

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: If you need good news, settle into this space.

People: We have good news to share.

Leader: If you need a word of hope,

People: then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.

Leader: If you need a glimmer of joy, then you're in luck!

People: We have resilient joy abounding.

Leader: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

People: then know that this is God's house.

Leader: This is the good news of the gospel. God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

People: Let us worship our with-us God!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR LENT

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 "All Creatures of Our God and King" Hymnal 15

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS FROM GOD AND EACH OTHER

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible. 5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope. With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done. We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd. We forget that you are always with us. Forgive our small-minded ways. Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come. But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made, Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them. Jesus still called them beloved. The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news: today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God. We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone. What good, good news.

All: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Mark 6:32-44

Pew Bible p.712

Ephesians 3:14-4:6

Pew Bible p.828

MESSAGE

Pastor Blake Severson

*HYMN "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" Hymnal 761

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

*HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" Hymnal 317

*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.

The communion table flowers for March are sponsored by Lucy Witt.



*Eagle River Presbyterian Church
March 15, 2026*



Welcome to Eagle River Presbyterian Church

March 15, 2026

Weekly Walk

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	10:15 am	Children's Sunday school
Tuesday	10:00 am	Prayer group meeting
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Session meeting
Wednesday	9:30 am	Coffee hour at church
Wednesday	7:30 pm	Zoom Bible study

Last week's In-Person Attendance ----- 31

Year-to-Date Regular Income ----- \$67,354.54

Year-to-Date Regular Expenses ----- \$55,934.39



Today we welcome **Rev. Tim Carrick** to the pulpit. Along with his wife Leisa, Rev. Carrick co-pastors the United Protestant (Presbyterian) Church in Palmer where they have served for 34 years.

We will be providing dinner for the **Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for Families** on March 30. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board, if you are able to help.

Lay leaders are needed. Please sign up on the board by the kitchen. Thank you!



Mark your calendars: Plan to eat at Jersey Mike's in Eagle River on **Wednesday, March 25**. All proceeds on that day will benefit Alaska's Special Olympics!

-The office will be closed this week; however, voicemails and emails are being monitored.

Cover artist's statement: (Rev. Lauren Pittman, pg. 29 of devotional)

I read this Ephesians text alongside the feeding of the five thousand. I placed Jesus at the center of the image, but he did not feed the crowds alone. He asked his disciples to offer what they had. They responded with meager resources, yet those small gifts were enough. Through the lens of Ephesians, if Jesus were to ask us today what we have to give, our answer would be:

We have the power you have given us to do the impossible. The same power that turned five loaves and two fish into a feast for thousands – with leftovers – empowers us “to accomplish far more abundantly than all we can ask or imagine.” Do we allow this truth to settle into our bones and animate our actions? I'll admit, I tried to avoid this passage because it felt overly optimistic in light of today's world. People still go hungry. Wars rage. The earth groans under our misuse. Yet if we reimagine the systems we created, studies show it is possible for every human being to have what they need. That would require massive restructuring, international cooperation, and the reallocation of resources – but not more than we already possess. We don't need a miracle of multiplication. We simply need to use what we've been given. In a world convinced of scarcity, this is astonishingly good news. We already have enough. And as my mentor used to say, “Enough is abundance.” What will we do with this abundance? Is it too lofty to dream of a world that sustains all of life? Perhaps. Yet I believe it is God's own desire that all may have life, and have it abundantly. This is the work before us, accomplished through the power at work within

us, through Jesus Christ. Amen.