Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
May 6, 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018 10:30 a.m.

** Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements *(Please sign the friendship pads)*
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Prelude *The entry of the light.*
Silent Meditation

Introit *At the Fount We Start Our Journey*

Call to Worship *adapted from Psalm 98*
We gather to worship the One who spoke creation into being,
our songs of joy join the choruses of creation.
We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice,
bringing the words which have echoed in our hearts.
We gather as the children of God, our joy rooted in God's love;
young and old, tone deaf and perfect pitched,
we lift our voices together.

***Hymn #475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

SERVICE OF CONTRITION

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**
O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.

You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,
but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength
to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your son, our Savior.

***Silent Prayer**
***Declaration of God's Grace**

***Congregational Response** [#245]
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Anthem *Grace* Hamlin

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from Scripture
John 15:9-17 *(Pew Bible, page 103 – NT)*

Children's Message

Readings from Scripture
Acts 10:44-48 *(Pew Bible, page 122 – NT)*

Sermon "When Jesus Interrupts"

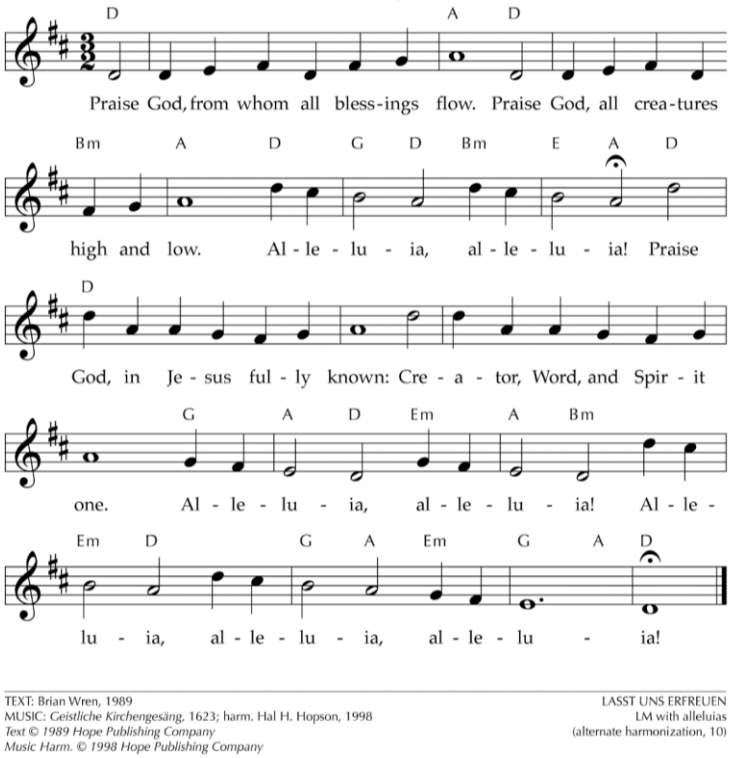
Response to the Word #767 [remain seated]
Together We Serve

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Presenting Our Gifts

Offertory *How Can I Keep from Singing*
Sulin Cambell & Chelsea Berner, duet

*Doxology[#609]



TEXT: Brian Wren, 1989
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1998
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Music Harm. © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
LM with alleluias
(alternate harmonization, 10)

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore we pray in Jesus' name that these offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

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

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table
Great Thanksgiving
Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(We will be receiving communion by intinction. Please come forward down the center aisles, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and partake. You may return down the side aisles. Those unable to come forward will be served at their seats. Gluten free bread is available.)

Prayer

***Hymn #515** *I Come with Joy*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble
Worship Leader: Elder Susan Smalley
Children's Message: Mary Lou Clifton
Choir Director: Chelsea Berner
Organist: Tamar Mikeladze
Communion Servers:
Elders: Sam O'Neill & Brenda Ramsby
Deacons: Barbara Moss & Tom Moss

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

Mon-Thurs., 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Closed Friday.

Please note: For security purposes, on Sunday mornings the West and Front doors will be locked once the service begins. An usher will be stationed in the Narthex to admit later arrivals.

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

Wi-fi network: Guest
Password: *WelcomeGuest*

Today at Eastminster

Greeters

Today: Judy Dunn and Charlotte Altemeier
Next Sunday: Donnie & Sharon Reinhard and Bob Klein

Ushers

Head Usher, Heather Myer

Flowers

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God.

