



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
November 26, 2017



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2017

10:30 a.m.

** Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the friendship pads and pass them along the row and back again.

Prelude *The entry of the light.*

Silent Meditation

*Let us preach Christ, let us be faithful in proclaiming the gospel,
but let's leave judgment in the hands of God.* Tony Compolo

Introit *Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris* Vivaldi

"You who sit at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us."

Call to Worship

Grace to you, and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We gather here as a community of faith responding to God's call,

*where the hungry are fed the bread of life and the thirsty
receive living water.*

We come here to savor God's welcome and be refreshed by words of grace,

*where the forlorn are encouraged and the fearful given
safety.*

We come here to receive forgiveness and be embraced in Christ's peace.

We come to have life and to have it abundantly.

Let us worship God.

*** Hymn #267** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

SERVICE OF CONTRITION

***Prayer of Confession**

***Silent Prayer**

***Common Prayer**

Generous God, in Christ you give us all that we need. As your children in Christ, you have given us blessings beyond measure. Forgive us for squandering these gifts in selfishness. Guide us so that the decisions we make, the actions we take, and the words we speak reflect your generosity and love. Use us to bring honor to your Word and Will. Teach us justice, mercy, and peace for the sake of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus the Christ.

***Declaration of God's Grace**

Response

[712, *Forest Green*]

O God of beauty, oft revealed in dreams of human art, in speech that flows to melody, in holiness of heart; teach us to turn from sinfulness that shuts our hearts to Thee, till all shall know the loveliness of lives made fair and free.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

(Turn to your neighbors and say, "The Peace of Christ be with you.")

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Anthem

Come and Be Joyful

Vivaldi

Reading from Scripture

Ephesians 1:15-23

(Pew Bible, page 181 – NT)

Children's Message

Reading from Scripture

Matthew 25:31-46

(Pew Bible, page 27 – NT)

Sermon

"The Eyes of the Heart"

***Affirmation of Faith**

We are God's children, and by grace we are sisters and brothers of Christ. By the way we live we are called to be signs of God's new creation. We believe in the presence of God in daily life and the power of God's Spirit to reclaim and redeem our lives. We believe that God is revealed in the ministry of Jesus and in the resurrected life of Christ. We trust His promises that out of suffering comes rescue and healing, that out of death comes new life. We are the people of God. We are brothers and sisters of Christ. We are called to be signs of God's new creation.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Minute for Ministry Haven House/Salvation Army

Presenting Our Gifts

Offertory *Domine Deus* Vivaldi
"Lord God, King of Heaven, God the Father Almighty, hear our prayer."
Susan Rosser, soprano

*Doxology #606

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him
all creatures here below; praise him above the
heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

*Prayer of Dedication

**Joys and Concerns of the Congregation / Prayers of
Intercession**

Communion Hymn #533 *In the Singing*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving [#562, *Sanctus*]

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

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.

Sharing of Bread and Cup

***Hymn #826** *Lift High the Cross*

***Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey S. O'Neill

Worship Leader: Elder Sam O'Neill

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Choir Director: Chelsea Berner

Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Communion Servers:

Elders: Ann Bloxom, Norm Mackay & Sam O'Neill

Deacons: Barbara Moss & Tom Moss

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A-725831.

Welcome!

We're glad you're here to worship God with us and to share in the fellowship of this church community. If you are looking for a church home, we would be honored to have you join us. Please speak to the Pastor or one of the Ushers following the service.

Nursery care is available for infants through age three from **9:15-11:45** each Sunday morning in our Nursery located in the

Christian Education Wing on the **Lower Level.**

Church Hours

Monday through Thursday:

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Closed Fridays.**



Follow Eastminster on **Facebook.** We are under Eastminster Presbyterian Church East Lansing.

Today at Eastminster

Greeters

Today: John & Trena Thornburg

Next Sunday: Doug and Betty Hall

Ushers

Head Usher: Tom Moss

Flowers

The flowers today are given by Gary & Sherri Blanchard, wishing everyone a blessed Thanksgiving.

Church Leadership

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill Interim Pastor

Dr. Fred Graham Parish Advisor

Rev. Shirley Paxton Parish Advisor

Neil Myer Director of Discipleship

Sam O'Neill Office Administrator

Tamar Mikeladze Organist

Chelsea Berner Adult Choir Director

Heather Myer Bell Choir Director

Audri Bello Nursery Attendant

Nino Napetvaridze Nursery Attendant

This Week at Eastminster

November 26 – December 3

TODAY, 11/26

Communion

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship 11:30 a.m.

MONDAY, 11/27

Staff Meeting 9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, 11/28

Giving Tuesday

Weekday Bible Study 1:00 p.m.

