

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

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

WELCOME and MINUTES FOR MINISTRY

PRELUDE "Easter Medley" Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Yesterday we thought death had won. Yesterday we thought all was lost. Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

People: But not today. Today we know that love has won. Today we know that hope is real. Today we know that Christ is here.

Leader: We have a reason to hope.

People: We have a reason to sing!

Leader: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia!

Leader: Christ is risen today.

*HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Hymnal 232

*PRAYER OF AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We may weep through the longest nights. We may stare at the empty tomb with more questions than answers. We may run our fingers over the burial cloths and still long for more. But today, we are a people of hope. We believe in new beginnings. We believe that the God who created the world is stronger than death. We believe that Jesus abides among us, healing, teaching, and leaving fingerprints throughout this world. We believe that a tomb could not hold him. We believe that the sun does rise. We believe that Peter was there with questions, awe, and faith the size of a mustard seed. We believe that the story is not over yet, for God is among us. Today we are a people of hope.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Morning Has Broken"
"My Lord What a Morning" Handbell Choir

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM GOD AND EACH OTHER

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

The stone is rolled away! We assume it is a mistake. The angels say, "He is not here!" We assume their news is fake. The women tell the story, but we do not want to hear it. Peter runs to the tomb, but we do not understand. Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb is nothing more than a prank. Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths and still holding tight to death. Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope when you are alive and well in the world. Teach us to see what you see. Unravel the threads of our unbelief. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SPECIAL MUSIC "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Handbell Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:1-12
Hebrews 11:1-3, 32-38

MESSAGE *Pastor Blake Severson*

*HYMN "Amazing Grace" Hymnal 649

EASTER PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONDING TO THE WORD GOING INTO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Be Thou My Vision" Chancel Choir

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*WORDS OF SENDING “Easter Morning” poem by Rev. Sarah Speed
**I cannot stay away on Easter Morning,
 Like Peter, I would run if I could.
 Stop the car, pump my arms,
 take the church steps two at a time, all to know –
 Did it happen? Did it really happen? Is evil no match for love?
 I’d slide down the center aisle. I’d grab the mic to ask
 the angels, the heavens, the children, Were the stories true?
 And in response, the choir would sing, “Alleluia.”
 The children would flower the cross.
 The preacher would tell me the stone was rolled away.
 The people would pass the peace, and welcome strangers,
 and make room in the pews.
 And with faith over doubt, I would hope.
 For I imagine that all of that ordinary holiness would be enough
 for Peter,
 and it would be enough for me.**

