WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Prelude

GREETING (BASED ON ISAIAH 52:7) Gary Grimes, liturgist "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns."

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON ISAIAH 55:1-3)
Leader: We gather today, O Lord of Life, seeking fullness.
People: Not the fullness our world offers, but fullness that comes from You.
Leader: Incline our ears to you. Help us to listen so that we may live.
People: Bring us together into the everlasting covenant of your love.

†Song of Praise

HYMN # 501 – GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord of compassion and mercy, we confess that one of Your greatest gifts to us has so often been the source of our greatest trials. You have given us the gift of choice. We can choose between right and wrong, between love and hate. We can take the high road or the low road. We can reach out in your name or we can retreat in the name of selfishness. O Great God of grace, help us to choose with clarity, compassion and commitment. Cleanse us from every wrong and give us the joy of making choices that reflect the abundance of your love and grace. Hear now our silent prayers of confession . . .

Assurance of Pardon Isaiah

ISAIAH 55:6-7

GRATEFUL RESPONSE HYMN # 461 – BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

PASSING OF THE PEACE "May the peace of Christ be with you....And, also with you" *At this time, the congregation may greet each other and exchange signs of peace.*

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

| SCRIPTURE RE | ADING ISAIAH 55: | 8-13 Steve N | /larker, reader | <i>†Song of Dedication</i> | By Oup Love by Christy Neekola verses 1.2 fellowed by sharus |
|---|---|--------------|-----------------|--|---|
| Leader: B | Blessed are those who hear and keep what is written, in the light of Jesus, the Word made flesh. <i>Thanks be to God.</i> | | | *SONG OF DEDICATION | BY OUR LOVE, by Christy Nockels, verses 1-2, followed by chorus |
| People: | | | | ♦CHARGE AND BLESSING | |
| CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | | | | <i>†GRATEFUL RESPONSE</i> | BY OUR LOVE, by Christy Nockels, verse 3, followed by chorus |
| All children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Message. Afterwards, there will be no children's chapel today. We want children to remain with their church family on communion Sundays. | | | | *Postlude | |

(As the children come forward for the Children's message, ushers will also come forward to collect any written prayer requests. Please see the forms located within each prayer rack and raise your hand if you have a prayer request to share.)

| *Song of Faith | BLESSED BE YOUR NAME, Matt and Beth Redman | | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 14:1, 7-14 | | | |
| Sermon | Pulling Up the Shades | Tom Young, guest preacher | | |
| OFFERING | WE EMBRACE GOD'S LOVE | | | |

In response to God's love, we are invited during this moment to reflect on how we might give thanks to God through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures. (During this time, offering plates will be passed down the pews. There is no obligation to give. You may also choose to indicate your presence by placing a blue connect card in the offering plate.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD'S PRAYER, SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Song During Communion

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Communion is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ. You are invited to come forward as the spirit leads you and take a cup of bread nested with a cup of juice. (All of it is gluten-free.) Please give a little space between households as you form a line. Choose any set of nested cups and you may partake of it when you return to your seat. (Those at home, may join us with any bread or juice from your house.)

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD

Those who are able, are invited to stand.

HYMN # 704—WE MEET AS FRIENDS AT TABLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM WELCOME to all our guests. We are glad that you have joined us for worship today! We hope that you feel welcomed and loved. If you are looking for a church home, then we invite you to join us in the mission and ministry at Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Today, our guest preacher is Tom Young. Pastor Tom and Marian are enjoying their retirements after well spent years in the fields of Ministry (Tom) and Education (Marian). They have a daughter and son, both married, and blessed with 5 grandchildren (photos available:). Rev. Young's most recent pastorate, before retirement, was serving at Cherry Park Presbyterian Church, Troutdale, for twenty years.

While our Pastor, Brad Busiek is away on sabbatical until September. If you need to be connected with our deacons, elders, or emergency on-call pastors, please reach out to any of our church leaders or call and leave a message on the church office phone 503-667-6800.

Youth group: Our youth group meets weekly after morning worship every Sunday at 11:30 am until 12:45 pm. The gatherings include games, a snack, a bible lesson, and prayer with the kids. For more information, please contact our youth director, Jed Noles, at 503-484-7325.

Bible Studies:

The Wednesday morning Bible Study will meet this week from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. For more information and the location call Ruth Jones at 503-719-5240. All are welcome to attend.

The Thursday evening Bible Study will meet in the Fellowship Hall from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. For more information call Brenda Haran at 503-317-8251. All are welcome to attend.

PRAYER REQUESTS may be placed in the basket in the foyer before the service begins. Offerings and blue slips may be placed in the plate by the sound system technicians, inside the box by the entry-way double doors, or in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

The food pantry needs volunteers on Fridays from 10 am to noon and on Saturdays from 9:30 am to noon. If you would like to volunteer at our food pantry, please call the church office at 503-667-6800 and leave a message or email Sharon Mutoni at eastcountyfp@gmail.com.

Volunteers are also needed to help out with Children's Chapel and counting the offering on Sunday mornings. Training will be provided and a background check will be required to help with the children. Please contact the church office at 503-667-6800 or smithmemorial@gmail.com if you would like to help in one of these areas.

Please periodically review the volunteer signup charts posted on the wall in the narthex and the hallway next to the door to the Fellowship Hall. If your name is on that list but you are unable to fulfill that responsibility, please find someone to step into your role so that Sunday morning worship can proceed smoothly. As a last resort, if you are unable to find someone to replace you, please email smithmemorial@gmail.com indicating which week and which role you cannot fill.

The **Deacon Offering** will be received today. The ministry of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. The purpose of the Board of Deacons is to nurture the entire congregation to take part in ministries of caring and compassion for all people within our church family, while also reaching out to those in need within our local community.

Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church is currently not requiring masks inside our buildings. However masks are still strongly encouraged for: the unvaccinated; the immunocompromised; people with underlying health conditions such as cancer, heart disease, or diabetes; and people 65 and older.

