

August 23, 2020
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You, who are many, are transformed to become one in Christ.

People: We, who are many, are called to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for where the presence of God is there is joy and praise.

Leader: Let us worship God together!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Ever-present God, who is at the side of every creature in creation, renew our lives so that we may discern and do your will, what is good and acceptable and perfect. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" Hymnal 438 v.1,3,4

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Confident in this ever-gracious, never-failing help, we come before the Lord, confessing our sin and seeking forgiveness.

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.)*

Leader: Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?"

People: We call you the Son of the Living God. But we do not trust you to be at work in our world here and now.

Leader: Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?"

People: You are the Messiah, who delivers us from death to life. But we doubt your power to transform our lives.

Leader: Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?"

People: We profess you are the Christ, the Lord of our lives. But our attention often wanders and our loyalty is tested. Forgive us. Help us not only to proclaim you, but to follow your way of justice and peace.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,

People: we would now be lost in sin.

Leader: But it is the Lord who is on our side, so we are forgiven.

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Penelope Hobbie

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 124

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 1:1-2:10

Matthew 16:13-20

Romans 12:1-8

SERMON

Stories of Creation: Creative Worship

Rev. Piper Cartland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER, followed by The Lord's Prayer (we say *sin*)

MINUTES FOR MINISTRY

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

HYMN "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" Hymnal 353 v.1,3,4

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Announcements

The prayer deacon this week is Emily Berry. You can email her any prayer requests that you'd like Piper to mention during the pastoral prayer.

The Session met on August 17th and discussed ERPC's building and worship status. We are going to continue with online worship only at the present time. We will look at the situation again at our next meeting on September 15th.

The Sunday school children will meet this Thursday August 27th at 7 pm to help **harvest the garden beds**. Wear a mask and be ready to get a little muddy!

We will have a parents' meeting at the same time to talk about fall Sunday School. We have plans but we need your input, parents - please join us and let's talk about the details of our Sunday School program. Questions? Call Whitney or Piper.

A few **volunteers** are needed to help with overhead electrical and miscellaneous interior tasks, this Saturday August 29, 9am to 1 pm. Please contact the church office if you can make it. Thank you.

We are collecting **school supplies** for Fire Lake Elementary! Please see the website for the list. You can bring supplies to the church during office hours, 9-12:30, M-F. If you need to drop off items after hours, please contact the office for the door code. We plan to sort the donations on Sunday, Aug 30 and deliver to the school Monday the 31st.

We are still **harvesting vegetables** from the church garden on Saturday mornings at 11 am and Monday and Thursday evenings at 7 pm. Please contact Brent Koenen if you would like to help.

Front Porch Visits: If you'd like a visit, please contact 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!

Here are some ways you can keep up with your financial stewardship:

- 1) Donate online with a credit card by clicking the link from our website: www.erpresbyterian.org.
- 2) Visit your local bank or your bank's website and set up a recurring electronic payment. Your bank may require the church's account number. Please call the office for that information.
- 3) Checks can also be mailed to PO Box 771337 Eagle River, AK 99577-1337.