Church Leadership

Rev. Kristin Stroble	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

The pastor's email address is:
revstroble@eastminsterchurch.org

This Week at Eastminster

May 6 - 13

TODAY, 5/6 COMMUNION	
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.
Fellowship	11:30 a.m.
Deacons	11:30 a.m.
Caregiver Support	11:30 a.m.
MONDAY, 5/7	
Staff Meeting	9:30 a.m.
Mission Team	10:30 a.m.
TUESDAY, 5/8	
Bible Study	1:00 p.m.
Bells	7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 5/9	
Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Session	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, 5/10	
Cultured Purls	9:00 a.m.
Creative Movement	3:45 p.m.
Choir	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY 5/12	
Advent House	9:45 a.m.
SUNDAY, 5/13	
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.
Cents-ability Offering	
Children's Worship	
Farewell Reception for Choir Director	11:30 a.m.
Photo Directory Sign-up	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.

Campus Minister Neil Myer is leading a mission trip to Memphis with UKirk at MSU this week. Please keep him and the students in your prayers.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Phyllis Irwin** and her family on the death of her sister, Cecelia Cluchey Parsell, of Suttons Bay, last weekend.

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Ages 4-Grade 2
Holy Moly is designed to ignite a biblical imagination that lasts a lifetime for young children. Each week participants see a video and use their gifts of observation to become theologians in their own right. It is amazing to get their insight!

Adult Ed
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. - Green Room
Adult education resumes on April 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Green Room. This spring we will feature the *Theocademy: New Testament* video series with Dr. Margaret Aymer, professor of New Testament at Austin Theological Seminary. Topics include:
¨ Letters and Sermons
¨ The Revelation to John

You Are Invited!
Sunday May 13
We will honor our **Choir Director Chelsea Berner** during Fellowship after worship. Chelsea has finished her studies at MSU and will be leaving the area to seek other challenges.

On May 13th during worship we will be taking a special offering for the Musician's Fund in gratitude to Chelsea Berner for her work as our Choir Director. The Musician's Fund has enabled us this semester to bring in students to sing in the choir. It is also used to hire instrumentalists to enhance our worship service. Thank you for your generosity.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study
Tuesday, May 15
11:30 a.m.

The EPC PW will meet on **Tuesday, May 15 at 11:30 AM** in the EPC Green Room. We will study Lesson 9 of *Cloud of Witnesses*, "The Community with All the Saints." Please pre-read the lesson and associated scriptures. Please bring a sandwich, quartered, to share at lunch. Salads, drinks and dessert will be provided.

At 11:15 a.m., the Circle members will gather for the annual EPC PW meeting which will begin at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will begin at 12:00 noon with the Reverend Kristin Stroble leading the final study of 2017-2018, at 1:15 p.m.

Please have any PW questions/concerns to Suzi Moss by May 10 so they can be addressed at the Annual Meeting. 2018 Budget issues will also be discussed at the meeting.

There will be no Circle meetings in June, July or August 2018. HAVE A SAFE, HEALTHY & FUN SUMMER!

2018 Birthday Offering

Envelopes will be available at the May meeting—all donations are due by May 15, 2018. This offering will fund mission projects that improve the lives of women and children around the world.

Flicks with Friends

Wed., May 16

Our movie and lunch group meets on the **3rd Wednesday** of the month. **All persons are invited**. The movie is picked the weekend before and by what is playing the afternoon of that day. An email list has been formed to notify persons who are interested. Let Barb Stowitts know if you would like to be included on the movie email list (barbstow@yahoo.com).

May 20 after Worship

You are invited to an Eastminster Pentecost Party! We will celebrate the birth of the church, and the birth of each and every one of us during a special all church fellowship gathering on Sunday, May 20 immediately following worship. There will be cake! We invite everyone to wear red (the liturgical color of the day) for worship and the party. There will be no regular 9:30 classes that day.

Day of Service - Sunday, May 20 1:00 p.m.

The Mission Team will be offering one-day opportunities for service on a quarterly basis. On May 20 all are welcome to come to **Haven House** (121 Whitehills Dr., just south of Post Office) at 1:30 p.m. to clean out flower beds in anticipation of planting being done in early June. Wear your gardening clothes and bring your tools! There is a sign-up sheet in the Green Room. Questions? Contact Estelle McGroarty.

Haven House *provides emergency housing and support services for one-parent and two-parent families with children. The shelter helps families who are homeless prepare for permanent housing by developing and promoting self-sufficiency, stability, and financial responsibility.*

Think Inside the Box!
Help a refugee youth start the journey to independence!

