

## 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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: How did you get here?

**All: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.**

Leader: I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.

**All: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.**

Leader: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.

**All: I crawled, clinging to the earth below me.**

Leader: Tell me again. How did you get here?

**All: I am here by God's grace and love's pull.**

Leader: Welcome home. This is God's house. There is room for you here.

**All: Let us worship our gracious God.**

\*PRAYER OF INVITATION

\*HYMN            "The First Nowell"            Hymnal 147

## RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM GOD AND EACH OTHER

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**God of new beginnings, we admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before. Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread. On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star. Give us the courage to go home by another way. Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor. For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the**

**courage to follow. With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Dear travelers, no matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have every chance to begin again.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

**Matthew 2:1-12**

Pew Bible p.681

**Isaiah 43:1-7, 16-21**

Pew Bible p.514

MESSAGE

*Pastor Blake Severson*

\*HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

Hymnal 463

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (we say *sin*)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (*Gluten-free bread is available on each tray, in a white cup.*)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hymnal 65 v.1

**GOING INTO THE WORLD**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING  
OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD  
OFFERTORY

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMN "Love Has Come" Hymnal 110

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION  
POSTLUDE

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*\*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.

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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  
January 5, 2025*



## Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

January 5, 2025

### Weekly Walk

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
(no children's Sunday school on Communion Sunday)		
Wednesday	9:30 am	Coffee hour @ church

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Last week's In-Person Attendance -----	37
2024 Regular Income -----	\$233,822.28
2024 Regular Expenses -----	\$245,708.90

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At this Wednesday's coffee hour we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. Come and join the undecorating party!



There will be a **Deacons** meeting next Sunday, after worship at 11:30 am. The **Session** meeting this month is one week earlier than usual, on Tuesday, January 14 at 7:00 pm.

Lay leaders are needed! There is a new sign-up on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

We will have our January **congregational meeting** at the end of the month, on Sunday, January 26. The 2024 Annual Report will be presented at that time. The report will be available one week prior, on January 19.



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