



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
January 24, 2021



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 24, 2021

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude *Indescribable & Morning has Broken*

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Threshold Moment

Call to Worship *(by Beth Merrill Neel)*

In the quiet, in the calm, in the stillness,

We seek God.

In the clamor, in the cry, in the grief,

We seek God.

In the mystery, in the questions, in the unknowns,

We seek God.

In this time, in this place, with each other,

We seek God.

Even as we seek, let us worship God.

Hymn #39 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

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.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*God of mystery and might,
we turn to you in hope and faith.
But faith can be so difficult.
Your scriptures often seem like a bundle of contradictions.
Your ways are not our ways, and they confound us.
Forgive us when we try to make you small,
so that you are more comfortable to us,
simple, easy for our human minds to grasp.
Forgive us when we reduce you and your word to cliches,
rather than taking the time to learn your word,
or to revel in your complexity.
Stir in us a desire to grow as disciples.
Make us more comfortable in our lack of certainty.
Teach us to celebrate your mystery and grandeur,
that we might bring you joy.*

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

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Romans 8:18-30, 38-39

Sermon *Half Truth: Everything Happens for a Reason*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Meditation Piece *I Sing Praises*

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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 #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 *Blessed with Discomfort from The Work of the People*

Postlude *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus & In Christ Alone*

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Acolyte: Jacob Giddings

Liturgists: Thomas Corner, Lacy Myer

Vocals: Sue Rosser

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver

Video Producer: Heather Myer

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