February 18, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Deep River

WELCOME

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*HYMN #81 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God: welcome!

People: We know we are welcome to this place of love and grace!

Leader: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

People: God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community;

Leader: God invites all of us to share in the good news:

People: We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

Leader: In gratitude for all of this, let's worship God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. While you have given us all blessings in Jesus, we often tend to focus on our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. We are often wrapped up in self-pity and arrogance, jealousy and greed, negative thoughts and behaviors. All of this stands in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. [... time for personal silent confession ...] Help us honor the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, his crucifixion and resurrection, and your Word. Help us re-invest fully in the mission you've given to all who know Jesus who is the Light of the world. We ask this in his name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

"For Heaven's Sake: A Season of Self-Reflection" "Be Prepared" Scripture: Mark 1:9-15

HYMN #84 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RESPONDING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

To share a joy or concern: Click <u>HERE</u> or use the QR code

OFFERING

To give online: Click <u>HERE</u>, or use the QR code

MUSIC Down To The River To Pray

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

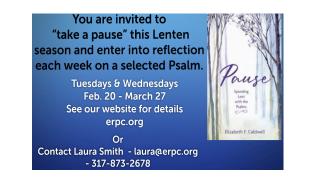
*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE Little Serenade

Some of our worship materials come from:

- Beth Merrill Neel on her blog Hold Fast to What Is Good
- Worship Connection of the Ministry Matters website

Pastor Pat Smith, Pat@erpc.org Levi Walker, Music Director, Levi@erpc.org Laura Smith, Director of Spiritual Formation, Laura@erpc.org Cathy McGee, Executive Administrator, office@erpc.org



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday March 24 at 9:30 Maundy Thursday March 28 at 7 pm Good Friday March 29 at 7 pm Easter Sunday March 31 at 9:30

Session has called our Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 25th right before the end of worship. Session will share the approved 2024 budget. We'll hear brief updates from several ministry areas and elect a Personnel Elder. Plan to attend in person. This meeting will be streamed as part of our worship that morning.