



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day  
December 22, 2019**

## **The Story of the Jesse Tree –**

*During the Middle Ages, Christians created art to communicate our faith stories. One of the pictures they created used Isaiah 11:1: “A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,” the father of King David. Jesse is usually shown asleep at the bottom of the picture, with a branch growing out of him to show the Biblical characters who were ancestors of Jesus. Many of them have crowns on their heads because they were kings. At the top of the tree is Mary holding Jesus, the flower from Jesse's tree.*



# ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 22, 2019

10:00 a.m.

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*\* Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

***Bold text** is read or sung by the congregation.*

## **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**    *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
Handbell Choir

## **Advent Candle Lighting**

**\*Hymn #106**            *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

*God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to your glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the way of Christ the Lord.*

*(silent confession)*

**\*Declaration of God's Grace**

**\*Congregational Response** *(Tune: HYFRYDOL)*

*Love can't wait; she beckons brightly;*

*saving, sealing us to grace.*

*God disperses every mercy*

*to redeem the human race.*

*Love requires imagination,*

*truth and courage, risk and trust.  
Love renews the whole creation;  
grows the grains up from the dust.*

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

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

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**Minute for Mission**

*Advent House*

**Children's Message**

**Sung Prayer for Illumination #91**

*Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.  
Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.*

**SCRIPTURE READING AND STORIES**

Matthew 1:1-17 (*Pew Bible, page 1 - NT*) (*see p. 6 of this bulletin*)

**The Story of Abraham and Sarah**

**Hymn #88, verse 7**

*O Come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**The Story of Nahshon, Aaron, and Moses**

**Hymn #88, verse 3**

*O Come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **The Story of Ruth and Naomi**

### **Hymn #88, verse 6**

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **The Story of Jesse's Children**

### **Hymn #88, verse 5**

*O Come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **The Story of King Manasseh and King Jeconiah**

### **Hymn #88, verse 1**

*O Come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **The Story of Zerubbabel**

### **Hymn #88, verse 2**

*O Come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily:  
to us the path of knowledge show;  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **The Story of Joseph and Mary**

### **Hymn#88, verse 4**

*O come, thou Root of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

### **Offering of Resources and Prayer**

*Financial offerings support the life and mission of Eastminster Presbyterian. If you have prayers to be shared during our prayers of the people, please place them in the offering plates.*

#### **Offertory**

*Mary Had a Baby Boy*  
Sue Rosser, Soprano

#### **Doxology[#144 In the Bleak Midwinter]**

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart*

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **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.*

\* **Hymn #105** *People, Look East*

\***Charge & Benediction**

\***Postlude**

## Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Mary Harvey

Children's Message: Mary Lou Clifton

Advent Wreath Lighters: Judy James and Elizabeth Evangelista

Readers: Shirley Paxton, Jim Robertson, Barb Stowitts, Mary Lou Clifton,

Mary Harvey, Rick Johnston, Neil Myer

Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Handbell Choir Director: Heather Myer

The Advent wreath liturgy is by Sarah Are / A Sanctified Art / LLC / [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

**New Here?** Thank you for joining us as we worship God this morning. Information about our church is available in the narthex, including our weekly email. We invite you to sign in on the Friendship pads found at the end of the pew, so we can greet you by name. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship, in the space we call the Green Room, which is to the west of the sanctuary. After fellowship, we have a variety of classes for all ages what you are welcome to join.



**Prayer Cards** are in the Friendship Pads, which are at the end of each pew. If you have a prayer request that you would like announced during the service, please write it on the prayer card and you can place it in the plate during the collection of the offering. The Pastor will read them (unless marked private) before the Pastoral Prayer.

**Children and Worship:** Children are always welcome in worship at Eastminster. Children's worship packets can be found in the basket outside the sanctuary doors as well as activity bags, which they can use during the service. We have created a space for children at the front of the sanctuary. Your child is welcome to use that space or remain in the pews with you.



