

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church (USA)

~ Service for the Lord's Day ~
October 10, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Masks required for all regardless of vaccination status.

Vaccinated worship leaders may remove masks while actively leading the congregation.
If you brought your own food and drink, you can remove your mask when actively consuming.

In an effort to create a safe environment,
you may be reminded about our policies while with us.

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

The Prelude to Worship

“God of All My Days”

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.

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship

Ken Emly

In reverence, in wonder, in hope, we gather.

With unsettled questions in our hearts,

With the mystery of God enshrouding us,

Acknowledging that we who were lost are now found and loved,

Let us worship God.

* Song

“Blessed Be Your Name”

(insert)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Forgiveness

You are invited to participate in our Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness, by reading the bold words. We will take a moment for silent reflection partway through.

We are a pilgrim people, accompanied by our God,
who journeys beside us, accepting who we are;
yet goes before us, beckoning us toward who we might become.

**But as we move through our days,
other gods call to us, questions confound us,
direction blurs, indifference lulls; we lose our way.**

So we enter into silence, to discern again the nearness of God, who is our hope and guide.

(Moment for silent individual prayer.)

Sisters and brothers, we can trust God at all times,
for the Holy One is our refuge and our salvation!
So with confidence, let us pour out a shared confession of our hearts.

**We confess to You, steadfast God,
that we wander from the path of love upon which we are meant to walk.
Fears divide us, prejudice hardens us,
violence destroys us.**

But God eternally beckons.

**We turn our hearts again to You,
God of grace and mercy.**

**Forgive us of love that is self-satisfied,
and teach us love that is self - and other - affirming.**

**Forgive us for faith that makes us rush to judgment,
and give us faith that fills us with compassion.**

**Forgive us when our peace is made through divisions,
and unite us in peace that passes understanding.**

We pray, with thanksgiving, in the name of Christ.

Amen.

By God's mercy, our feet are set again upon the path of faithfulness;
our hearts are set again upon the coming of God's realm.

Thanks be to God, our hope and our guide forever!

Song

“Open Our Eyes”

**Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him
Open our ears Lord, and help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus**

Children's Message

Rev. John Asher

For privacy, we limit the video of the children on our live stream. The audio is broadcast.

Sermon

"Questions that Bring Clarity"

Rev. John Asher

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

"The Answer"

Craig Snider

Prayers of the People

Lord, this is our prayer/praise.

Lord, hear our prayer/praise.

Please do not share any identifying information during prayer requests without the appropriate permission of those mentioned. We do include prayers of the people in our live stream.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Praise Song

"This Is Amazing Grace"

(insert)

* Benediction

Rev. John Asher

Postlude

Sheri Martin

Greet someone you don't know following worship this morning!

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Call to Worship: Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

Confession and Assurance: Adapted from the writings of By Rev. Ann B. Day, United Church in Christ Minister and Former Program Coordinator for the Open and Affirming Program of the United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns.

News & Notes

FAITH IN ACTION – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

Faith in Action is a church-wide focus on biblical compassion, service, and sharing Christ's love with others in need. We will do this through home-based and church-based activities on Saturday, October 16th. On Sunday, October 17th, we will celebrate during our service.

Sign-ups close **TODAY, Sunday, October 10th**.

Activity Choices

1) At Home: Tying fringe on quilts for Helping Hand House (fabric provided)

2) In the Fellowship Hall: Assemble IKEA furniture for NW Furniture Bank

3) In the Garage/under canopies: Assemble hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Relief and fill individual bottles of personal care product (shampoo, conditioner, body soap) for Nativity House. Hygiene kits will be assembled first.

BLANKET OF COMFORT Whether you are worshiping in person or with the help of technology, let's build a blanket (paper blanket) of comfort together! This Sunday, October 10th, you will find 8x8 pieces of white cardstock on the Narthex table. We invite everyone to take one home, decorate it that best fits the theme "What brings me peace" or "where have I found God's grace?" Please return your sheet by Tuesday, October 19th. Those that are worshiping at home, we encourage you to use any type of paper, keeping with the 8x8 size.

CANDY CATCH – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 3-5PM With the overwhelming success from last year, we are happy to announce we are bringing it back! This year, we are opening the Catch to the community and bringing back games. This will be a masked event being indoors and out. While we have tubes available, we encourage unique ways of delivering candy to kids. We are looking for donations of small toys and candy. We are also looking for game leaders and candy deliverers. Please contact Brittain Southwell at brittainsouth@gmail.com for more info or to sign up to help.

GOD'S GANG – MONDAYS, 6:30-8PM | YOUTH GROUP – WEDNESDAYS, 7-8:45PM

Contact Jay Kennon, 253-229-1747, jay76kennon@gmail.com for more information!

WAYS TO GIVE On our website, go to: <https://www.sothpres.com/give> to set up your account. On our church app, click on "Give". When you give through the website or app, 2% of your gift goes to the Presbyterian Foundation. There is also a tithing box available on Sunday morning. You can also send checks to: SOTH, PO Box 73426, Puyallup, WA 98373. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office or Ken Emly, Financial Secretary, at sothtreasr@comcast.net.

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

CHORUS

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say .
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

CHORUS

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

**Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

**Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

Chorus

**This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me**

**Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory**

**Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings**

Chorus

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy**