

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: Tell me something good!

People: God loves you more than you could imagine.

Leader: Tell me something good!

People: God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

Leader: Tell me something good!

People: God's love meets us in this service of worship.

Leader: We are not alone. This is good news indeed!

People: Let us worship our compassionate God.

*LENTEN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

It sounds like welcome and feels like home.

It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.

It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,

so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

I have seen it alive in the world.

And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,

even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one

who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence.

I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable

and inspired those around him.

I remember that the good news really is good news,

for I have seen it alive in the world.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" Hymnal 610

**RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM
GOD AND EACH OTHER**

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book? God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go. Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Faith family, even when we act with judgment, even when we are guided by fear, even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need, God does not turn God's back on us. So join me in this good-news declaration: We are seen. We are forgiven. We are invited to try again.

All: Thanks be to God for this unending love.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:36-50

Pew Bible p.731

Matthew 25:35-40

Pew Bible p.702

MESSAGE

Pastor Blake Severson

*HYMN "Come, Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table" Hymnal 186

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
THE LORD'S PRAYER
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (*Gluten-free bread is available
in a cup on each tray.*)
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 "We Are One in the Spirit" Hymnal 314

*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 with the office, there are welcome cards in the pew pockets. Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate during the collection time. 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 1, 2026*



Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

March 1, 2026

Weekly Walk

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
(no children's Sunday school on Communion Sunday)		
Tuesday	10:00 am	Prayer group
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Garden Club meeting in narthex
Wednesday	9:30 am	Coffee hour at church
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Ecumenical Soup/supper gathering
Wednesday	7:30 pm	Zoom Bible study

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 40

Month to Date Income ----- \$53,870.52

Month to Date Expenses ----- \$36,992.74

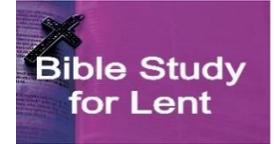
The **Fellowship committee** is looking for people to organize events this year! The activities we have done in the past are: Dinner with Friends, Game Night, a hike, picnic and feed the Chinooks baseball team, chili cook-off and Advent activity, Christmas decorating and cookie swap, taking down Christmas decorations. Any new, fun activities are encouraged as well. Please contact Linda Homan if you are willing to organize a fellowship event this year - even if the event happens later in the year, it is helpful go ahead and get it on the church calendar. Thank you!



Easter Sunday is April 5th this year. We will be collecting donations of candy for the children's egg hunt. If you would

like to contribute, please provide individually wrapped candies small enough to fit in plastic eggs.

There are **Lenten devotionals** available in the narthex. **Zoom Bible study** is meeting weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7:30. The link is always the same, and it will be included in the weekly email each Wednesday. If you would like a digital version of the devotional, please contact the office and one can be emailed to you.



Additionally, there will be an **ecumenical gathering** each Wed. evening during Lent, as there was during Advent. This week, the soup supper will be hosted by Chugiak United Methodist Church. Dinner at 6:30 and a short service at 7:00.

Bulletin cover artist's statement, Rev. Denise Anderson: (edited, see p. 21 of devotional) Throughout Matthew's Gospel, Jesus uses diminutive language to refer to people of importance and describes small, humble things (like sheep, lilies, and sparrows) as precious. He uses a mustard seed in a parable about faith and tells his disciples to be like children. For Matthew's Jesus, little is a big deal! For that reason, we should pay attention to Jesus' use of the word "least" in this text... As I meditated on this scripture, the image of a doorway kept emerging, perhaps because the text wrestles with the notion of who is in and who is out. This piece shows an excerpt of the text and the word "least" is, ironically, the largest. Next to it is a door that is partially open, and there is some ambiguity intended in that. Is the door being opened or closed, and for whom? From the viewer's perspective, on what "side" of the door do they find themselves? Are they being invited in or kept out? Are they doing the inviting or the excluding? ... Where does the Savior see you? Where does your neighbor see you?



Happenings in the Presbytery

(March 2026)

Hello from the Presbytery Office! We want to reach all our members (including you!) to keep you aware of the highlights, joys, and needs of your Presbytery. We also have a monthly newsletter, which you can sign up to receive at www.yukonpres.org.

Community Highlight! We want to fill you in on the happenings in our churches around the state, starting with our Alaska Native Rural Churches.

Chapel in the Mountains, Anaktuvuk Pass:

Commissioned Lay Pastor in Training, Elder Vera Lincoln, has moved back to the community and is leading worship on a regular basis. She is sharing these duties with another volunteer in the community while also encouraging the formation of a session again. Church volunteers are continuing work on needed repairs to the church building while ASRC construction was able to complete several needed projects in the manse. Her husband, Richard, is helping with maintenance at the church building. The church is also excited to welcome Rev. Charley Brower, a United Methodist Pastor who works in partnership with our presbytery, for Good Friday and Easter services. Rev. Brower will also be baptizing several community members while he is with them this spring. Blessings abound.

Meeting Thank You! Many thanks to all who helped with planning, rides, food preparation, and prayer for the February Presbytery Meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Ongoing

discussions are taking place about the timing and location of our next meeting. An *ad hoc* committee is meeting to research and assess various potential alternative ways to meet, including hybrid and/or regional meetings to help manage cost with accessibility and fellowship.

Presbytery Needs! Volunteers are always needed to serve on our various committees or assist with communications and ongoing efforts for increased financial stability. Our presbytery is proud to financially support our Rural churches, but in a time of decreased church giving, we are in great need of increased help.

Prayers and Thanksgivings! Please pray for: Sonia Espinosa Arriaga and her family who were separated and deported this week; our Alaskan neighbors recovering from the impact of severe weather; the Synods of Living Waters, Mid-America, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Northeast; safe travel for those returning home from Presbytery. Let us give thanks for the lengthening days!

Pick.Click.Give. This year, for the first time, the Presbytery of Yukon is participating in Pick.Click.Give. The Presbytery works hard to support all twenty of its churches across Alaska without much Outside assistance, so we encourage you to donate via PCG. As a friendly reminder, apply for your PFD by March 31 if you are eligible. If you have already applied, you can change your Pick.Click.Give donations by logging into myPFD in MyAlaska through August.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions, are able to give of your time or talents, or would just like to stop by the office for coffee! You can easily reach us at office@yukonpres.org.

