

## Congregational Hymn Selection Today

This morning's hymns will be chosen *by you*. During the service, you'll be invited to call out the titles of hymns you'd like us to sing together. Whether it's a longtime favorite, a seasonal classic, or a song with personal meaning, we welcome your voice in shaping our worship.

*Let's lift our songs as a community and see where the Spirit leads...*



## We Are a Church That Prays

We invite you to share your prayer concerns and joys with us. Pink prayer cards are available in the pews—please fill one out and place it in the Offering plate or in the prayer box located near the sanctuary doors.



Our pastor and dedicated prayer team will lift up these requests in prayer throughout the week.

## Share the Love!

**Give a Christmas gift to Dinner Church or Friends Sharing Food. Pick up an envelope from the Giving Tree.**



Make checks payable to BRF UMC (memo: Dinner Church or Friends Sharing Food). Return envelopes to the offering plate or church office by Dec. 28.

Sponsored by the Mission Outreach Committee.



## Dinner Church

There will be no Dinner Church on Wednesday December 31st.



**Dinner Church will resume on Wednesday January 7, 2026**

**Thank you for supporting this important community outreach!**

***We have served over 7,800 meals in 2025***

## 365 Days Bible Reading Plan Completed!



We celebrate and congratulate everyone who completed the 365 Day Bible Reading Plan this year! Your dedication, perseverance, and desire to grow in God's Word are truly Inspiring!

**The Church Office will be closed on New Year's Day**

**Thursday January 1st**

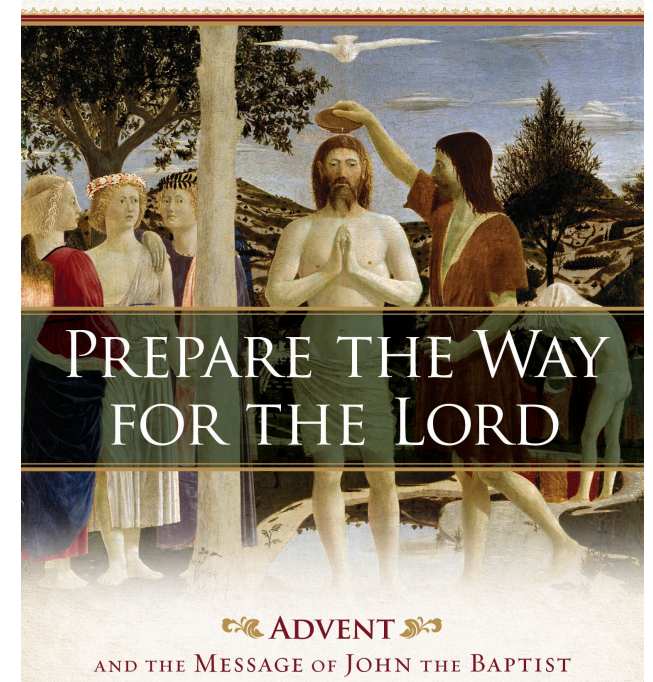


## Upcoming Meetings

No Mission Outreach meeting today. Next meeting is Sunday January 25th.

Ushers: Suzanne Goldsmith & Luane Meyer  
Fellowship: Ella & Suzanne Goldsmith

## 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  
Pianist: Carol Prindle

100 North Fourth Street  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Phone: 715-284-4114

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 8am-1pm

Website: brfumc.org YouTube: brfumc

Facebook: Black River Falls United Methodist Church

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

First Sunday after Christmas December 28, 2025 9 AM

Liturgist: Dan Brauner

PRELUDE

Carol Prindle

### INVITATION AND GATHERING

\*CALL to WORSHIP (Isaiah 40:1-5 and 43:1-3)

L: Beloved, we have waited, watched, and witnessed the coming of the Christ child. As we gather today on the other side of Christmas, we might be tempted to ask, "What now?"

**P: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.**

L: In this season of Christmas, we remember that though Christ has come among us, the good news of freedom for captives, flourishing for the poor, and power returned to the disempowered does not reign in so many places.

**P: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.**

L: With Mary and Joseph, we listen for God to show us how to protect and advocate for the vulnerable among us.

**P: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.**

L: As we gather to worship today, may God bind us together in love, empowering us to live as followers of the Christ child who declare good news wherever we go.

**P: We gather today as people who wait, watch, and work for the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Isaiah 63, Hebrews 2, Matthew 2)

**God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

### OPENING HYMN

#### PRAYER of CONFESSION

**We come to you this day, gracious Lord, exhausted from all the activities of the season. It seems that we spend so much energy, time, and resources in preparation, and then when it is over, we collapse. We wonder what happened to all the enthusiasm we had. Lord, forgive us for placing our energies in getting and gathering. Give us peace and strength to renew our commitment to you. Remind us again to look around at the many ways in which we can be of service to you by serving others. Help us move forward in our compassion and not collapse in our witness. Heal us, merciful Lord, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

#### WORDS of ASSURANCE

Though the world swirls around you and exhaustion threatens to overtake you, rest your spirits in the great God of all creation who is with you now and forever! God will give you strength and restore your spirits. AMEN.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

##### 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.**

#### PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

##### SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not**

overcome it.

**<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.**

**<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

\*HYMN

MESSAGE

Rev. Shon

*Witnesses, Testifying to the Light*

### THANKSGIVING & SENDING FORTH

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Just as visitors from the East brought gifts to the Christ child, we too are invited to bring gifts to Christ's church in service of God's work in the world. Any gift of love is a gift of gold.

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH #204

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Shon

\*CLOSING HYMN

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Shon

POSTLUDE

Carol Prindle

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service*