

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

August 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

Ken Emly

A love that never ceases,
A creativity that designed the universe,
A hope that cannot be quenched,
A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost:
These are the things that are of God,
Then let us worship God.

* Song

“Gather Us In”

**Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name**

continued . . .

**We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song**

**Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us anew to be salt for the earth
Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone**

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Ken Emly

Holy God, we confess to you our pain: pain we inflict on others, pain that wakes us in the night, pain of siblings and strangers, pain in this city, this nation, and this world. The pain of unyielding, broken systems.

Lord Christ, enter into our pain: bear the burdens we feel and create. Redeem what is crushing and wrong. By your Spirit, forgive us and heal us, set us free to love and to live. In your Son's name, amen.

Song

"Who You Say I Am"

(see screen)

Children's Message

Rev. John Asher

Children, kindergarten-6th grade, may now go to Sermon Stretch with the leaders, or return to their seat.

Sermon

"White Supremacy"

Rev. John Asher

Song

**"Who Is My Sister? Who Is My Brother?"
Who is my sister, who is my brother?
all those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people, born from the Gospel
sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.**

**Differently abled, differently labeled
widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
Crutches and stigmas, culture's enigmas,
all come together round Jesus Christ.**

**Love will relate us - color or status
can't segregate us, round Jesus Christ:
family failings, human derailings-
all are accepted, round Jesus Christ.**

**Bound by one vision, met for one mission
we claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
Here is my mother, here is my brother,
kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ.**

Prayers of the People

We ask that you only share identifiable information about others with their permission.

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

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic* Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*meaning the universal Christian church—all believers in Jesus Christ

Song

“Great Are You Lord”

(see screen)

Community Life

* Song

“God So Loved”

(see screen)

* Benediction

Rev. John Asher

* Postlude

Sheri Martin

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

Burden’s Prayer: Adapted from the writing of Sarah Diehl.

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