*HYMN “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Hymnal 475

BENEDICTION

*HYMN “When Peace like a River” Hymnal 840

POSTLUDE

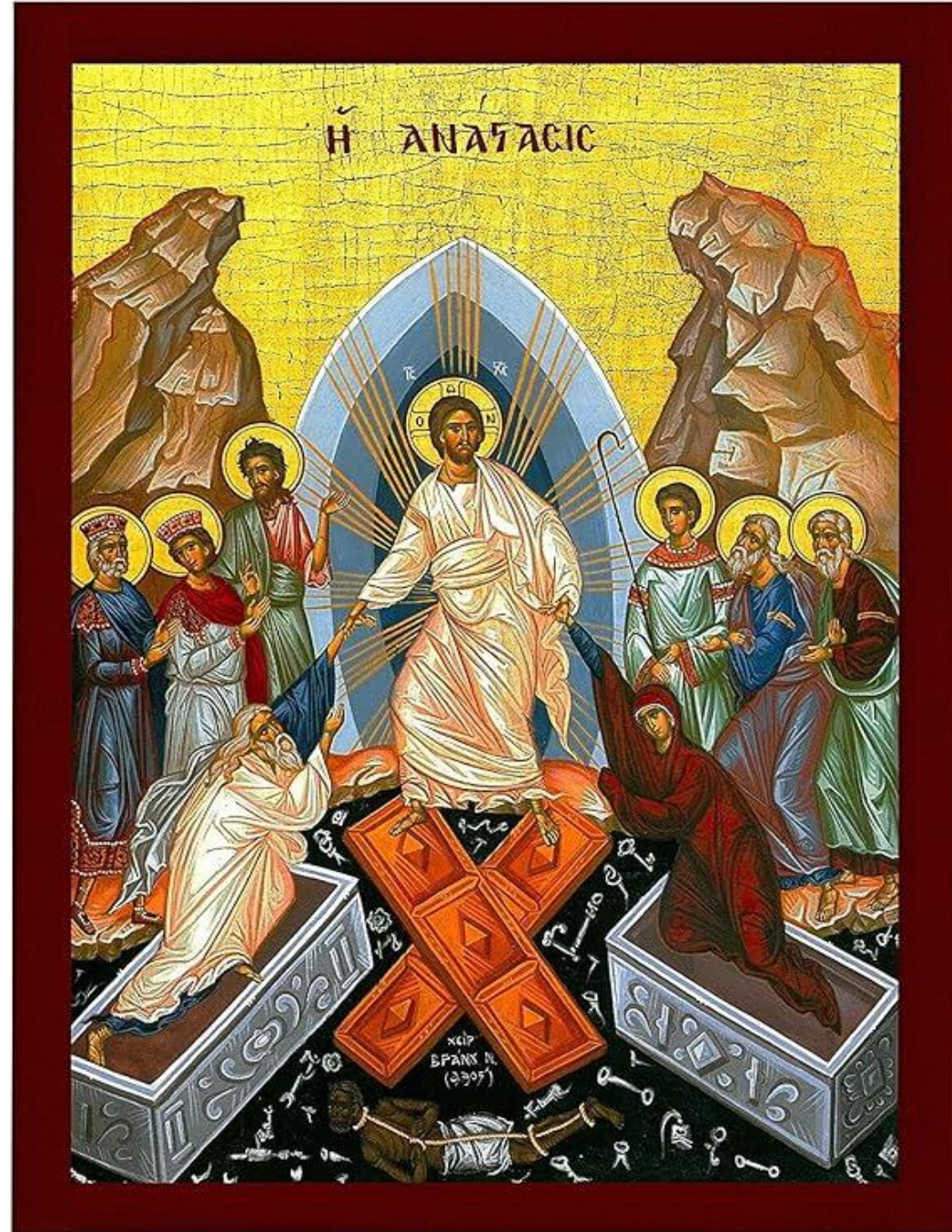
*Those that are able may stand

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.

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.



*Eagle River Presbyterian Church
 March 31, 2024*



Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

March 31, 2024

Weekly Walk

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	11:15 am	Children's egg hunt
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Greater Eagle River Garden Club meeting
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Deacons meeting

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 60
 Year-to-Date Regular Income ----- \$59,091.52
 Year-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$66,478.96

Today we join churches worldwide in receiving the **One Great Hour of Sharing** special offering. The money will go toward projects around the world that help with natural disaster recovery, food insecurity, and injustice and oppression. Please write "One Great Hour" on the memo line of your check.

In our goal of seeking a new long-term pastor, we are still looking for volunteers to serve on a **Mission Study team**. This group will seek to answer three core questions about ERPC:

- 1) Who have we been?
- 2) Who are we now?
- 3) Who do we want to be moving forward?

Please prayerfully consider if you can serve on this team. For more information, contact the office and/or Pastor Blake.

We are putting together an ERPC team for the Alaska Run for Women this year! The event is Saturday, June 8th. Please contact Stephanie Spencer, Mission and Outreach elder, for more information. You can also find out more by going to www.akrffw.org



- Megan Severson
- Rick Kelly
- Debby Carter
- Larry Frick, Jr
- Peyton Lewis
- Connor Frick
- Matthew Toth
- John Luke Anderson
- Linda Kelly
- Ralph Kiehl
- Iola Rasic
- Sharon Frick
- Lisa Anderson
- Olivia Petroccia

Rick & Linda Kelly March 15
 Chuck & Linda Homan March 23

