

The Presque Isle Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
January 14, 2024



Prelude		Barbara Merryman
Welcoming Music	<i>Walk With Me</i>	Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan
Words of Welcome		Melissa Vance
Introit	<i>Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	PIUCC Choir

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 139)

One: We praise you, O God, for you are our God, and we are your people.

Many: Wonderful are your works, O God, we know them very well!

One: Search us and know us, Creator, remove us from shadows into your presence.

Many: Wonderful are your works, O God, we know them very well!

One: Place your hand upon us, Gracious One, as we worship you and minister in your name.

Many: Wonderful are your works, O God, we know them very well!

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Sovereign One, we acknowledge your presence among us. Stir up the gifts you have planted among us. Hold us in your care and present a mirror before us so that we may know ourselves as you have known us. Strengthen us in your mercy and let your grace propel us to renewal and righteousness. Lift us so that we might arise in spirit and in truth for your glory. Amen.

Opening Hymn *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

Two-Minute Message Who Are Our "Kin"?

Prayer of Transformation and New Life Sara Harvey

Holy God, You have created us in your holy and divine image. We pray to reflect your goodness in the world. We confess that we have engaged in actions and attitudes contrary to your kingdom, and we ask for wisdom, guidance, and fortitude to be the people you have called us to be. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved creation of God, the Holy One knows you fully, completely, and affirmative from the secret places of your innermost parts. Receive the knowing as a gift of assurance that God's grace is sufficient for new life. God will abide with us as we strive to follow the way of Jesus Christ.

Musical Offering *Be Thou My Vision* PIUCC Choir

Scripture Reading **Psalm 138:1-6. 13-18** Daniel Jackson

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

³ You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Psalm 139:13-18

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

Reflection

Inescapable

Daniel Jackson

Reflective Music

Barbara Merryman

Reception of Offering

The generous life rests on gratitude and trust in God's abundance. As we give, we acknowledge that we have communally received more than enough to meet our collective needs. Our offerings serve to realize the reign of God's kingdom on the earth.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Generous God, cultivate and nurture gratitude and trust in us. May our gifts be used for the benefit of the kingdom and all creation in your name. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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 trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Community News and Announcements

Annual Meeting - January 28, 2024 After Worship & via Zoom

Benediction

Daniel Jackson

Go in the peace of being fully known by God.

Go in the hope that God has in you to transform the world.

Go in the love of neighbor and friend.

All: Go in the assurance that God still goes with you. Amen.

Sung Response

God Be With You

God be with you till we meet again; By good counsel guide, uphold you.
With a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.