Bells 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 11/29

Men's Bible Study 7:00 a.m.

UKirk@MSU 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, 11/30

Cultured Purls 9:00 a.m.

Choir 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, 12/1

Supper Club 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 12/3 1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship

Advent Workshop

11:30 a.m.

AA: Wed. & Thurs. 7 p.m.; Fri. 9:30 p.m.;

Sat. 10 a.m.; Al-Anon: Thurs. 8:15 p.m.



Upcoming Worship Events

Our next observance of communion will be Sunday morning, December 24, the fourth Sunday of Advent. The Christmas Eve candlelight service that day will be held at 7:30 PM.



Share Your Nativity Display with EPC!

Do you have an interesting or special nativity scene display (tabletop size) at home? The Christian Education team would love to include it in the nativity scene display during Advent Workshop on December 3. Sign-up sheet is in the Green Room or contact Beverly Bonning to sign-up.

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 28, 2017

#GivingTuesday, held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving (in the U.S.) and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, kicks off the holiday giving season and inspires people to give back in impactful ways. According to Giving U.S.A., faith-based organizations have fared well in this one-day online fundraising

movement. Last year, the Presbyterian Foundation received 166 percent more gifts through its online giving platform on **#GivingTuesday**, and the amount given was 59 percent higher compared to 2015 gifts. Consider making a gift to **UKirk at MSU** through Eastminster's website on Tuesday, November 28.



Supper Club
Friday, December 1
@ 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the **first Friday** of the month for a gathering of good food & fellowship. This month our hosts will be **Mim Bethards and Chase & Suzanne Hunt**. Please bring your own table service and a dish to pass. Tea and coffee provided. Come enjoy a casual potluck meal in the Green Room. All are welcome.

Eastminster Page Turners



The Book Club will not be meeting in December. Join us in 2018!

Saturday, January 6, 2018 10 a.m.
- Evicted - Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond. Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for general non-fiction, the author writes about the cycle of poverty in America, focused on 8 families in Milwaukee struggling to keep a roof over their heads. Recognized by the New York Times as one of the "10 Best Books" in 2017, it exposes the difficulty low income people face to finding and living in affordable housing and their

economic exploitation. The book also proposes solutions to this crisis.



Advent Workshop
Sunday, December 3
Immediately following
the worship service

The Advent Workshop has been a beloved tradition of Eastminster Presbyterian Church for several years. Continue this tradition by celebrating the first Sunday of Advent with your Eastminster Presbyterian church family after worship! We'll begin in the Fellowship Hall with delicious food, participate in a mission project, use our creative skills in different ways, listen to beautiful seasonal music, sign cards for our homebound members, and stroll through nativity displays from around the world! If you have a nativity display you'd like to exhibit, please contact Beverly Bonning.



The Eastminster Advent Devotional booklet will be available next Sunday, December 3.

November



Monthly Mission

Christian Services will host a Christmas Party for families participating in the Sparrow's Nest/Quality Living programs. Each child will receive a small gift at the party and parents will receive a \$25 VISA gift card for each of the children they have. Let's join in by providing as many \$25 VISA gift cards as we can so these parents can do some Christmas shopping in December for their children. Please drop off your gift cards at the Church Office for safe-keeping—there is a lock box outside the Office, as well—and we'll get them delivered to Christian Services at the end of November.



Church Women United of Greater Lansing Monday, December 11

Calvary Lutheran Church
6301 St. Joseph Hwy., Lansing
Theme: "A Program of Christmas
Carols"

1:00 p.m. Celebration
Questions? Contact Sandra Hassen
517-721-1368
Website: www.churchwomen.org

Exercising Our Gratitude Muscles

Expressing gratitude isn't just a good thing to do; it also appears to be good for us! Indiana University researchers found that participants who performed gratitude-focused writing exercises felt uplifted, and were more likely to express gratefulness through generosity, even weeks later.

Furthermore, brain scans revealed increased gratitude-related activity even months down the road (*New York Magazine*).

Though the study was small, we seem to have a "gratitude muscle" that can be strengthened through exercise. If so, there may be more than we thought to the popularity of gratitude journals and Mom's insistence that we write thank-you notes. Not to mention the biblical call to "give thanks to the LORD, for he is good" (1 Chronicles 16:34, for example).

Might God have hardwired us for gratitude — not only at Thanksgiving but year-round — because it's good for *us* as well as for those we thank? To that, we respond, "Thanks be to God!"

Eastminster Holiday Mission Traditions!



