# Service of Worship for the Lord's Day





\*The prayers today were written by Yvette Freter.





Pastor: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness, O God.

People: May we begin to cheerfully worship this morning, from our hearts and with our smiles. May we regard this sacred hour as a time set aside for veneration and devotion. We pledge to be fully present in each moment of this holy day and to look at all around us with the eyes of compassion. Amen.

**HYMN** #401 "Here in This Place"

#### PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

Guide: Eternal Lord, You are so powerful and always in control. In the face of those who would come to destroy and scatter, You attend to those who would neglect us or seek us harm. You gather us together and bring us safely into this fold. You make us fruitful and multiply our numbers. You bring others alongside us to guide and protect us. We can be free of fear and delight in being found by You. You, in turn, inspire us to deal wisely with others by applying justice and righteousness.

People: Gracious God, forgive us where we fail You in this regard. Forgive us for not seeking justice. Forgive us for letting self-righteousness and a severe lack of honesty creep into our minds and spirits. Please forgive us when we do not seek the salvation and safety of others. Hear us now as we humbly pray.

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: You are the Lord, as well as our righteousness. Thank You for inspiring what is right and good through Your Son Jesus Christ and for equipping us to do His work in our homes, communities, and world, so that Your kingdom may be present now and in the age to come. Let us pray for this kingdom to break forth among us by saying the words Jesus taught us. *Our Father, Who art in heaven...THE LORD'S PRAYER" (debts/debtors).* 



#### PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Through Him, we were reconciled to the Father and made righteous. Through Him, we received the promise, the good news of eternal life. May we live on this promise and share it with those who have not met the God of Hope.

People: Thanks be to God!

**ANTHEM** "Our Hymn of Grateful Praise" Joyful Sounds Hand Bell Ensemble

#### PRAYER FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

Pastor: Merciful Lord, You know what it is to come to the place of The Skull. You know what it is to suffer and what it is to feel the pain of watching others suffer on either side. You know the pain of gaslighting when people try to break one's mind; You know the pain of emotional torture, and You know the frustration of enduring times of physical discomfort. But Your suffering, pain, torment, and experiences of frustration make You the most compassionate of Healers. You empathize with us during the trials that we, and others we know, frequently face.

People: Gracious God, thank You for being acquainted with suffering, so You can truly understand what it is when our bodies, minds, and souls are assaulted. Thank You for defeating death and defying the lies of mental anguish. We are grateful that You have brought love, forgiveness, peace, and hope into the world, our bodies, our souls, and our minds. Heavenly Father, please heal us and those we love

- Silent Prayers for others and ourselves. A candle is lit. -

Pastor: Loving Lord, thank You for the power of the Cross which reminds us, not only of the suffering of humanity, but of the power of a resurrected Savior who seeks to comfort and heal us in the perfect timing and providence of His Father. Amen.

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Living Lord, Your words have been transported thousands of miles and through hundreds of years. Open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us today. May the words spoken create mutual understanding and love-filled action for many more miles and years to come. Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

# Jeremiah 23:1-6

1-2 "Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the Lord. Therefore, this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says to the

shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the Lord.

3-4 "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the Lord.

5-6 "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.

ALL: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

#### Luke 23:33-43

33-34 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

35-37 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

38-39 There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the Jews. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

40-41 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

42-43 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

MESSAGE "King for a Day?" Rev. John Stuart, Pastor

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** (see below)

OFFERING "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
God, Whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door:

Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving You by loving all.

#### **DEDICATION**

Lord Jesus, thank You that for all we have freely received from You; help us to give as freely in response. Thank You that we are able to have the pleasure of giving, as well as the happiness of receiving. May these portions of Your gifts to us bless the ministry of the church as it acts as Your hands and feet in this body of believers to the community beyond. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** #363 "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

#### **BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless us and keep us; May the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; May the Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace. In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**POSTLUDE** "The Rejoicing" by G.F. Handel Seth Maples, organ

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Unified in Christ, we actively seek to create harmony in a diverse community through compassion, mutual respect and love.

#### 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 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 the saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Pray for one another...

If you need prayer email us at admin@erinpresbyterian.org

#### **COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Anna Bornhoeft
Jack Draper
Savannah Bilbrey
Lauren Gahan
Chloe Levering
Henry Thomas Ritchie

Peter Freter Connor Quinn
Carson Matthews Carolyn Gahan
Garrett Pittman Emme Ritchie
Konnor Stump Colton Pennington
Keegan Stump Katie Bailes

#### **OUR CONGREGATION**

Evelyn Stuart
Bill Brazelton
Cathy Van Ostrand
Gary Pennington

Debra Poole
The Leckies
Karen Stump

Mary Nelle Cate Agnes Kirby Sonja DuBois Suzanne Levering Larry McKay Kathy Erskine

# FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR CONGREGATION

David Lamb (Stephen Lamb) Brian Leckie (son of Dave and Sara)

**Seth Turnbow** (son of Cynthia and John House) **Jonnette Tucker** (Betty Gibbs)

Terry McKay (Larry McKay) Pat Katel (Evelyn Stuart) Sarah Ryg (Nicola Bone)

Sandra Quinn (Buster Quinn) Lisa Perry (Friend of Stuarts)

Melanie Cobb (Erin McCallum) Barbara Bird (friend of the Kisers)

Phyllis Haulsee (Nicole Waters) Margie & Ron Collins (Suzanne Levering)

# **MILITARY**

Cade Quinn (Son of Buster and Apryl Quinn) Gabe Edwards (Cousin of Buster Quinn) Zach and Noah Enix (Cousins of Nicole Waters)

#### **FOLLOW-UP READINGS**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Zechariah	Zechariah	Zechariah	Zechariah
6:1-15	7:1-14	8:1-11	8:12-23
2 Thess*	2 Thess	2 Thess	1 Timothy
1:1-12	2:1-17	3:1-18	1:1-20

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Zechariah 9:1-17	Zechariah 10:1-12	Isaiah 2:1-5
1 Timothy 2:1-15	1 Timothy 3:1-16	Matthew 24:36-44

#### **BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK**

Jeremiah 23:5 "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land."

God's blueprint for leadership has always been based on wisdom, justice, and righteousness. A leader who displays all of those remarkable qualities encourages the same positive abilities among the people he or she serves. This is why when we choose our leaders, we should take time to look for the presence of those three skills, whether they lead us in government, at church, in education, or even at sports.