**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 24, 2023, 9 am

Liturgist: Paula Voskuil

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 105, Matthew 20)

L: Give thanks to the Lord.

**P: Call on God’s holy name.**

L: Sing praises to our God.

**P: Tell of God’s wonderful works.**

L: The Lord offers bread from heaven to satisfy our hunger.

**P: God issues water from solid rock to quench our thirst.**

L: Give thanks to the Lord.

**P: Let everything that draws breath praise God.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Exodus 16, Psalm 105)

**Christ, light of light, brightness indescribable, the Wisdom, power and glory of God, the Word made flesh: you overcame the forces of Satan, redeemed the world, then ascended again to the Father. Grant me, I pray, in this tarnished world, the shining of your splendor. Send your Archangel Michael to defend me, to guard my going out and coming in, and to bring me safely to your presence, where you reign in the one holy and undivided Trinity, to ages of ages. Amen.** - Author unknown

**\***OPENING HYMN ***Thy Word Is a Lamp*** UMH #601

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Exodus 16, Psalm 105, Matthew 20)

**God of infinite patience, we turn complaining into an Olympic sport: “The journey is too long. The road is hard and our feet hurt. We’re hungry and bored. This isn’t what we signed up for!” You’ve heard it all before, faithful One. You’ll hear it all again. Yet, you never forsake us in our grumbling. Shower us with your manifold blessings and open our lips to sing songs of gratitude. For we are weary of our complaining and long to make a fresh start. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 105)

Rejoice, you who seek the Lord. Count your blessings, not your troubles. For in acts of gratitude, you will find peace.

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 (Psalm 105)

In the wilderness of our lives, God’s grace is like water flowing from a rock, transforming arid desert into flowing rivers. In thanksgiving for God’s mercy, let us give from our abundance as we collect today’s offering.

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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Shon

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 4:12 / 1 Timothy 4:7-8 / Philippians 4:6

**For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

**7Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.**

**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE ***Sweet Hour of Prayer***  UMH #496

SERMON ***Rooted in Prayer and Study*** Rev. Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN ***Are Ye Able*** UMH #530

**\***BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

 and the World.

**DYNAMITE PRAYER:** 28 days experiment for God’s work for us. Move from problem-

 focused prayer to possibility-focused prayer. Books will be ready next Sunday. Need a

 volunteer to pray together for God’s work.

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** Meal will be served by Imelda Kelly and Esther. A signup

 sheet is on the kitchen entrance door, please volunteer if you can!

**BIBLE STUDY: *“Living as United Methodist Christians****”* 10:30 am at the Keefe Room for

 6 weeks. Facilitator: Pastor Inwha.

**BIBLE STUDY:** “***Invitation to the Old Testament****.”*  Begins on Thursday, the 28th, at 7 pm

 for 8-week study. Facilitator: Paula Voskuil.

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

 friends to Christ.

**CHURCH FAMILY REUNION & WORLD COMMUION SUNDAY**: October 1st.

**SMALL GROUPS**: If you are interested in leading small groups, come Thursday, Sept. 28th

 at 5:30 pm.

**GOLF OUTING**: Sunday, Sept. 24th at 1 pm at Skyline. Potluck at 6 pm at church.

**NEWSLETTER:** deadline is Tuesday, 26th.

**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**: Jean Anderson/Jeff & Barb Hagenbrock

**FELLOWSHIP:** Bonnie Burnham

**MEETINGS**

 Tue Sept. 26 SPRC 5:30 pm

 Sat Oct. 7 United Methodist Men 8:00 am

 Mon Oct. 9 Trustees 5:00 pm

 Tue Oct. 10 Worship/Ad Council 5:30 pm/6:30 pm

**Bible Verse of the Week: Ephesians 4:29** (New International Version)

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”*

**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

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