**GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

*Please take a moment during the Prelude to silence your cell phones and quietly prepare yourself for worship.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*Leader: Please stand as you are able and join me in our Call to Worship*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 40: 5-11)

Leader: Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done,

the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

**People: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—but my ears you have opened—burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.**

Leader: Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—it is written about me in the scroll.

**People: I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.**

Leader: I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, Lord, as you know.

**People: I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help. I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness from the great assembly.**

Leader: Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord; may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

*Let us Pray*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

For some reason, O God, you fling your arms wide open to us yet again. Each Sunday; each day; each moment of our lives, your grace greets us in measures beyond our ability to accept. We thank you for this day and this time to remember that there is not, never has been and never will be anything that we can do to separate us from your love. There is nothing we can ever do to make you love us less. Thank you, Father. Amen.

*Let us invite the Spirit into this place with our opening hymn #36*

\*HYMN “For the Fruit of All Creation” Hymnal **36**

**RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM**

**GOD AND EACH OTHER**

The prodigal said, “I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your child.’ ” Let us, like the prodigal, come to our divine Parent, and seek forgiveness for our sin.

*Leader: Let us Pray together*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**We are wayward, O Lord. We look at the world you provide for us and too often we think of the world we wish we had instead. And so, we set off with our inheritance to chase the world we want instead of cherishing the mountain of blessings that surrounds us. That chase leads us to ash and dust in our mouths. So we come back to you today begging your forgiveness and trust in your grace. Hear us as we lift up our personal confessions.**

*Leader: We take a time of silence now to open our hearts to the Lord*

*(Wait about 15 seconds and then say “Amen”)*

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader : Friends, beloved children of God, you were forgiven before the words of repentance could even form in your mind. Welcome home. Be at peace.

**People: Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

**HEARING THE WORD**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURELuke 15:1,11-24 Pew Bible **p.740**

MESSAGE *Pastor Blake Severson*

\*HYMN “Amazing Grace” Hymnal **649 v.1-2**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

MINUTES FOR MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\* “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Hymnal **606**

**GOING INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN “Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing” Hymnal **475**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

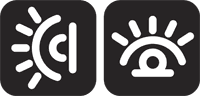
POSTLUDE

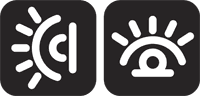
\**Those who are able please stand*

WELCOME to worship – we are glad that you’re here! If you are visiting today and would like to share your contact information, there are welcome cards in the pew pockets. Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate. Everyone is invited to stay for coffee, snacks, and fellowship in the narthex after worship.

A person hugging another person

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LARGE PRINT HYMNALS with a black cover are on the small bookcase in the rear of the sanctuary.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available. Please request one from the Sound Tech at the sound desk.

A logo for a childcare provider

Description automatically generated with low confidenceChildren up to Kindergarten age are welcome in the nursery. There are clipboards with coloring pages in the narthex if your children wish to stay in the sanctuary.

The October communion table flowers are sponsored by Suellyn Novak.

***Eagle River Presbyterian Church***

***October 15, 2023***



**Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church**

*October 15, 2023*

**Weekly Walk**

#### Sunday 10:00 am Worship

**Sunda y 10:15 am Sunday school, k-6th grade**

**Tuesday 7:00 pm Session meeting on Zoom**

**Wednesday 9:00 am Women’s Coffee hour @ church**

Last week’s In-Person Attendance --------- 42

Year-to-Date Regular Income ------------ $163,548.61

Year-to-Date Regular Expenses --------- $168,300.10

Friday, **October 27** will be our chili cook-off, followed by game night! Festivities will begin at 5:30 pm.

**November 1-5**, we will be hosting volunteers for the Kairos Prison Ministry at Hiland Mountain Correctional Facility. Kairos volunteers will borrow our kitchen to store and prep food for the retreat, before transporting it to the prison. A few volunteers from our congregation are requested, to help prep and transport food. Please let the church office know if you are interested.