

Eastminster Presbyterian Church

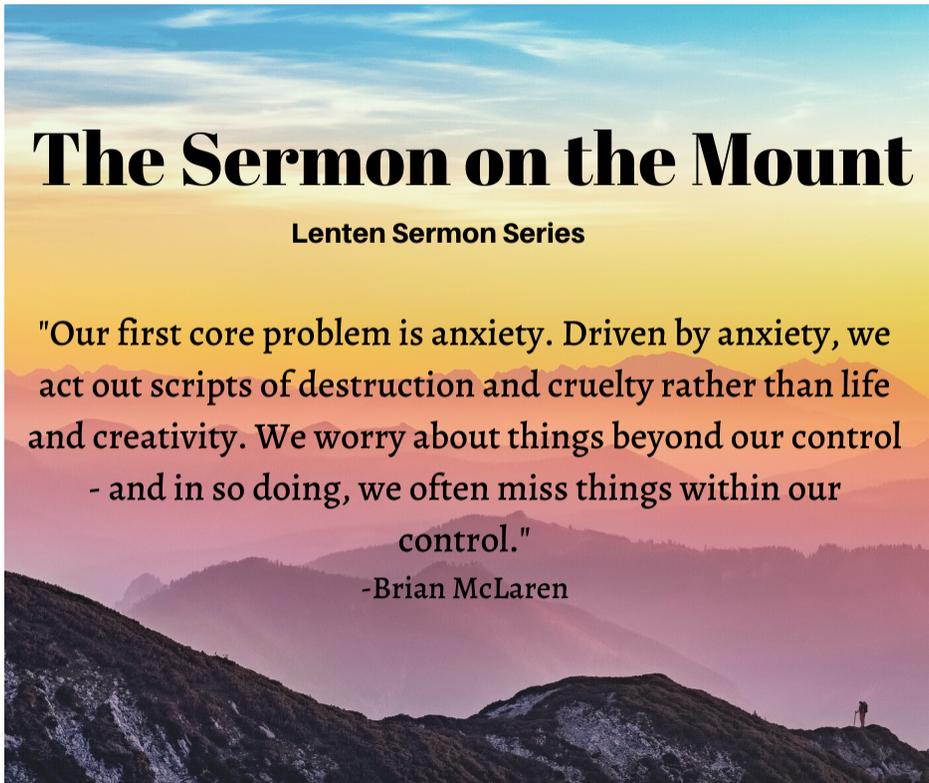
Service for the Lord's Day
March 22, 2020

The Sermon on the Mount

Lenten Sermon Series

"Our first core problem is anxiety. Driven by anxiety, we act out scripts of destruction and cruelty rather than life and creativity. We worry about things beyond our control - and in so doing, we often miss things within our control."

-Brian McLaren



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 22, 2020

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude *The entry of the light.*

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Holy One,
Bridger of Distance,
Connector of Beings,
unite us now.

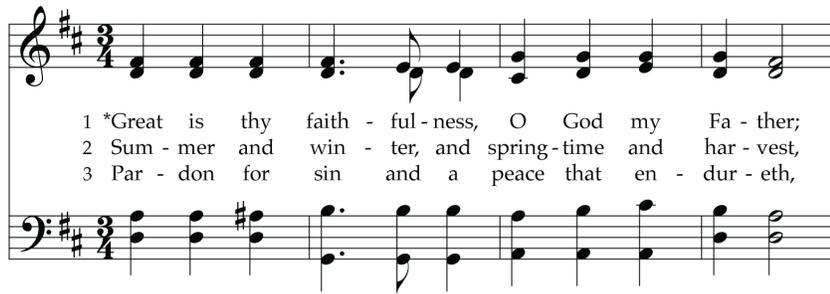
In the midst
of non-stop news stories
about illness and scarcity,
press conferences and cancellations...
grant us quiet in our minds.

In the midst
of heightened anxiety
grant us calm in our hearts,
at least for this moment.

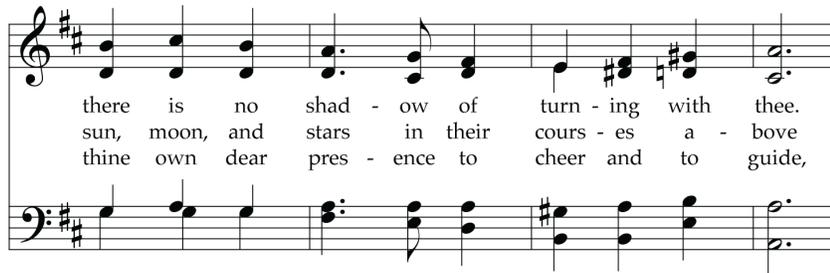
In the midst
of distance
in our families, our faith communities,
in all our relationships with others,
grant us connection.

Gather us in, God,
our gratitude and concerns,
our hopes and longings
as we worship you. Amen.

