**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

 Palm/Passion Sunday April 2, 2023 9 am

 Liturgist: Tom Epps

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**P: God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

**P: This is the Lord’s doing. It is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: Line the festival procession with branches. This is the day that the Lord has made.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Matthew 21, Philippians 2)

**Blessed One, our hearts sing with the children when we see you ride into Jerusalem on a donkey. Our lips shout your praises, as you empty yourself to become servant of all. Open our hearts to the depth of your love, that we might walk faithfully with you during the long week ahead. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN ***All Glory, Laud, and Honor*** #280

CHILDREN’S TIME Tom Epps

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We confess that we are not so different from those who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday yet later shouted 'Crucify him!' or remained silent in the face of injustice. We have betrayed you too, Lord Jesus by our sins both secret and known. Yet you died for people like us, and you rose on the third day that we might be redeemed. For the sake of Jesus Christ, do not hold our sins against us.**

**Jesus Christ, our King of glory, we have not been outspoken for you. We have not called for your death, but neither have we shouted of your greatness, nor expressed delight in the salvation you have won for us. Help us to see your glory, draw us closer to you that we may become more faithful and more joyful servants of the King.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 31:14-15)

People The Psalmist says: But I trust in you, O Lord, I say 'You are my God.' My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.” In Christ, God hears; God answers; God sets us free. In Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to 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 (Psalm 130)

 God gives us steadfast love and abundant mercy. Now, we are invited to bring our gifts to God as

 tokens of our thanksgiving and praise.

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Shon

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 6:10-18

**10**Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **13**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **14**Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15**and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16**In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**18**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

HYMN OF PRAISE  ***The King of Glory Comes*** #2091

MESSAGE  ***Be Strong Through the Struggle*** Rev. Inwha Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN ***Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise***  #2084

**\***BENEDICTION Rev. Inwha Shon

POSTLUDE Matthew Schluntz

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please pray for people in need in our church, community, nation, and the world.

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

**THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH:** Join us on Monday, April 3 at 6:15pm, Chaplain Myron Olson, Jackson Correctional Institution, will talk with us on his faith journey and how his work with inmates is supported by faith and community. UWF will host a potluck 5:30-6:00pm. This is a follow-up program to our UWF program, Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline.

**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

**SEWING DAY:** will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 1-4 pm

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**: Thursday, April 6. Seder Meal at 6 pm

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**: Friday, April 7, at 6 pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**: April 9. A whole congregation photo will be taken after service. Egg Hunt will be

 following worship service.

**THE YOUTH LED WORSHIP:** on April 30, at 9 am.

**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

**USHER/GREETERS**: Tom & Lois Epps

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

 Mon: United Women in Faith 5:30 pm

 Wed: Bible Study 5:45-6:30 pm Pre-Con 5-6 pm

 Youth 6-7 pm Confirmation Class 7-8 pm

 Sat: United Methodist Men 8 am at Sunnyside Cafe

**Bible Verse of the Week: Ephesians 6:18**

***“****And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*

*With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”*

**Bible Trivia:**

 `...Ye should earnestly contend for the \_\_\_\_\_\_ which was once delivered unto the saints.` - Jude 3

A. Faith B. Love C. Joy D. Peace

 *See: Jude 1:3*

**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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