## Today at Eastminster

### Ushers

Head Usher: Cindy Mackay; Norm Mackay, Bob Nees

### Greeters

Mary Lou Clifton, Sara Weeden

### Church Leadership and Staff

Rev. Kristin Stroble Pastor  
Dr. Fred Graham Parish Advisor

Rev. Shirley Paxton Parish Advisor  
Neil Myer Director of Christian Education  
Bridgette Redman Office Administrator  
Jadrian Tarver Choir Director  
Tamar Mikeladze Organist  
Heather Myer Bell Choir Director  
Laurin Schulz Nursery Attendant  
Audri Kocan Nursery Attendant

## **This Week at Eastminster**

*December 22 to December 29*

### **TODAY, 12/22**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
MORE	11:15 a.m.
Staff Christmas Party	6:00 p.m.

### **MONDAY, 12/23**

Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
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### **TUESDAY, 12/24**

Office closes at noon	
Christmas Eve Service	5:00 p.m.

### **WEDNESDAY, 12/25**

Merry Christmas

### **THURSDAY 12/26**

Office Closed

### **SUNDAY, 12/29**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
<i>AA: Wed. &amp; Thurs. 7 p.m.; Fri. 9:30 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.; Al-Anon: Thurs. 8:15 p.m.</i>	

## **Staff Out of Office**

Kristin Stroble and Bridgette Redman will be out of the office until January 2. Neil Myer will be out of the office until Jan. 6.

## **Help us with our worship**

**visual:** To mark and visualize our journey, we are creating a path throughout the sanctuary. During the second quarter of the year our theme is "Alive in the Adventure of Jesus." I'd invite you to bring in or email to the office pictures, drawings, stories, or poetry of people or places that have formed you in your journey of faith. Your images will help make the path.

## **Christmas Joy**

Christmas Joy offerings go to two ministries: 50% assist current and retired church workers and their

families who are in financial need. 50% make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Envelopes are in the pews.

## **Christmas Eve**

Join us for the Christmas Eve service at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24. After the service, we will have a time of fellowship.



## **Cookies for Christmas Eve Service**

We are looking for *HOME-*

*MADE* cookies for the Christmas Eve Service, with *home-made* stressed. So dig out your favorite cookie recipe and hit the kitchen! Cookies may be dropped off starting Sunday, December 22 through 3 pm Tuesday, December 24. If you wish to bring them in earlier, please mark for Christmas Eve and make sure they can be frozen.

-- Many thanks, the Deacons.

## **Service of Scripture, Story, and Song**

The season of Christmas lasts 12 days, starting on Christmas Day and ending on Epiphany. On December 29th we will continue to celebrate the Christmas season by hearing a Christmas story and having a hymn sing. This will give you the opportunity to request your favorite Christmas carols in the hymnal!

## **Eastminster Prayer Concerns**

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

Jeffrey O'Neill  
Lynn Banninga  
Dave Merchant II  
Kim Dickens  
Irene King  
Joe Walsh  
Blakely Lindemuler

## **Eastminster Church Officers**

### **Elders**

#### **Class of 2020**

Robin Bell  
Dave Duryea  
Mike Foster  
Neil Myer

#### **Class of 2021**

Gary Blanchard  
Mary Lou Clifton  
Mary Harvey  
Sam O'Neill

#### **Class of 2022**

Steve Dickinson  
Mike Jones  
Estelle McGroarty  
Susan Smalley

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Kristin Stroble

#### **Clerk of Session**

Susan Smalley

#### **Treasurer**

Robert Kleine

### **Deacons**

#### **Class of 2020**

Barbara Dalzell  
Heather Heitman  
Cindy Mackay

#### **Class of 2021**

Sherri Blanchard  
Linda Hardenbergh  
Suzanne Hunt

#### **Class of 2022**

Beverly Bonning  
Sulin Campbell  
Judy Dickinson

## **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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**[www.eastminsterchurch.org](http://www.eastminsterchurch.org)**