**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023, 9 am

Liturgist: Roxie Hostrawser

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We gather as a community of compassion and hope.

**P: Jesus calls us to care for each other tenderly and willingly.**

L: By this caring and sharing we will be known as followers of Jesus.

**P: By our example others may be led to lives of peace.**

L: Lord, open our hearts and minds this day to your word.

**P: Teach us to serve you with all our gifts and talents. Amen.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Exodus 3, Romans 12)

**Great I AM, you come to us in unexpected ways. Excite our curiosity that we might turn aside and realize we are standing on holy ground. Appear to us in fire and wonder, that we might see worlds beyond the reaches of our imaginations. Reveal the glory of your kingdom—where love is genuine, where evil is forsaken, where mutual affection abides, and hospitality is shown to strangers, where all are made one. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN***When We Are Living***UMH #356

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love and mercy, be with us this day. We have faltered in our service to you. We create divisions between various people; we judge before we listen; we condemn before we make any attempt to understand. Our lives are in turmoil and we confess that we have turned away from you. It is fear and anger that too often surrounds us and our actions become based on those fears and anger. Slow us down, Lord. Give us hearts overflowing with grace and compassion. Help us to mirror Jesus who loved and healed others who were rejected by “polite” society. Remind us that we are called to be strong voices of hope for those who feel alienated and lost; we are called to be a home to strangers; to quench thirst and to give nourishment; to welcome and bring words of hope. Forgive us when we have forgotten these things. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ calls each of us into lives of service and hope. He equips us for these ministries and places us on the pathways of peace. Rejoice! You are called by God’s Son and blessed by him. AMEN.

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As God has blessed our lives with abundant love and gifts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to this place, seeking to help others, to offer comfort and hope. Let us receive our morning offering.

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Shon

SCRIPTURE Revelation 3:14-22

**14“To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this: 15‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. 16So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything,” and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, 18I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see. 19Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. 20Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. 21The one who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne. 22The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE ***Spirit of the Living God*** UMH #393

SERMON **Rekindle the Fire in Your Heart** Rev. Shon

HOLY COMMUNION UMH #12-15

\*CLOSING HYMN ***As a Fire Is Meant for Burning*** UMH #2237

**\***BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please pray for people in need in our church, community, nation,

 and the World.

**PRAYER WALK:** Mon., Sept. 4th at 9 am, will end at Revolution on Main St. for coffee and

discussion.

**MISSION OUTREACH:** Thurs., Sept. 7th at 6:30 pm, will be meeting regarding submission

 of a grant proposal to WI United Methodist Foundation. Please contact Marcia Hagen or

 join us at the meeting.

**UWF:** Mon., Sept., 11th at 5 pm, will be having a “Bring your own Environmentally Friendly

 Bag Lunch” followed by a presentation at 6 pm by Andrew Epps.

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** will begin Sept., 13th at 4:45 pm. Signup sheet is on the

 Kitchen Entrance Door, please volunteer if you can!

**YOUTH GROUP:** First weekly meeting is on Wed., Sept. 13th at 5:30 pm-7:00 pm.

**CONFIRMATION DAY:** will be on Sunday, Sept., 17th at 9 am.

**BIBLE STUDY:** *“Living as United Methodist Christians”* will begin Sept., 17th at 10:30 am.

 and will last 6 weeks. Facilitator: Pastor Inwha.

**BIBLE STUDY:**  “*Invitation to the Old Testament”* will begin Sept., 17th at 10:15 am in the

 Library, will last 8 weeks. Facilitator: Paula Voskuil.

**UNITED METHODIST MEN:**  Sat., Sept. 23rd at 8 am, will need volunteers for tree removal

 in the East parking lot. Please contact Paul Hoffman or just show up!

**ROOTED:** A new sermon series begins Sept. 10 – Oct. 1. Bring your family, neighbors, and

 friends to Christ.

**SMALL GROUPS**: If you are interested in leading small groups, please contact the office.

 First prep meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19th at 5 :30 pm.

**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**: Pat and Diane Moe

**FELLOWSHIP:** Esther Shon

 **MEETINGS**

Thur. Sept, 7 CYF/Dinner Church Prep. 5:30 pm/6:30 pm

Sat. Sept. 9 UMM (Sunnyside café) 8:00 am

Sun. Sept. 10 Mission Outreach 10:30 am

Mon. Sept. 11 UWF/Trustees 5:00 pm

Tue. Sept. 12 Worship/Ad Council 5:30 pm/6:30 pm

Wed. Sept. 13 Youth Group 5:30 pm-7 pm

Tue. Sept. 19 Small Group Ministry 5:30 pm

**Black River Falls**

**United Methodist Church**

****

**UMC Mission Statement:**

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

 PASTOR Rev. Inwha Shon

100 North Fourth Street, Black River Falls, WI. 54615

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

Website: brfumc.org

Facebook: Black River Falls United Methodist Church

YouTube: brfumc