



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

February 4, 2024

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

*\*Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Finale from Sonata No. 6

Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

**Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!**

Know that the Lord is GOD!

**It is He that made us, and we are His; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.**

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,

**and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!**

For the Lord is good;

**His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

\*HYMN 436 (V.1-5)

We Are Your People

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord God, we are your people striving to be a Christ-like neighbor of every nation and race. You call us to the service of humanity in the name of Jesus and we willingly acknowledge that call. But Lord, we confess that it is at times a difficult call. Too often we are distracted by the worldly events in our lives. Too often our attention is preoccupied by our own self-interests and desires. And too often we seem to just run out of steam. Lord, send your Spirit to inspire and invigorate us in following your call to serve – remind us time and again that your will for our lives is to be a servant to all nations and races. In Jesus' name we pray.**

*Silent prayer*

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As we may stumble and fall in our attempts to follow Christ, we can be assured that Jesus is always present to lift us up and will help us move forward in this life and on to the glory that awaits us all through the grace of God. Amen.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:21-31

John 21:15-17

SERMON

Identity and Purpose

Bill Bartlett

ANTHEM

On Eagle's Wings

arr. Mark Hayes  
The Chancel Choir

*Chorus:*

*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who abide in His shadow for life.  
Say to the Lord, "My refuge,  
my rock in whom I trust!"

*Chorus*

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear:  
Under His wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield.

*Chorus*

You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come.

*Chorus*

For to His angels He's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

*Chorus*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

*Please leave your offering in the boxes at the front and rear of the sanctuary  
or make your gifts online or via mail.*

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.**

### \*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### 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.**

## WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

### \*HYMN 343 (V.1-4)

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Friedell

#### Worship Leaders

Bill Bartlett, Guest Preacher

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Ruthann Arras, Liturgist

Ruthann Arras and Jim Middendorf, Coffee Hour Hosts

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed

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