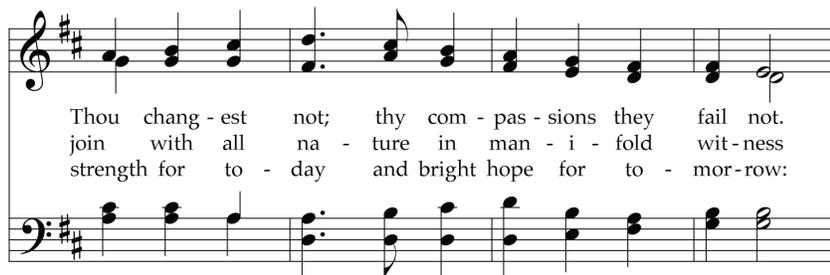
Hymn #39 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*



1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:



As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "*Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator.*"

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923
Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS
11.10.11.10 with refrain

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*Holy God, hear our prayer:
For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;
For the healing of our souls,
wasting away from the worry and fear around us;
For the forgiveness we seek
for the sin we have allowed to persist;
For the reconciliation of the world,
whose division condemns us;
We pray for the courage to admit our fault,
the strength to amend our actions,
and the hope that your grace awaits us.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.*

Declaration of God's Grace

Congregational Response #694

*Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
You are the font of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from Scripture Matthew 6:19-34

'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

‘No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Sermon “Becoming Like Jesus: Worry Less”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Moment of Silence

Each Sunday in Lent we’ve been responding to two prompts. “This Lent, I wish to let go of...” and “This Lent, I wish to cultivate...” You can comment in Facebook with your response.

Hymn #661 *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*



1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged? Why should the shad-ows come?
 2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," his ten-der word I hear,
 3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,



Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and home,
 and rest-ing on his good-ness, I lose my doubts and fears;
 when song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me dies,



when Je-sus is my por-tion? My con-stant friend is he:
 though by the path he lead-eth but one step I may see:
 I draw the clos-er to him; from care he sets me free:



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me;



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.

Refrain

I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, (I'm hap-py) I sing be-cause I'm free, (I'm free)

This hymn based on Jesus' saying about God's care for all creatures (Matthew 10:29-30/Luke 12:6-7) began with the refrain's last line, inspired by a woman who had endured much illness. It was first sung in public at the Royal Albert Hall, London, during evangelistic services in 1905.

TEXT: Civilla Durfee Martin, 1905
 MUSIC: Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

SPARROW
 Irregular

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation / Prayers of Intercession

Comment on Facebook if you have a joy or concern to be shared. You can also email or call the church with prayer concerns. Tomorrow we will send a list of prayer concerns over email to our community.

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.

Offering

Your offerings support the mission and ministry of Eastminster Presbyterian Church. You can give online by going to <http://www.eastminsterchurch.org/give/online-giving/>

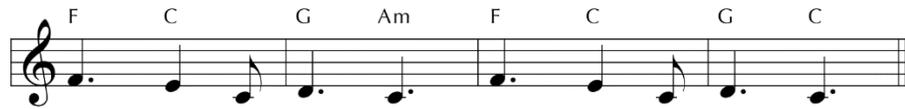
Hymn #543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es - en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble
Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer
Organist: Tamar Mikeladze
Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver
Tech Guru: Heather Myer

Credits: The opening prayer is adapted from a prayer by Katherine Kussmaul.
The prayer of confession is adapted from a prayer by Beth Merrill Neel from
holdfasttowhatisgood.com

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Sermon Series: This Lent, we are exploring Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and grappling with the questions of who we are, who we want to become, and what we will make of our lives. In order to embrace our identity as followers of Christ, on this road of discipleship we will reflect on what we need to let go of and what we need to cultivate to become more like Jesus. Each week we will be responding to these prompts: "This Lent, I wish to let go of..." and "This Lent, I wish to cultivate..." We invite you to offer your responses and we will fold them into origami and place them on the tree in the sanctuary.

Daily Emails: During this time period we are sending daily emails, Monday-Thursday, through Mailchimp to help inspire, sustain, and connect people. To subscribe please email the church office or go here: <http://eepurl.com/dznQfn>

Virtual Bible Studies:

We have three opportunities for you to come together in small groups. Using Zoom, we will be able to come together for discussion and study. Each of these groups are open to anyone, whether you've been participating in the "We Make the Road" small groups already or are looking to start right now. You can join on your tablet, computer, or you can even call in by phone. The three studies we have scheduled are:

- Tuesdays at 7:00pm (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/378406392>)
- Wednesdays at 8:00am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/182851481>)
- Wednesdays at 11:00am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/505652193>)

To join a Zoom meeting you go directly to that link. It might prompt you to download an app. Download the app and follow the instructions to connect.

If you can't access Zoom through the internet you can call into the meeting. You won't be able to see folks, but you'll still be able to listen and contribute. To do this call: 646-876-9923. It will then prompt you to enter the meeting # key. The meeting number for Tuesdays at 7:00pm is 378-406-392. The meeting number for Wednesdays at 8am is 182-851-481. The meeting number for Wednesdays at 11am is 505-652-193. After you enter the meeting number press the # key.

Please feel free to call the church if you have questions or problems as you try to use Zoom and we will help you!

Eastminster Prayer Concerns

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

Dave Merchant II, recovering from surgery
Virginia Allen, recovering from surgery
Eric Smith and his company as they prepare for deployment
Elaine Cable
Bill Cleary
Jeffrey O'Neill
Kim Dickens
Irene King
Joe Walsh
Blakely Lindemuler

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

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders

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Dave Duryea
Mike Foster
Neil Myer

Class of 2021

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Mary Lou Clifton
Mary Harvey
Sam O'Neill

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Mike Jones
Estelle McGroarty
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Susan Smalley

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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.