



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
August 8, 2021



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 8, 2021

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Re-Entering the Sanctuary

Introit

Welcome & Announcements

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

*Call to Worship

I lift my eyes up to the mountains,
from where does my help come?

***My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.***

We look not to the mountains or valleys,
even heaven or earth,

For God is found among us.

Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,
God is here among us.

Come, let us worship the God of Creation,
the God of People, the God of Community.

Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is The Way.

Let us worship together in faith.

*Hymn #645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

TEXT: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.
 MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesang*, 1566; harm. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

MIT FREUDEN ZART
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7

A Prayer of Lament

We lament before you, O God, Comforter in our distress,
 the losses that our congregation has suffered.

We have missed our weekly assembled worship,
our sharing of bread and cup,
our communal song,
our greetings of peace;
the full observances of Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas;
baptisms, weddings, and funerals;
gatherings for education; coffee hours;
the mutual consolation of the faithful enacted each Sunday,
and we mourn members, friends, and family who have died of COVID-19.

O God, we lament our losses, for they are many.

Restore us, gracious God.

Restore us, gracious God.

We lament before you, O God, Sustainer of the universe,
the tragedies that our world has experienced.

We lament the millions sickened;
the countless dead;
thousands unemployed;
medical systems depleted;
economic security threatened;
political discord escalated;
despondency rampant;
racial injustice intensified;
communal engagements canceled. . .

O God, we lament the world's tragedies, for they are incalculable.

Heal us, compassionate God.

Heal us, compassionate God.

Song of Lament #787 *God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn*

1 God weeps with us who weep and mourn; God's
 2 Through tears and sor - row, God, we share a
 3 And yet be - cause, like us, you weep, we

tears flow down with ours, and God's own heart is
 sense of your vast grief: the weight of bear - ing
 trust you will re - ceive and in your ten - der

bruised and worn from all the heav - y hours
 ev - ery prayer for heal - ing and re - lief,
 heart will keep the ones for whom we grieve,

of watch - ing while the soul's bright fire burned
 the bur - den of our ques - tions why, the
 while with your tears our hearts will taste the

low - er day by day, and pulse and breath and
 doubts that they en - gage, and as our friends and
 deep, dear core of things from which both life and

love's de - sire dimmed down to ash and clay.
 loved ones die, our hope - less - ness and rage.
 death are graced by love's re - new - ing springs.

Scripture Reading Psalm 121

A Prayer of Praise

Yet today, O God of the everlasting arms,
 we rejoice at this re-gathering of our congregation:
 we praise you for Sunday worship in word and sacrament;

for the personal presence of our pastor, elders and deacons;
for infants, children, youth, adults, and the aged together;
for communal song and live music;
for coffee hours;
for Bible study;
for service with one another for the wider community;
for the mutual consolation of the faithful enacted on Sundays and weekdays . . .

O God, we rejoice at this re-gathering for baptismal life together.

Empower our church, faithful God.

Empower our church, faithful God.

And we pray, O God of safe harbor, for the emergence of a wholesome world:

with health restored;
mourners consoled;
vaccines available for children;
poverty averted;
sustenance shared;
science respected;
travel resumed;
fear replaced with confidence;
sorrow turned to joy . . .

O God, we pray for the emergence of a wholesome world.

Renew the whole world, merciful God.

Renew the whole world, merciful God.

Give us your peace, eternal God.

Give us your peace, eternal God.

Passing of the Peace (*We will pass the peace by placing a hand over our heart and saying "The Peace of Christ be with you."*)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Message

Sermon *Help on the Journey*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Silence & Reflection

Pastoral Prayer/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.

***Hymn #837**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,
 lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. *Refrain* Lean-ing,
 Lean-ing on Je-sus,
 lean-ing, lean-ing on Je-sus, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
 ing, lean-ing, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.

TEXT: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887
 MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

SHOWALTER
 10.9.10.9 with refrain

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Robin Bell

Pianist: Alyssa Snelson

Singer: Sulin Campbell

Video Producer: Heather Myer

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