Christmas Traditions

Every year, Eastminster members generously share their time and resources to shop for food and Christmas presents for those who have less. Once again, the Mission Team is coordinating the Haven House Adopt-a-Family program, and the Salvation Army's Christmas food basket program. Please see the details in the Green Room on the ledge, "central station" for our mission activities. Any questions, contact a member of the Mission Team: Robin Bell, Sam O'Neill, or Robin Turner.



Haven House Adopt-a-Family 2017

We have been assigned two families. One is a family of five: dad, mom, daughter (6), sons (2 and 1). The second family is a single dad and a son (12).

Information sheets describing each family member's wants and needs will be available in the Green Room of the church along with a sign-up sheet. Please sign up for however many people you would like to and note your selections on the sign-up sheet. Take the sheet (s) for your family member (s) with you. Consider doing this mission project in pairs or teams!

Haven House folks ask that all items get dropped off at Haven House the week of Monday, December 4th with the final drop off day being Friday, December 15th. Do not drop the gifts off at the church! Wrapping the gifts is up to you, but if you don't wrap them, we ask that you supply wrapping paper and tape for the family to wrap them. Be sure to label each item with the assigned number/letter located on the top right of your information sheet.

Salvation Army Christmas Food Baskets 2017



We have committed to providing 20 Christmas dinner food baskets, each including a ham. Please find in the Green Room a laundry basket and the grocery list for a family of 4-8 people. Be sure to sign the project participation sheet when you do so.

FOOD BASKETS

If you are interested in contributing \$25 toward the cost of the hams (with or without a grocery basket), note that on the sign-up sheet as well, and put your check in the lock box outside of the Church Office, made out to Eastminster Presbyterian Church and noting "Hams" in the memo line. No one needs to actually purchase a ham. The church mission folks will take care of ordering them and delivering them with the baskets.

If you are able to help re-assemble and deliver the baskets to the Salvation Army offices on South Pennsylvania on the morning of Tuesday, December 12, 2016, between 9 and 11 a.m., please note your commitment to help with that on the sign-up sheet as well.

The filled baskets should be delivered to Eastminster on Monday, December 11, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., or early on **Tuesday, December 13**, between 9 and 9:45 a.m. If delivering on Monday, remove perishables from your basket and place them in the refrigerators, either on the main floor of the church or in the kitchen in the lower level. If delivering early on Tuesday morning, just leave your filled baskets in the church kitchen on the main floor.

If you sign up to provide a food basket but find you cannot provide one after all, please contact Sam O'Neill before Monday, December 11, at 517-243-2669, so that provisions can be made to fulfill our commitment to the Salvation Army of 20 baskets.



Eastminster Presbyterian Church
Mercy, Peace, and Justice
Vision Statement

Adopted by Session June 14, 2017

We believe we are called as a church of Jesus Christ to promote compassion, peace, and social justice by seeking to understand and actively bear witness against discrimination, suffering, pain, and social and economic injustices throughout the world and in our own community. Silence, avoidance, and inaction are not options for us as Christians who profess that we believe in being disciples of Christ. We believe as a congregation we can help shape a future for people of all races, ethnicities, and national origins by:

1. Educating ourselves and others to be mindful of injustices;
2. Identifying existing and developing programs that address discrimination, suffering, pain, and social and economic injustices;
3. Walking humbly together along the path of active participation in these programs;
4. Coordinating our efforts within our church to educate and involve people of all ages and abilities.

Eastminster Prayer Concerns

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

Mandy Augenstein
Bill Cleary
Jesse Kwilinski
Heather Sturr

*Names to be included on the prayer list can be suggested to Rev. O'Neill
or the Church Office.*

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders

Class of 2018

Ruth Foster
Terry Graham
Sam O'Neill
Susan Smalley

Class of 2019

Brian Heitman
Norm Mackay
Brenda Ramsby
Barbara Stowitts

Class of 2020

Robin Bell
Beverly Bonning
Dave Duryea
Mike Foster

Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill

Clerk of Session

George H. Miller

Treasurer

Robert Kleine

Deacons

Class of 2018

Judy Dunn
Sue Miller
Barbara Moss
Tom Moss

Class of 2019

Sherri Blanchard
Sue Kalvonjian
Heather Myer
John Temples

Class of 2020

Heather Heitman

Eastminster Mission Statement

We, the members of Eastminster Presbyterian Church,
celebrate the grace of God and the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

We believe we are called as God's children to:

Praise and worship God;

Nurture and support spiritual growth as a family of faith;

Promote an open and welcoming community;

Reach out to the world with compassion;
and seek God's justice.

We strive to develop and use our Spirit-given gifts
to share our faith in word and deed
as disciples who serve the Lord Jesus Christ
according to the will of God.

Adopted by the Session in 1999. Revised in 2011.

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