



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
June 21, 2020



## ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

June 21, 2020

10:00 a.m.

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### GATHERING

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome & Announcements**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

#### **Call to Worship**

When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

***We bring joy and hope,***

dreams and prayers,

***grief and doubt,***

memories and heartache.

***God meets us here.***

God hears our prayers and sees our scars.

***With open hearts and authenticity,***

***Let us worship good and gracious God.***

**Hymn** *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

F Gm F Dm Bb C Bb F

1 Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed life we lead,  
 2 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
 3 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's pain,

F Gm F Dm Bb C7 Bb F

find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed:  
 God it is who speaks and names us, knows our be - ing, touch - es base,  
 let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:

F C Dm F Bb

clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
 mak - ing space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun,  
 there's a place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care,

C Dm Bb F Gm Am Bb F

all the things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.  
 rais - ing cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.  
 in the Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (1931- )  
 MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. Ronald A. Nelson (1927- )  
 Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company.  
 Music Arr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

BEACH SPRING  
 8.7.8.7.D.

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

*God of creation,*

*Humanity is capable of such evil.*

*Stories in scripture alongside stories on the news  
remind us of that truth all the time.*

*For the moments that we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion,  
and fear over hope - forgive us.*

*When we choose pride over what is right, and comfort over justice -*

*Show us mercy.*

*And when numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy -*

*Unravel us, for we long to be changed.*

*Gratefully we pray,*

*Amen.*

## **Silent Confession**

### **Declaration of God's Grace**

*Friends hear the Good News: God does not leave us alone. God is with us. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.*

### **Passing of the Peace**

*Take out your phone and text to a church member, friend or family member - "The Peace of Christ be with you."*

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

## **Children's Message**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

*God of unending surprises,*

*This life is a tapestry of moments woven together, and we long to be weavers of love.*

*Today we gather and pray that you would unravel our bias.*

*Unravel our assumptions.*

*Unravel whatever it is that keeps us from you.*

*As you do, clear space in our hearts for your Word.*

*We are listening. We are praying. Amen.*

## **Scripture Reading** 2 Samuel 3:6-7; 21:1-14

## **Sermon** *Unraveled by Grief*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Hymn *Rizpah Was A Loving Mother (EBENEZER)*

A Hymn Inspired by 2 Samuel 21:1-14

Text: Stephen M. Fearing, 2019

Tune: EBENEZER

Meter: 8.7.8.7 D

Music: Thomas John Williams, 1890

Voice



1. Riz - pah was a lo - ving mo - ther, forced to watch her  
2. Sleep - ing on naught but a sack - cloth, Riz - pah watched her  
3. Through her length - y pu - blic vi - gil, Riz - pah preached, she  
4. Hear the pa - rents all a - round us, those whose child - ren  
sons' de - mise. Help - less to pre - vent their slaught - er,  
sons de - cay. Long she held her sol - lemn vi - gil,  
test - i - fied. She showed us the sense - less vio - lence,  
live in fear. See their an - guish at the vio - lence,  
filled with naught but heav - y cries. Da - vid o - ferred  
shield - ing them through night and day. Soon the birds came  
Riz - pah's grief was just - i - fied. May we learn from  
let's make just - ice per - se - vere! Let us learn from  
them as price to sa - tis - fy those wronged by Saul.  
for the feast - ing, but she chased them from her sons.  
her in - sist - ence, may we cease our point - less rage.  
Riz - pah's mourn - ing, may we hear her wail - ing cry.  
Soon her boys were ex - e - cut - ed, strung up to be viewed by all.  
Ma - ny wit - nessed Riz - pah's an - guish, watched her mourn her pre - cious ones.  
May we wit - ness this hard stor - y, ush - er in a kind - er age.  
Help us, Lord, to cease our fight - ing. May our mer - cy mult - i - ply!

### **Affirmation of Faith (by A Sanctified Art)**

***I believe in God, the Great Sewer -***

***Who weaves us together in community,***

***Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit -***

***Who hems us in before and behind,***

***Catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.***

***And I believe in Jesus Christ -  
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out, refusing to  
disregard anyone as scrap.***

***I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being,  
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.***

***I believe the fabric of my life is weak,  
That I am prone to error and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.***

***I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,  
She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.***

***And I believe that when life unravels,  
God is there to stitch my wounds together,  
To hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,  
And to invite me into a new journey.  
Amen.***

#### **Joys and Concerns of the Congregation/ Pastoral Prayer**

*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 #339**      *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

# 339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en  
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had  
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry  
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

## **Charge & Benediction**

## **Postlude**

### **Participants in today's service:**

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Liturgists: Sarah Carroll and Tom & Linda Hardenbergh

Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver

Tech Guru: Heather Myer

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**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>