

November 19, 2023

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Instrumental

WELCOME

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*HYMN #559 "We Gather Together"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. God is our rock, in whom we take refuge, our shield and the one who saves.

People: God is our stronghold, our refuge and our savior; for who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God?

Leader: The Lord lives! Praise be to our Rock! May God be exalted, our Rock and our Savior!

People: Therefore we will praise you, Lord, among all people; we will sing praises to your name!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Hear, O Lord, and answer us; for as rich as we may think we are, we confess that we are poor and needy. We wander from your ways in what we do and what we fail to do, what we think and fail to think, what we say and fail to say, the attitudes we have and don't have. We so wish we were more like Jesus. Sometimes it feels as if we have a long, long way to go. [. . . silent private confession . . .] Have mercy on us, O Lord. For to you, O Lord, we lift up our souls. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Anni Davis and Kathy Morrow

MUSIC "Pilgrim" by Enya sung by Jennifer Sydow

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON "God's Reforming Hand:Re-Forming Again"
Scripture: Nehemiah 13:15-22, 30-31

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

Creator God, from the beginning of time, you have revealed yourself as the One who brings order out of chaos. You take what is broken and make it into something new and beautiful. Build and restore us, O Lord. Take the broken-down places of our lives and our world and build them up, not so that we can hide behind walls of protection, but that from places of peace and safety, we can testify to your amazing grace and love that makes all things new. Amen.

RESPONDING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

MUSIC "Autumn Gathering"

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE Instrumental

Some of our worship material is adapted from:

- faithforward.org

Pat Smith, Interim Pastor, pat@erpc.org

Laura Smith, Director of Spiritual Formation, laura@erpc.org

Don Watson, Music Director, don@erpc.org

Cathy McGee, Executive Administrator, office@erpc.org



Thanksgiving Eve
community meal
Wednesday, Nov. 22
Loaves & Fishes



December 3rd at ERPC - A congregational meeting has been called by Session at the end of worship on December 3rd for the purpose of hearing and acting on the report of the congregational Nominating Committee as they present names for Elders, Deacons, Treasurer and Nominating Committee.
