ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Indicates, please stand if able.

Reign of Christ/Thanksgiving Sunday

November 20, 2022. 9am.

Liturgist: Jim Hornby

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: God has called all of us here beloved.
- P: We are given new names of hope and promise.
- L: Even though storms and trials have assailed us,
- P: God has drawn us through to the time of salvation.
- L: Thanks be to God for God's victory in Jesus Christ!
- P: May Jesus reign in our hearts all of our days. AMEN.

*OPENING PRAYER

Hear me quickly Lord, for my mind soon wanders to other things I am more familiar with, and more concerned about than I am with you. O Timeless God, for whom I do not have time, catch me with a sudden stab of beauty or pain or regret that will catch me up short for a moment to look hard enough at myself – the unutterable terror and hope within me – and, so, to be caught by you. Amen. - Ted Loder (1930-)

*OPENING HYMN Praise the Source of Faith and Learning #2004

CHILDREN'S TIME Roxie Hostrawser

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, how many times we have spoken words of commitment and faith, and then turned our backs on these commitments to follow the temptations of the world. We wander after the false prophets of greed, selfishness, arrogance, ignorance, hatred, stubbornness, and then shout our displeasure at how we are being treated. We want you to come in and clean up all our messes, excusing us from any responsibility for them. Forgive us for such foolishness. Help us to remember the power of your healing love, which has been given to us. Forgive us when we think we know everything and then discover that we have behaved and thought in ignorant ways. Teach us to listen and to place our trust in your abiding power. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Even though we doubt God's faithfulness to us, yet God is steadfast in God's love for each one of us. Receive that love in your hearts this day. Know that you are healed and forgiven in God's sight. AMEN.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Shon

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

CELEBRATION OF GIVING

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 world is a mess. What can we do? We can offer our visions of hope, our words of comfort, our acts of love, our resources to help bring God's new heaven and new earth.

SPECIAL MUSIC	"Someday" (by Alan Menken)	Matthew Schluntz

& Amanda Lang

Roxie Hostraser

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

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

*HYMN OF PRAISE Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word #596

MESSAGE Three Reasons to Give Back to God Rev. Shon

*CLOSING HYMN From the Rising of the Sun #2024

*BENEDICTION Rev. Shon

POSTLUDE Matt Schluntz

Verse of the Week: 2 Corinthians 8:9

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (NIV)

And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

FRESH EXPRESSIONS: Final meeting today at 10:30am at the Van Etta Library. All are welcome.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS 201: Dec. 8 & 15, 5–6:30 pm. Dinner will be served.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONNECTIONS: Cancelled due to Thanksgiving Eve Service

THANKSGIVING EVE JOINT SERVICE: With Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wed. at 6:00pm.

CELEBRATION OF GIVING: Pot Luck meal, December 4th.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY: Four Sundays, Nov. 27th – Dec. 18th, at 10:30am. Devotional book "Roots" is available on the desk at church entrance. Freewill donations are appreciated.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH: Are selling Rice Packs for the next two Sundays as a fundraiser for their 2023 Pledge to Missions. Freewill donations are accepted

UMC of WISCONSIN'S VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION: Is putting together a group to go to Marion Alabama, February 4-12, 2023 to partner with a Marion group to do home repair. More information available on the mission outreach bulletin board. If interested contact Charlene Galston, 715-896-9055.

DECORATING THE CHURCH: Will take place on November 26. See Roxie Hostrawser.

VOLUNTEERS: Wanted to ring a bell at Red Kettle Campaign by Salvation Army at Walmart or Hansen's IGA, Nov. 19th -Dec. 24th. 9 am-7pm. Contact the office if interested.

POINSETTIAS: Today will be the final day to order Poinsettias for Christmas. See Roxie.

NEWSLETTER: All articles for the December Newsletter are due in the office by Friday Nov 25.

YOUTH & FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER: Postponed, Future date to be determined.

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

CHARGE CONFERENCE: December 4th, 4pm.

USHERS/GREETERS: Suzanne & Ella Goldsmith

THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:

Sunday: Fresh Expressions 10:30am Tuesday: SPRC 5:30pm

Wednesday: Thanksgiving Eve Service 6:00pm

Black River Falls United Methodist Church



UMC 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 ORGANIST MUSIC DIRECTOR Rev. Inwha Shon Matthew Schluntz Amanda Lang

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