



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
August 30, 2020



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 30, 2020

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude *"Where He Leads Me"*

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Call to Worship

So much in life is unpredictable.

Life begins and ends.

The weather changes.

Love surprises us.

Doors close.

Others open.

Life is unpredictable,

But what we can count on is finding God in this space and in this time.

So bring your questions and concerns, your doubts and wonderings,

For in the midst of this unpredictable life, we can predict this:

Love lives here.

Let us worship God.

Hymn #388 *Come All You People*

Come all you people,

come and praise your Maker;

come all you people,

come and praise your Maker;

come all you people,

come and praise your Maker;

come now and worship the Lord.

Uyai mose,

tinamate Mwari;

uyai mose,

tinamate Mwari;

uyai mose,

tinamate Mwari;

uyai mose zvino.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

*You ask us to follow you, and we respond with logistical questions -
How long? Where to? Will we return?*

*You ask us to love each other, and we respond with excuses -
I don't know how. We don't see eye to eye.*

*You ask us to dream and we get stuck in our own heads -
Change will never come. Is it worth it?*

*You ask us to believe, and like Thomas, we ask for proof -
Unless I see the nails in his hands, I cannot believe.*

Forgive us for our small-minded ways.

Open our eyes as you open our hearts.

Unravel our doubt. Unravel our unbelief.

Lead us to rest in you.

Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of God's Grace

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

Back to School Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading John 20:19-29

Sermon Grieving Thomas

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn *Why Must Doubt Be Such a Bad Thing?*

A Hymn Inspired by John 20:19-29

Text: Stephen M. Fearing, 2019

Tune: NETTLETON

Meter: 8.7.8.7 D

Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

Piano

Why must doubt be such a bad thing? Why must Tho - mas be so
Je - sus came to see the oth - ers in a house - hold locked in
Tho - mas came and soon re - joined them, then they said, "We've seen the
Why must doubt be such a bad thing; seek - ing what we do not

Pno.

shamed? Through his trau - ma he was kept from see - ing what his friendshad
fear; showed his arms, his hands, his bo - dy, all the scars caused by the
Lord!" But his eyes de - mand - ed see - ing Je - sus' flesh pierced by the
know? It can help us jour - ney for - ward; aft - er all, it's how we

Pno.

claimed. He was in the depths of griev - ing, stuck in his own death - ly
spear. Je - sus breathed the Spi - rit on them, passed the peace they longed to
sword. Je - sus came and greet - ed Tho - mas, showed him he was no fa -
grow! Faith is found in doubt - ful mo - ments, times when we can - not be -

Pno.

tomb. In his sor - row Tho - mas left them; soon his hid - den hope would bloom.
know. On their knees they wor - shipped Je - sus, praised his name, their hearts a - glow.
cade. Kneel - ing down and filled with wond - er, Tho - mas said "My Lord! My God!"
lieve. Christ will find us all re - gard - less, more than we could e'er con - cieve!

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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 #726 *Will You Come and Follow Me*

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

Charge & Benediction

Postlude *"Jesus Shall Reign"*

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Call to Worship: Sue Kalvonjian and Melanie Hausinger

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Affirmation of Faith: Linda & Tom Hardenbergh, Jesse Turner, Larry & Ruth Hartwig, Lacy Myer, Jim & Nancy Robertson, Suzi Moss, and Irv Nichols

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver

Tech Guru: Heather Myer

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