Samaritas, a social ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), serves unaccompanied minor refugee youth by finding them foster families when they arrive in the U.S. When they reach 18, and age out of the foster-care system, Samaritas provides "Independent Living Transition Boxes" so these young people can

begin their new lives in their own places with a bit of a head start.

The Mission Team would like to make this an all-church project by creating at least two transitional "boxes" (one male, one female) for these young people. There will be a sign-up sheet for individual items – subscribe to one, two or more items, this is a project that fits every budget! Contacts: Robin Bell, Jan Coye, Estelle McGroarty or Sam O'Neill.

Elders and Program Leaders: Your program-area reports for the program year 2017-18 are due **June 3, 2018.** Please submit your reports to the church office electronically in a Word document. Any questions, please contact Sam.

Summer

Sunday Worship

moves to

10:00 a.m.

Memorial Day Weekend

Do "eustress" enough?

Stress generally isn't viewed as positive, but psychologists speak of both *distress* and *eustress*. Eustress is a level of discomfort not so high as to make us give up but high enough to urge us forward.

Winemakers know that the best wine comes from stressed grapevines, planted in rocky soil and given only enough water to prompt the roots to stretch downward to find more moisture. People, too, grow strong when pushed to work hard, not when handed everything we want or need. Good parents know this, as does our good and gracious God.

When we're struggling and stressed, God hasn't abandoned us, but he may be practicing the vinedresser's tough love to help us grow. Perhaps the Spirit allowed the Bible to be difficult in places so we'd work to learn what it means. Perhaps God lets questions challenge our faith so we'll stretch to find answers. Maybe God will transform what seems distressing into *eustress* — making us the very best we can be.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The Paschal Candle is lit for the first time on Easter and every Sunday during the Great Fifty Days of Easter. It symbolizes both the pillar of fire that led Israel by night and the risen Lord who stands among us at Easter.

The candle's name comes from the word 'Pascha,' the English transliteration of both the Greek and Hebrew words for "Passover," the central festival for Jews. Early Christians appropriated this term for Easter Sunday, our annual celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ. For Christians, Easter signifies the great deliverance accomplished in the Lord's new Passover when God raised Jesus from the dead.

Easter has been the most important service of the Christian year since at least the second century. It is the central event, the time of transformation, of becoming a resurrected people, God's new people. On this Sunday of all Sundays we celebrate our transformation as a new people.

Throughout the Great Fifty Days of Easter, from Easter Sunday through Pentecost, we remember Christ's rising from the tomb, his post-resurrection appearances, his ascension, and the promised outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The light of Christ! Thanks be to God!

PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency:

- Young Adult Volunteers
- Ministries for Youth
- Children-at-Risk

We will receive the Pentecost Offering on May 20. Envelopes are in the pews.

IT'S TIME FOR A NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY!

PHOTOGRAPHY DATES:
Thu, June 21, 2pm-8:30pm
Friday, June 22, 2pm-8:30pm
Saturday, June 23, 9:30am-4:30pm
Tuesday, June 26, 2pm-8:30pm

WHERE: Eastminster Presbyterian Church
Sign-up at church beginning Sunday, May 13 after worship
OR
You can go online to our website: www.eastminsterchurch.org

ALL HOUSEHOLDS THAT PARTICIPATE RECEIVE:

- A Complimentary 8 x 10 Portrait & Directory
- Invite Extended Family: Generational Portrait
- Bring your Pets and/or meaningful items

We need everyone to participate.
There is no cost to our church.
Opportunity to purchase portraits for personal use and gift giving; however, you are not obligated to do so.
See the portrait guide for additional options Lifetouch offers!
Contacts: Beverly Bonning, Heather Myer, & Sam O'Neill

DON'T MISS OUT!

SIGN UP!

Eastminster Prayer Concerns

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

Mandy Augenstein
Tom Moss

Names to be included on the prayer list can be suggested to Rev. Stroble.

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Ruth Foster	Brian Heitman	Robin Bell
Terry Graham	Norm Mackay	Beverly Bonning
Sam O'Neill	Brenda Ramsby	Dave Duryea
Susan Smalley	Barbara Stowitts	Mike Foster

Pastor	Clerk of Session	Treasurer
Rev. Kristin Stroble	George H. Miller	Robert Kleine

Deacons

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Judy Dunn	Sherri Blanchard	Heather Heitman
Sue Miller	Sue Kalvonjian	
Barbara Moss	Heather Myer	
Tom Moss	John Temples	

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.

1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823
Phone: 517-337-0893
www.eastminsterchurch.org