

October 4, 2020
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE "Near the Cross" Larry Baumgartner
WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God;

People: the skies proclaim the Creator's handiwork.

Leader: They have no speech, they use no words,

People: yet their witness goes out through all the earth.

Leader: Let us join the chorus of creation; let us raise our voices in resounding praise.

People: May the words of our mouths and the songs of our hearts be pleasing to the Lord!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from your mouth. Give us a hunger for your Word, and in that food satisfy our daily need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN "How Firm a Foundation" Hymnal 463 v.1,2,5

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us boldly confess our sin before the One who already knows our errors and is gracious to forgive our hidden faults.

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.)*

God of the Covenant, long ago you gave us the law to guide us in the ways of righteousness. When we wandered, you called prophets to beckon us toward faithfulness. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to heal our brokenness and draw us close to you. But, time and again, we reject your gift of grace. We bow before the false gods of our world and forget your command to serve the least of these. Forgive us, Lord. Come to us again, we pray, and set us on right paths. Root out habits that separate us

from you and sow within us seeds of mercy and love so that we might produce the fruits of your kingdom.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: People of God, hear this good news: righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing. Righteousness comes from God, by faith.

People: Through the faithfulness of Christ, our Lord, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mike Wright

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 19

SCRIPTURES

Exodus 20:1-20

Matthew 21:33-46

Philippians 3:4b-14

MESSAGE **Thriving in Spite of Everything**

Rev. Piper Cartland

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! 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 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hymnal 223 v.1,2,4
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 "O Word of God Incarnate" Hymnal 459
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.

Wednesday Night Bible Study will meet this week at 6:30 pm on Zoom. We are beginning a new study on Religion and Politics. If you'd like to join us, please let the office know and we will email you the curriculum.

Sunday School will meet Monday afternoon at **4:30 pm** at ERPC. Please note the time change!

The Trustees have posted pictures of several "mini-projects" on the church website www.erpresbyterian.org. Go to the Construction Update tab for these volunteer opportunities. If you are able to help, please contact the office or Dale Berry.

Hiland Mountain Correctional Center is looking for clothes and shoes for women who are in the process of being released from incarceration. They particularly need coats, hats and gloves, and winter-weight shirts and pants. You can drop your donations in the box at church during office hours (Monday-Friday, 9 am - 1 pm) and we will get them to HMCC. You can also take them directly to the prison. Please make sure the clothes are clean and the pockets are empty.

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.

