



February 21, 2021
GATHERING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE
WELCOME
CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We have entered the season of Lent, a time to examine our hearts and our lives

People: and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.

Leader: Let us lift up our souls to our merciful God

People: and humble ourselves in God's service.

Leader: God has marked us as beloved

People: and called us together to worship.

Leader: Let us praise him!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, you have made covenant with us and with every living creature. We give thanks for the sign of the rainbow, for it reminds you and us of your promise: that the flood of destruction will not be the last word. We thank you, too, for the waters of baptism, the sign that we are raised as children of the covenant; through Jesus Christ our Lord. And we thank you for the sign of the dove, the promise of your Holy Spirit. Hovering over the dawn of creation, descending upon your beloved Son, your Spirit also hovers over and descends upon us. With the whole creation, we give you all glory and honor. In your triune name we pray.

Amen.

HYMN "This Is My Father's World" Hymnal 370

**RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's bow has been hung in the clouds – an eternal reminder of forgiveness in spite of our sin. God remains faithful to the

covenant of steadfast love, even when we are not. Without fear, then, let us confess our sins before God 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.)*

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Teach us your commandments; help us to turn from evil in its many guises, and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near. In covenantal love, remember us, we pray, and be for us, once more and always, an ark of safety and new life. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

As Noah and his family were brought safely through the flood onto dry ground, so in baptismal waters we are brought from death into new life in Christ. Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on earth.

People: Thanks be to God for this good news!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 25:1-10

SCRIPTURE Genesis 9
 Mark 1:9-15
 1 Peter 3:18-22

SERMON *Lent Series: Covenant People
 Remembering the Rainbow*

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 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" Hymnal 166

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Announcements

Month-to-Date Undesignated Income ----- \$11,820.00

Month-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$16,173.78

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.

Wednesday night Bible study will resume on March 3 with a Lenten study, *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*. We have a few extra books available, so if you would like to join, please let the office or Piper know.

Next Sunday, February 28th, will feature the second-ever **Presbytery-Wide worship service** offered online. The move to digital worship due to pandemic restrictions also provided an opportunity for all the churches of the presbytery to join together at the October meeting. This proved to be such a welcome connection for so many church members that we are doing it again! The churches of the presbytery will gather once again for worship, with leaders and musicians participating from across the whole region. This service will be offered via Facebook Live at this

Presbytery of Yukon Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofYukon> . It will also be available on Zoom, so if you prefer to join on that platform, please contact the office and we will give you the link.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with operating the **sound system for worship** on Sunday mornings. Because we are live-streaming from the sanctuary with a live lay leader, it now takes two people to operate all of the equipment. If you can operate an iPad you can operate the sound system and we will provide training. You will be able to be masked and maintain social distancing throughout. If you're interested in helping please contact the church office or Paul Cartland.

We are offering a **new member class** during March! If you've been thinking about joining our congregation or have questions about membership, please join us! We are still working out the details, but the class will most probably be virtual for an hour on Sunday afternoons. If you have questions, please talk to Piper.

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.
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