



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
September 20, 2020



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 20, 2020

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Threshold Moment & Lighting of Candles

Call to Worship

L. We gather now

P. as a people who have faith

in a story that stretches far before and beyond us.

L. It's a story that tells us that what we know of life is only
a tiny part of the picture; that here, who we are is still unfinished.

***P. It's a story of how God's redemption and restoration
rewrites what we know of ourselves,***

L. editing our lives with words of grace and forgiveness
and creating an ending that speaks only of love.

P. We gather to worship God.

Hymn #415 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

CONFESSION

415 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

All or Leader

1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,
2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty
3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined
4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

CONFESSION

sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

Refrain
All

full of pit - y, love, and power.
ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and
you will nev - er come at all.
is to feel your need of him.

go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the

arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession
Gracious and loving God,
you have lived for us - we have not lived for you.
You have forgiven us - we have not forgiven others.


*You have loved us - we have not loved ourselves
nor have we loved one another.
Take pity on us and forgive us, God.
Help us to forgive.
Help us to live for you.
Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Silent Confession

Declaration of God's Grace

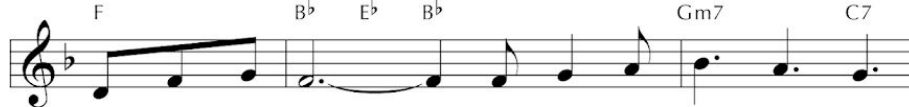
Sung Response #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F




1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7




and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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

*Startle us, O God, with your truth
and open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love.
Speak your word to us;
silence in us any voice but your own
and be with us now as we turn our attention,
our minds and our hearts, to you,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Scripture Readings Psalm 130 and Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon "Confession and Pardon
Third in a Sermon Series on Worship

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Meditative Song *"I've Got Peace Like a River"*

Affirmation of Faith *I Celebrate the Church of Jesus Christ* by Ann Weems

*I celebrate the church, where we are called
from half-heartedness to commitment:
commitment to a God who calls us to change,
to change our direction,
to be reborn
to a way of life where others are significant.*

*I celebrate the church,
where every child of God is hailed as unique and valuable,
where arms are opened to the world's outcasts,
where the tired, beaten, disillusioned world is invited in
and surprised
by the life-giving word
that Christ accepts the children,
all the children of the world.*

*I celebrate the injustices righted,
the protests made on behalf of the battered.
I celebrate the awareness and awakening to humanity's suffering,
the pain alleviated,
the scars erased.
I celebrate the mercy and forgiveness
the tears wiped away,
the hands held,
the gifts given,
the children treasured and nurtured,*

*the races won,
the failures met.
I celebrate the church of Jesus Christ.*

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 #435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

FORGIVENESS

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness
2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures
of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal
which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more
sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-
where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Charge & Benediction

Postlude *"The Church's One Foundation"*

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Acolyte: Lacy Myer

Liturgists: Patsy King, Mary Lou Clifton, Molly Bloxom, Henry Bloxom

Prayer of Confession: Robin Bell, Brenda Ramsby, Mary Harvey, Linda Hardenbergh, Sue

Kalvonjian, Mary Ann Merchant, Susan Smalley

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver

Tech Guru: Heather Myer

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SERMON SERIES: Why Worship?

"Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God. In worship the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God's claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed. In worship the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world." (PCUSA Book of Order, W-1.1001)

Have you ever wondered...

- Why do I need worship? Do I really need to come to church? Does it matter in these COVID days that I watch worship on my computer every week? Can't I just worship God on my own?
- Why do we say a prayer of confession, it's so depressing?
- Why does it seem like every time I show up for church, someone asks me for money?
- Why don't we start out with communion or the sermon? Why is our service organized the way it is?

Join us for this worship series all about worship. We will explore the PCUSA's reformed understanding of the theology of worship (it's interesting, thoughtful, and beautiful). Even while we can't gather in person, worship remains central to who we are as a church, so let's explore why.