



November 22, 2020
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Larry Baumgartner

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Leader: For the Lord is a great God;

People: a great ruler over heaven and earth!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of majesty, you love us with an everlasting love and show us the way to justice and peace. In Jesus Christ you have reconciled the whole world to you and claimed us as your own, that we may live as his body on earth and, with all the saints, enter into your glory on the last day. **Amen.**

HYMN "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Hymnal 267

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

With sincere and repentant hearts, let us name our sins against Christ and one another.

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.)*

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You guide us toward right paths, but we refuse to follow where you lead. You love and feed and care for us, but we fail to love and serve others. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: However long we wander, however far we stray, God's steadfast love endures forever. Sisters and brothers, be assured: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 100

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Matthew 25:31-46

Ephesians 1:15-23

SERMON **Thriving in Spite of Everything~The Last Word**
Rev. Piper Cartland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

HYMN Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Hymnal 367

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

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

Leader: We praise you, great God, for you are ruler of the universe, and have sent your Son to be King of kings. We rejoice that he has triumphed over all the powers of this world, and governs the nations with righteousness and justice. We celebrate the victory of his life, death, resurrection, and ascension to rule at your side.

People: By your Spirit, claim our complete loyalty, and establish Christ's reign of peace in every land and in every heart. Accept the offering of our lives in the service of Christ's kingdom. He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

HYMN "Crown Him With Many Crowns" Hymnal 268

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Announcements

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

Advent begins next Sunday November 29th. This year we have combined the Advent Candlelighting liturgy with the Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation. The Sunday School children and youth will record that part of the service for our worship every week. We will still need a layleader each Sunday to record the Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Forgiveness and the Psalm. If you'd like to participate in worship in this way, please let Piper or the church office know.

Volunteers are needed on Sunday, November 29, to help clear out the church's storage unit. We will meet at the church at 1pm. People with trucks and/or trailers are especially needed, but we can use helpers to unload the trucks and carry things inside. We'll be bringing the items through the back door into the Fellowship Hall and leaving them there for now. If we get plenty of help, it should only take an hour or two!

Thanks to all who participated in the **Mail for Our Military** campaign. ERPC contributed 297 Christmas cards this year.

Wednesday Night Bible Study is taking a brief break. We will resume at 6:30 p.m. on December 2 with an Advent study called *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. If you'd like to join us please let us know and we will email you the curriculum. We are still meeting on Zoom.

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.

