Confirmation Class 7-8 pm

**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

 PIANIST Matthew Schluntz

 MUSIC DIRECTOR Amanda Lang

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 Phone: 715-284-4114 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm

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