



July 5, 2020
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all you who carry heavy burdens, and Christ will give you rest.

People: For he is gentle and humble in heart: in him we find rest for our souls.

Leader: Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Author of life, you cast your glory all around us; you reveal yourself in ancient stories and the give-and-take of common life. By the power of your Spirit, come to us now, for you have called us to worship you. We pray in the name of Jesus — our hope, our confidence — and your beloved Son. **Amen.**

HYMN

“Trust and Obey”

**RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Therefore, let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up and receive grace and mercy from God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *Spoken and Silent (After the corporate Prayer of Confession, please take a few moments of silence to individually confess our sins to God.)*

Merciful God, you reveal your will to us through the Word and by the Spirit, but we refuse to listen and follow. We do the very things we hate and then feel trapped in guilt and shame. We long to know the abundant life Jesus came to give, but neglect to take up his yoke and learn from him. Forgive us for not doing that which we know to do. Forgive us for not being who you call and create us to be. Accept our confession and free us yet again from the burdens we can no longer bear. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus said: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 145:8-18

SCRIPTURES

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Romans 7:15-25

MESSAGE *Stories of Creation: Family Stories*

Rev. Piper Cartland

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

MINUTES FOR MINISTRY

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER

HYMN “There Is a Place of Quiet Rest” Hymnal 824, v.1-3

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S
PRAYER (we say *sin*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER

GOING INTO THE WORLD

HYMN "Blessed Assurance" Hymnal 839

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Announcements

The **prayer deacon** this week is Paige Saylor. You can email or text her any prayer requests that you would like Piper to mention during the Pastoral Prayer. If you need her cell number, please call the church office. Paige will also be watching the chat on the Sunday livestream and text any requests to Piper. Please remember that those comments are part of the live broadcast and visible to whoever is watching.

Please remember to visit the "**Ways to Give**" tab on the church website: www.erpresbyterian.org

- 1) Donate online with a credit card by clicking the link from our website.
- 2) Visit your local bank or your bank's website and set up a recurring electronic payment.
- 3) Checks can be mailed to PO Box 771337 Eagle River, AK 99577-1337.

Sunday School Gathering: We are trying again! The weather this weekend promises to be beautiful, so we are going to try again for a Sunday School/Youth playdate at Loretta French Park in Chugiak at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Bring soccer balls, bikes

and skates for the skate park, and let's have fun in the sun together!

Front Porch Visits: One of the most difficult aspects about this prolonged period of being out of our building is the lack of contact with each other. The pastor, elders and deacons want to help alleviate that a little by starting Front Porch Visits. If you'd like a visit, please call or email the church office and we will call you to arrange a time for Piper and an elder or deacon to come for a brief visit – on your front porch or in your yard, physically distant and masked – just to catch up. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Building Re-opening: At the Session meeting June 30 the Session had a great discussion about when and how to reopen the building for worship. Given the current virus surge in Alaska and around the nation we don't feel it's wise or safe to resume face-to-face worship this month. We will meet again next month to re-evaluate the situation and will continue our Livestream worship for the present. As a reminder: to access worship please either click the link in the email, visit the church Facebook page and look for the latest video, or go to the church website (www.erpresbyterian.org) and follow the 'Streaming Worship' link. You'll be directed to the Facebook page and can watch from there. If you don't want to go to Facebook, either access the website through Google (not the link) or keep closing out Facebook and click on the video link on your screen. You may have to do it several times to get it to work.

Garden update: We are still in need of eggshells and bags of coffee grounds from Starbucks. If you happen to be near Starbucks, they set aside large silver bags of coffee grounds, usually by their door, for gardeners – you can grab one for the church and leave it by the big rock next to the garden beds.

The July/August **Upper Room** devotionals are available. They will be outside the office, or you can come by during office hours to get a copy.

The Trustees have a list of **volunteer tasks** that can be completed on your own time, or even at your home. Please contact the office or Dale Berry for the updated list.