

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

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

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 19:29-44 Pew Bible p.743

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On this day, Jesus marched

People: between the city walls and the Temple,

Leader: in between joyful Hosannas and doubtful whispers,

People: in between oppressive poverty and greedy power,

Leader: in between rampant fear and hope unfurled.

People: On this day, Jesus marched in between what had been and what could be.

Leader: So may we meet Christ in that hopeful space.

People: May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.

Leader: Hosanna in the highest!

All: Hosanna in between!

*PRAYER OF INVITATION

*HYMN "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Hymnal 197

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM GOD AND EACH OTHER

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Great Creator, forgive me when I speak before listening, when I speak over my neighbor, when I speak with barbed words.

Creator God, forgive me when I listen to society, when I listen to my friends, when I listen to the news, but I do not listen to you.

Creator God, forgive me when I shout out, but do not shout your name, when I listen, but do not listen for your voice. Forgive me. Create in me a heart like yours. Amen.

Forgive me. Create in me a heart like yours. Amen.

*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, whether or not you stuck to your Lenten goals this year, whether or not this is your first time in church or your thousandth time, whether or not you know to speak to God or listen for God's voice, God listens to you. God is merciful. God is

abounding in steadfast love. There is nothing you could do or leave undone that could keep God from loving you. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven. Not a day goes by that we ever walk alone.

All: Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 22:1-27 Pew Bible p.746
 Luke 23:1-20 Pew Bible p.747

MESSAGE

Pastor Blake Severson

*HYMN "What Wondrous Love is This" Hymnal 215

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 23: 26-46 Pew Bible p.748

*HYMN "Were You There" Hymnal 228

*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.



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.

The communion table flowers for April are sponsored by Scott Bailey.

Bulletin cover artist’s statement:

“A Wide Embrace” by Lisle Gwynn Garrity:

I began this image contemplating Jesus’ posture on the cross. The crucifix inherently spreads its victims’ arms out wide, willing the body into the shape of surrender. There is no fighting back. It forces one to face death with open arms. As I contemplated this, the iconic image of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entered my imagination and my sketchpad. While the Christ the Redeemer sculpture was commissioned and created for several different reasons, I find it striking that the final design evolved into Christ with open arms and hands, intended to be a symbol of peace. In this image, I referenced the Christ the Redeemer statue, drawing Jesus’ dying position into a posture of warm embrace. I omitted his face in order to focus merely on his arms stretched wide. I repeated this pattern four times, which formed the shape of an open cross. As I worked, I realized the image resembles a cross crosslet, which carries as many varied meanings as the crucifix itself. In this image, my intention is to thwart the brutality and violence of the crucifix with the imagery of a wide embrace, which will soon become a symbol of death-defying resistance. *(continued on back of bulletin insert)*



*Eagle River Presbyterian Church
April 13, 2025*



Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

April 13, 2025

Weekly Walk

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	10:15 am	Children's Sunday school
Sunday	11:30 am	Deacons meeting
Wednesday	9:30 am	Coffee hour at church
Wednesday	7:30 pm	Zoom Bible study (final session)
Thursday	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday at CUMC
Sunday (Apr.20)	7:00 am	Sunrise Easter service
Sunday	10:00 am	Easter worship
Sunday	11:30 am	Children's egg hunt

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 36
 Year-to-Date Regular Income ----- \$75,076.68
 Year-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$72,300.34



We are invited to a community **Maundy Thursday service**, sponsored by the Chugiak-Eagle River Ministerial Association, being held at **Chugiak United Methodist Church**, 16430 Old Glenn Hwy. There will be a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm and the worship service at 7:00 pm. On Sunday, our **sunrise service** will be at 7:00 am in the outdoor pavilion in the parking lot, followed by hot drinks and pastries inside. The **Resurrection Sunday worship service** will begin at 10:00 am, and the children's egg hunt will follow.



May 18, Hike to Thunderbird Falls after worship
June 7, Alaska Run for Women - see the flyer by the front door for how to register for "Team ERPC"
June 14, Christian Ed./Mission Garage Sale - donations accepted the week prior



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(artist's statement, continued from the back page of the bulletin)

In the negative space at the center, I placed two sheep. They primarily represent the two men—charged as criminals—who die alongside Jesus on the cross. I depicted them as sheep to recall the parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7) and to portray them as what they are: vulnerable, desperate, helpless. One turns away; he sees Jesus' surrender on the cross as a pathetic and pointless defeat. The other trusts in the promise and sets his eyes on paradise. The one who turns away symbolizes all of the people who defy Christ at the end: those who cast lots, scoff, and mock him. The one who looks straight at us symbolizes all who remain steadfast: the Centurion, those who beat their chests, and those who stay, watching from a distance. In the background, you will see glimpses of newspaper headlines and articles collaged together. In response to the noise and violence of this world, this image is a visual prayer for peace.

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