

Service for the Lord's Day February 21, 2021



#### ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

## **GATHERING**

**Prelude** Agnus Dei from Mass in G Major by Franz Schubert

#### **Welcome & Announcements**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. *And also with you.* 

#### **Threshold Moment**

## **Hymn #411** God is Here Today



#### Call to Confession

#### **Prayer of Confession**

God meets us where we are -

There is nowhere we can go that you are not.

You were with Jesus at his baptism.

You were with him in the wilderness,

And even in between, you were there,

Saying aloud, "This is my beloved."

We know that you are with us too -

In the good, the bad, and everything in between -

But so often we act like we are alone.

Instead of coming to you with our hurt,

We hold it in or cast it onto others.

Instead of coming to you with our joy,

We credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

How can we long for a deeper relationship with you

While living like you are nowhere to be found?

Forgive our self-centered ways.

Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.

You are the God who meets us where we are.

Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.

#### Silent Confession

#### Declaration of God's Grace

## **Congregational Response #447** We Are Forgiven



To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

## **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** Genesis 9:8-17

**Scripture Reading** Mark 1:9-15

**Sermon** Again & Again, God Meets Us

#### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Special Music** Again and Again
A Song for Lent from The Many

#### Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who is everywhere and right here, Bigger than the sky and in the smallest details, All at once and in every moment.

We believe that God meets us where we are -In heartbreak and high hopes, Around crowded tables and in quiet homes, In joy and in suffering, In loneliness and in connection, In sanctuaries and in living rooms, In marches and in waiting rooms.

We believe that nothing we do or leave undone Can distance us from God's love. God is forever drawing us close and pulling us in. Again and again, God meets us where we are And invites us into wholeness. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

# Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

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.

Hymn #471 O Lord, Hear My Prayer



This chant from the Taizé Community in France is provided with two sets of words, either of which can be used as best suits the occasion. The first text is based on Psalm 102:1–2, and the second is an amalgam of phrases drawn from Psalms 118:14, 25:5, 36:9, and John 4:14.

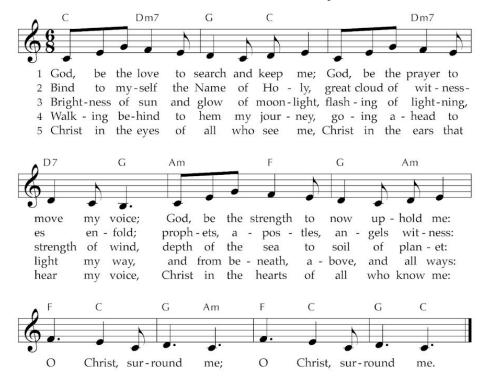
## Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

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 <a href="http://www.eastminsterchurch.org/give/online-giving/">http://www.eastminsterchurch.org/give/online-giving/</a>

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



# **Charge & Benediction**

**Postlude** Forty Days and Forty Nights

# Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Acolyte: Tony Boyne

Liturgists: Mary Harvey, Norm Mackay Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver Video Producer: Heather Myer

The liturgy is by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art. Special Music is by The Many. The Pastoral Prayer is from The Work of the People. Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831