

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

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

WELCOME

MINUTES FOR MINISTRY

PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader 1: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace. Peace not just in our time, but for all time.

Reader 3: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather to worship and glorify God. Amen.

**Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

### PRAYER OF INVITATION

\*HYMN                      "O Come, All Ye Faithful"                      Hymnal 133

### RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM GOD AND EACH OTHER

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you love justice; why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing and every form of evil? You have given us the gift of your Spirit; why, then, do we quench the Spirit among us? You have given us the words of the prophets and the Word himself; why, then, do we despise and ignore what we have heard from you? You have sent the light into the world; why, then, have we loved darkness rather than light? Forgive us. Restore us.**

### \*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader : In Jesus Christ, the Lord has done great things for us! Even if we have gone out in tears, God brings us home shouting for joy. Thanks be to God: we are forgiven!  
**People: Amen.**

## HEARING THE WORD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### THE GOOD NEWS READ

Luke 1:26-56

Pew Bible p.723

Psalms 126

Pew Bible p.441

### THE GOOD NEWS PROCLAIMED IN WORD AND DEED

Reflection on Mary

Christmas Pageant

\*HYMN "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" Hymnal 100

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

## OFFERTORY

\* "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 606

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### GOING INTO THE WORLD

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**Congregational response: We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life, marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.**

\*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymnal 88

## 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.



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

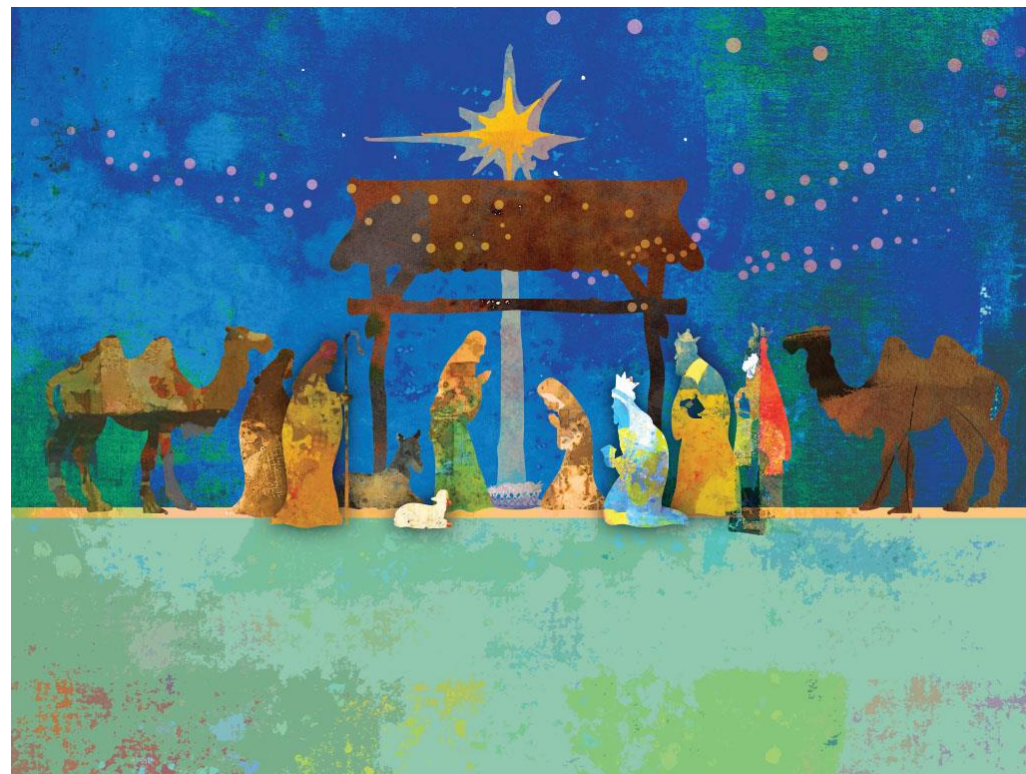


ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available. Please request one from the Sound Tech at the sound desk.

Children 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 December communion table flowers are sponsored by Patti and John Malecha.



*Eagle River Presbyterian Church  
December 17, 2023*



## Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

December 17, 2023

### Weekly Walk

Sunday	9:00 am	Choir rehearsal
Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	11:15 am	Handbell rehearsal
Wednesday	9:00 am	Women's coffee hour @ church
Wednesday	Noon	Zoom Advent Bible study
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Advent Bible study @ church

---

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 41  
Year-to-Date Regular Income ----- \$201,329.93  
Year-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$214,883.55

---

Christmas Eve worship on December 24, will be at **10:00 am and 7:00 pm**. We will have communion and candlelight at both services. The fellowship committee invites everyone to bring cookies to share after the 10:00 am service. Beverages will be provided.



