

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
May 8, 2022. 9 am.  
Liturgist: Chuck Devendorf

WELCOME, PASSSSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come! Let us worship and praise God.  
**P: The Lord is our shepherd, our guardian and our guide.**  
L: Celebrate the many ways in which God cares for our lives.  
**P: Green pastures and silent still waters beckon us and comfort us.**  
L: Even though difficulties occur in our lives, still God is with us.  
**P: Even when it seems that the world has nothing to offer but suffering and pain,  
God surrounds us with His love and bounty.**  
L: Surely God’s mercy accompanies us on our journey.  
**All: And we will dwell in God’s house forever. AMEN.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

**Empty us, Great God, of all that prevents us from hearing what you want us to hear. Empty us of our preconceptions, our preoccupations and our prejudices. Empty us that we might be filled with your Spirit and your Word. Empty us that we might be filled for ministry and mission. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #140

CHILDREN’S TIME Roxie Hostrawser

KNIT FOR KIDS Charlene Galston

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Anger, hatred, anguish blare at us from the newspapers and the media. The shouts of hurt and pain harden our hearts, merciful God. We cannot bear the hurts, so we turn away. We hide and want the hurt to disappear. When we hear the words of the Psalmist singing about the green pastures and the still waters, our souls long for this place of peace. We think that it can be found outside ourselves, yet this is a reminder of the peace and hope that your love offers us from within. We know that we will have struggles and hard times, but help us, Lord, to place our lives in your**

**care, to trust in your comfort and guidance. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your compassionate love. Heal us again and place us on the right path. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not fear! You can place your trust in God, for God will lead you, comfort you, protect you. You are not alone to face all the difficulties of life. God is with you and will lift you up. Rejoice, for you are loved by God.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. 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

The holy One has given us fish and bread for a lifetime. Let us now share from our bounty, that through our gifts, God’s will may be done.

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Shon

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 4:7-21

HYMN OF PRAISE *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #384

MESSAGE **“Love, the Antidote to Fear ”** Rev. Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry* #2051  
Charlene Galston, Paula Voskuil, Esther Shon

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

POSTLUDE Kathleen Peterson

Today’s Verse: 1 John 4:18

*“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.”*

**SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4:7-21** (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. <sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PRAYER FAMILIES:** Pray for all those who need healing, or have health issues. Specifically, pray for Nancy Iuliano and Edward Brauner. Also continue to pray for those in Ukraine and other areas of the world where people are suffering.

**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 and see if we can help.

**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE:** Bed Build Project May 14, at Jackson Electric. 9:00am

**ADVANCED LAY SERVANT CLASS:** May 13, Friday 6pm-9pm/Saturday 9am-4pm.  
Fee: \$20 (including food). Anyone is welcome.

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY COORDINATOR:** The SPRC is seeking a motivated and enthusiastic person for the Children’s Ministry Coordinator position. Interested individuals should contact Carol Hornby at 715-896-7684 or [chornby@centurytel.net](mailto:chornby@centurytel.net).

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

<b>Monday:</b>	Office Closed	<b>Wednesday:</b>	Prayer Meeting	10:00am
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Finance Committee		Wednesday Connections	4:30pm
	Board of Trustees		Pre-Confirmation	5:00pm
	Admin Council		The Youth	6:00pm
			Confirmation	7:00pm
		<b>Thursday:</b>	Joyful Noise Choir	5:30 pm
		<b>Friday:</b>	Lay Servant Class	5-9pm
		<b>Saturday:</b>	Lay Servant Class	9am-4pm

# Black River Falls United Methodist Church



**Mission statement:**

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by proclaiming the good news of God's grace and by exemplifying Jesus' command to love God and neighbor, thus seeking the fulfillment of God's reign and realm in the world."

PASTOR	Rev. Inwha Shon
ORGANIST	Kathleen Peterson
SPIRIT! DIRECTOR	Jeff Woodward

100 North Fourth Street, Black River Falls, WI. 54615  
Phone: 715-284-4114    Office Hours: 7:45am-3:45pm  
Website: [brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org) & Black River Falls United Methodist Church Facebook