**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 22, 2023, 9 am

Liturgist: Katrina McGillivray

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens, God is the Lord of all life.

**P: In God, we live and move and have our being.**

L: God requires our faithfulness and our service.

**P: We reach out to others with the same kind of love with which God has touched our lives.**

L: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

**P: Let us praise God who walks daily by our side. AMEN.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Exodus 33)

**Holy God, we long to sense your presence and be assured that you have drawn near.**

**Awaken us with your love and grace and show us your possibilities for our lives. Assure us that we are not alone and that you walk with us always. For this, we offer you our thanks and praise. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN***Days of Elijah*** WSM #3186

JOYS AND CONCERNS

TESTIMONY to DYNAMITE PRAYER Jim Bible, Paula Voskuil

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Exodus 33, 1 Thessalonians 1)

**God of grace, though you are always present, you often feel distant. Our minds seek to limit your reality to things we can understand. Expand our imaginations, that we may see your kindness and grace at work in the world around us. When our work becomes a burden**

**and our struggles seem pointless, save us from despair. Remind us to ground ourselves in faith and to reach out with hope and love, as we seek to live in your ways. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 99)

When we cry out to you, O God, you answer us. You receive us, forgive us, and show us your love.

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 (Matthew 22)

Jesus said, “Give to God, what belongs to God.” We are God’s people, created in God’s image. Everything we are, and all that we have, comes from God. Out of gratitude for the abundance of God’s gifts, let us bring our offering in gratitude and praise.

**\***DOXOLOGY ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*** UMH #94

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Shon

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. 2I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. 3And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows— 4was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. 5I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. 6Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, 7or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 8Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. 10That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE ***Cry of My Heart*** TFWS #2165

SERMON ***Power Made Perfect in Weakness***  Rev. Shon

Pray in unison:

**Almighty God, break through and open doors to your new hopes, dreams, and** A painting of a bird

Description automatically generated**possibilities for Black River Falls United Methodist Church and in our individual lives, and our community… as you do, we will surrender and faithfully follow Christ onto the open road adventure of your new and unknown future. Amen.**

**Black River Falls United Methodist Church**

\*CLOSING HYMN ***I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*** TFWS # 2153

**\***BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

and the World.

**DYNAMITE PRAYER:** It is the third week of Dynamite Prayer for 28 days together. Pray

**Expecting what you could never have thought, asked, or imagined**

together at church at 7 am -9 am.

**YOUTH:** Covenant Service on the 29th. Today, Hidden Corn Maze, 10:30 am

**MISSIONARY VISIT:** Temba Nkomozepi, Mujila Falls Agriculture Center Missionary in

Zambia on Wednesday, Nov. 1, at 5 pm. Want to offer accommodation?

**USED SEWING MACHINE:** Old sewing machine to donate? Contact Charlene Galston.

**LIGHT BULBS CHANGE:** Saturday, Nov. 4 at 8 am following UMM meeting.

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** Meal served by the Youth Group at 5 pm. Thank you to

Mary Loveland for serving a meal on October 18.

**NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER:** Please send information to the office no later than the 25th.

**BIBLE STUDY: *“Living as United Methodist Christians****”* Sunday, 10:30 am at Keefe Room.

**BIBLE STUDY:** “***Invitation to the Old Testament****.”*  Thursday, 7 pm in the library.

**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**: Alan & Paula Voskuil

**FELLOWSHIP:** Katrina McGillivray/Katrina Pierce

**MEETINGS**

Mon Oct. 23 Small Group Ministry 5:30 pm

**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 YouTube: brfumc**

**Facebook: Black River Falls United Methodist Church**

Tue Oct. 24 SPRC 5:30 pm

Wed Oct. 25 Youth/Confirmation Class 5:30 pm/7 pm

Thu Oct. 26 Children/Youth/Parents 5:30 pm

**Bible Verse of the Week: Isaiah 26:4**

*“Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.”*

**DYNAMITE PRAYER**