February 25, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*HYMN #361 How Firm a Foundation

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Pilgrims, we are invited to journey through this season of Lent . . .

People: towards the One who calls us each by a new name. Leader: Disciples, we walk with Jesus wherever he leads us,

People: pulling our fears, our doubts, our longings behind us.

Leader: Believers, we seek to trust the God who always surprises us,

People: whose promises take on flesh and blood in the good news called Jesus.

Leader: For these reasons and more, we are here to worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we have sometimes opted for the easy way of habit and social convention, rather than the higher and harder ways of Jesus. Sometimes our choices have been made from rank selfishness, with little concern for those around us, even for those who love us dearly. We have put off decisions, avoiding choice until opportunity has gone by. We have at times made outwardly good decisions for the wrong reasons, driven by selfish motives. [... time for silent personal confession ...] Holy God, Savior and Friend, we thank you that long before we face up to ourselves and frame our confessions, your mercy in Jesus is here waiting for us. May your grace, mercy and peace cleanse, refresh and help us to live more and more in your ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

MUSIC Treasures in Heaven

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

"For Heaven's Sake: A Season of Self-Reflection" "Not Our Own Way" Scripture: Mark 8:27-38

HYMN #404 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

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 HERE, or use the QR code

MUSIC Have Thine Own Way, Lord

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

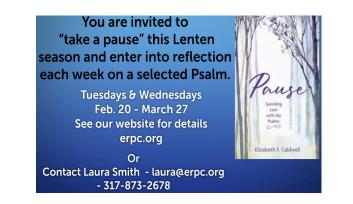
*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Some of our worship materials come from:

- Thom Shuman as posted on his web site Lectionary Liturgies
- Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba

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 today, 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 this morning.