

November 8, 2020
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE
WELCOME

Larry Baumgartner

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve.

People: We will serve and obey the Lord our God.

Leader: Stand firm and hold fast to your faith.

People: God will strengthen us in word and deed.

Leader: Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Eternal God, you are our hope and our salvation, for in Jesus Christ you have conquered death. Baptized in him, we are raised to new life. Increase in us our faith and keep us watchful, that we may welcome Christ with joy when he comes to set the whole world free. **Amen.**

HYMN "Seek Ye First" Hymnal 175

**RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus and his righteousness. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin that we might find forgiveness and new life in Christ.

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.)*

Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder and glory. You are our strength and our delight; you give us all we need to live. Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping for more. Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness. Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news: Nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Believe the gospel! We are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 78:1-16
SCRIPTURE Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Matthew 25:1-13
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

SERMON **Thriving in Spite of Everything~Prepared for Service**
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 "It Is Well With My Soul" Hymnal 840

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Announcements

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

It's time to clean out your closets! We are collecting gently used winter clothing for inmates being processed for release at **Hiland Correctional Center**. There is a box located in the Narthex. Please be sure items are clean and pockets are empty.

Thank you to those who have contributed - we have made three deliveries to the prison so far!

Thanks to all who brought in boxes of stuffing and packets of gravy for the **Thanksgiving Blessing** - we have reached our goal of 100 of each!

The **Mail for Our Military** campaign is happening once again. We are providing uplifting Christmas cards to our military members stationed overseas. There are a few blank cards in the Narthex, or you can use your own cards--no glitter please! The deadline to return them to the office is November 13.

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.