

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

~ Service for the Lord's Day ~
February 25, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

Bold print indicates congregational response.

The Prelude to Worship

Sheri Martin

We acknowledge that our church is on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

Welcome

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship

Scott Pantaleo

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

the courageous and the fearful,

the hungry and the hopeful,

the impatient and the reserved.

God welcomes the young and the old,

the poets and the prophets,

the faithful and the tired,

the curious and the convicted.

Wherever you are on your journey,

wherever your boat is at sea,

there is room for all to gather here.

This is God's house.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

* Hymn # 387

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Scott Pantaleo

Gracious God,

**There are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big.
In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more
energy hiding from storms than looking for you.**

Forgive us for doubting ourselves.

Forgive us for doubting you.

Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.

With hope in our hearts we pray in your Son's name, Amen.

Song

“As the Deer”

**As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee**

CHORUS:

**You alone are my strength my shield,
to You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship Thee**

**You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything**

CHORUS

**I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye**

CHORUS

Children's Message

Susan Boyles

Children are welcome to remain in the service or follow the leaders to Sunday School.

Scripture

Matthew 14: 22-33

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Rescue Me from Danger"

Rev. John Asher

Hymn # 191

"God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength"

Prayers of the People

Response: Lord this is our prayer/praise, **Lord hear our prayer/praise.**

Affirmation of Faith

Inspired by the Belhar Confession in response to racism.

God has reconciled us to God's own self and to one another,
and has made us one community of love.

We celebrate God's gift of unity, and claim it as our calling.

Separation, enmity and hatred are sins that Christ has already conquered;
they have no place here among the beloved of God.

God has given us many ways to enjoy our unity.

We commit ourselves to bless one another.

We will keep the one faith and fulfill our one calling.

We will be of one soul and mind.

We will share one baptism, eat one bread, and drink one cup.

We will confess one Name, and share one hope.

We will bear one another's burdens and build each other up.

We will suffer together for the sake of God's righteousness.

We will pray together and serve God together.

We will fight together against every sin that threatens our unity.

We will use our differences to serve Christ, one another, in the world.

We celebrate God's gift of unity, and claim it as our calling.

Song

"Mighty to Save"

(see insert)

Community Life

* Song "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" (see insert)

* Benediction

* Postlude

Attribution Notes:

Call to Worship and Burden's Prayer By Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Affirmation of Faith: Adapted from the work of Paul Janssen, as found at

<https://www.faithward.org/belhar-confession-prayers-of-commitment/>

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