---

We are collecting the **Christmas Joy** denominational offering. Half of the gifts go to assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. The other half goes to help students at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. If you would like to contribute, you may write a check to ERPC and indicate "Christmas Joy" on the memo line. We will send a check to the PC(USA) for the entire amount collected, in early January.



## Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

December 17, 2023

### Weekly Walk

Sunday	9:00 am	Choir rehearsal
Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	11:15 am	Handbell rehearsal
Wednesday	9:00 am	Women's coffee hour @ church
Wednesday	Noon	Zoom Advent Bible study
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Advent Bible study @ church

---

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 41  
Year-to-Date Regular Income ----- \$201,329.93  
Year-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$214,883.55

---

Christmas Eve worship on December 24, will be at **10:00 am and 7:00 pm**. We will have communion and candlelight at both services. The fellowship committee invites everyone to bring cookies to share after the 10:00 am service. Beverages will be provided.



---

We are collecting the **Christmas Joy** denominational offering. Half of the gifts go to assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. The other half goes to help students at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. If you would like to contribute, you may write a check to ERPC and indicate "Christmas Joy" on the memo line. We will send a check to the PC(USA) for the entire amount collected, in early January.





The poinsettias in the Sanctuary today  
are given in honor, or in loving memory, of:



*Charles Sr. & Connie Homan* - Chuck & Linda Homan  
*Harry & Georgette Armstrong* - Chuck & Linda Homan  
*Maggie Ola Rush* - Charles & Roz Rush  
*Ruby Russell* - Charles & Roz Rush  
*Carl Danielson* - Lewis family  
*Erik Lee* - Lewis family  
*Aileen & Myron Lee* - Lewis family  
*Matt Langdale* - Lewis family  
*Cynthia Lee* - Lewis family  
*In memory of family and friends who have  
left us* - Spencer family  
*Ray & Wilma Johnson* - Patti & John Malecha  
*Eugene & Ann Malecha* - Patti & John Malecha  
*Albert & June Kocher* - Sandra Charlton & Karen Ague  
*Everette and Hazel Walters* - Bill & Diane Walters  
*Leo & Elaine Hantz* - Bill & Diane Walters  
*Lloyd & Shirley Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Gary Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Sheryl Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Tom Darnall* - Pam Darnall  
*parents Art & Virginia Redfern* - Pam Darnall  
*Cy & Lois Kiehl* - Ralph Kiehl & Evleen Kelly  
*Maureen and Albert Kelly* - Ralph Kiehl & Evleen Kelly  
*Jay Osslander* - Debbie Osslander  
*In honor of all those who have blessed our lives-*  
Donna & Paul Forward  
*Doris & Bill Davidson* - Dean & Donna Davidson  
*Betty & Ralph Klokkevold* - Dean & Donna Davidson



The poinsettias in the Sanctuary today  
are given in honor, or in loving memory, of:



*Charles Sr. & Connie Homan* - Chuck & Linda Homan  
*Harry & Georgette Armstrong* - Chuck & Linda Homan  
*Maggie Ola Rush* - Charles & Roz Rush  
*Ruby Russell* - Charles & Roz Rush  
*Carl Danielson* - Lewis family  
*Erik Lee* - Lewis family  
*Aileen & Myron Lee* - Lewis family  
*Matt Langdale* - Lewis family  
*Cynthia Lee* - Lewis family  
*In memory of family and friends who have  
left us* - Spencer family  
*Ray & Wilma Johnson* - Patti & John Malecha  
*Eugene & Ann Malecha* - Patti & John Malecha  
*Albert & June Kocher* - Sandra Charlton & Karen Ague  
*Everette and Hazel Walters* - Bill & Diane Walters  
*Leo & Elaine Hantz* - Bill & Diane Walters  
*Lloyd & Shirley Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Gary Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Sheryl Baisinger* - Nancy & Bruce Davis  
*Tom Darnall* - Pam Darnall  
*parents Art & Virginia Redfern* - Pam Darnall  
*Cy & Lois Kiehl* - Ralph Kiehl & Evleen Kelly  
*Maureen and Albert Kelly* - Ralph Kiehl & Evleen Kelly  
*Jay Osslander* - Debbie Osslander  
*In honor of all those who have blessed our lives-*  
Donna & Paul Forward  
*Doris & Bill Davidson* - Dean & Donna Davidson  
*Betty & Ralph Klokkevold* - Dean & Donna Davidson

