

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

GREETING (ISAIAH 43:1-4)

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

✦CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON EZEKIEL 36:25-26)

Leader: I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

People: *The promise is sure. God will give us a new heart and a new spirit.*

✦SONG OF PRAISE

HYMN # 68 – *COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING*

CALL TO CONFESSION (JOHN 1:29 AND A LIST OF SINS FROM A TO Z)

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John describes Jesus as the one who “takes away the sins of the world.” What sins do you see in yourself, or in the world, that you hope Jesus will take away?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (TITUS 3:4-5)

REMEMBERING OR ANTICIPATING OUR BAPTISM

DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY

✦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 with peace.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 1:1-11

Lyn Palmer, reader

Leader: Blessed are those who hear and keep what is written, in the light of Jesus, the Word made flesh.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Message. Afterwards, preschool and elementary-aged children may go to Children's Chapel.

(As the children come forward for the Children's message, ushers will collect any written prayer requests. Forms are located in the pew pockets near the center aisle. Please raise your hand to let the ushers know to collect your prayer request.)

✦SONG OF FAITH

I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER

SERIES: WHEN THE NT CONNECTS WITH THE OT AND ME

SCRIPTURE READING

MALACHI 3:1-3; 4:1-6

SERMON

“STILL STRUGGLING”

Rev. Dr. Brad Busiek

WE EMBRACE GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING

In response to God's love, we are invited 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 or desire to connect by placing a blue connect card in the offering plate.)

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

✦CHARGE AND BLESSING (PSALM 145:9 AND 1 CHRONICLES 16:34)

✦SONG OF DEDICATION

GOODNESS OF GOD, w/m by Johnson, Cash, Ingram, Fielding, and Johnson

✦POSTLUDE

✦Those who are able, are invited to stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

We are glad you have joined us today and hope you feel welcomed and loved! Everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall after worship for refreshments.

Help Partner with Other Churches to Spread the Gospel by Giving to Per Capita!

One of the great things about the Presbyterian Church is that we work together. The ministry of *per capita* connects us with other Presbyterian churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. In addition to your regular giving to SMPC, we ask each person in our congregation to **make an optional one time donation of \$50.00 for the 2025 per capita campaign**. Simply write "*per capita*" on the memo line of your \$50.00 check per person in your household sometime in the next few months. Our goal is to raise \$6,850.00 through our 137 members.

Community Dinner and Planning Meeting, Wed, Jan 15 at 5:30 pm

We have a free meal every 3rd Wednesday of the month to get to know our neighbors. This month, we will have pizza and plan for the next six months. Invite your friends and neighbors to come and share the meal. Please let Pastor Brad know if you would like to help with the planning and use the form link to RSVP so we know how much food to prepare. <https://forms.gle/mzzujRNdauqj4Zd2A>

Thursday Evening Bible Study, 5:30 to 7:00 pm at the Bachelder's home

Pastor Brad will present "How the Bible Came to Be," a three-part study on January 16, 23, and 30. Plan to arrive at 5:30 for light snacks and conversation, followed by the Bible study from 6-7 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact Jon Bachelder or Brenda Haran for more information.

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Randy Bush and to witness to the resurrection will be held in our sanctuary on Sunday, January 19 at 2:00 pm.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 26

Plan to stay for a few minutes after worship for the Annual Congregational Meeting to present the budget, elect new elders and deacons, and approve the pastor's terms of call for 2025.

| REGULAR HAPPENINGS AT SMITH MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Day | Time | Event | Place | Contact |
| 2nd Sunday (1/12) | 11:30 - 1:00pm | Deacon's Meeting | Upper Room | Connie Erickson |
| One Sunday each month | After worship | Sunday Funday | Location varies | Pastor Brad |
| Tuesdays | 10:30 - 11:30am | Gentle Exercise | Fellowship Hall | Linda Murphy |
| Wednesdays | 10:00 - 11:30am | Bible Study | Fellowship Hall | Lyn Palmer |
| Wednesdays | 10:00 - 3:00pm | Sewing Group | Upper Room | Gayle Burke |
| 3rd Wednesday (1/15) | 5:30 - 6:30pm | Community Dinner | Fellowship Hall | Pastor Brad |
| Thursdays | 10:30 - 11:30am | Gentle Exercise | Fellowship Hall | Linda Murphy |
| Thursdays | 5:30 - 7:00pm | Bible Study | Bachelder Home | Brenda Haran |
| 2nd/4th Thurs (1/23) | 12:00 - 2:00pm | Knit and Crochet | Fireside Room | Joyce Botsch |
| Fridays | 9:30 - 11:30am | Food Pantry Prep | Church campus | Julie Weindel |
| Saturdays | 10:00 - 12:30pm | Food Pantry Distribution | Church campus | Julie Weindel |
| 3rd Saturday (1/18) | 1:30pm | Outriggers | Fellowship Hall | Barbara Lintner |

NEXT WEEK'S (JANUARY 19) SUNDAY SERVANTS

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| Greeters | Barbara Grider and Ruth Jones | Special Helper | Steve Marker |
| Ushers | Sandy Wagner and Sonja Flener | Scripture Reader | Geoff Kenway |
| Children's Chapel | Phoebe and Amy Busiek | Refreshments | Deacon Celebration |
| To receive weekly announcements and bulletins via email, subscribe at http://eepurl.com/pNMUP | | | |

WELCOME TO SMITH MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



JANUARY 12, 2025 + BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SMITH MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2420 NE Fairview Avenue; Fairview, OR 97024

www.smithmemorialpres.org + 503-667-6800