



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
September 12, 2021



WELCOME!

Whether you are a member or a visitor, worshiping with us in-person or online, you are welcome here.

Information about our church is found in the narthex or online: eastminsterchurch.org. At the welcome table or on our website, you can sign up for our weekly emails.

After worship please join us outside for refreshments and a time of fellowship.



In an effort to keep our community safe and to love our neighbor, we are requiring masks in the building regardless of vaccination status. For those who desire more space, the service will be playing in the Green Room (west of the sanctuary).

Children are always welcome in worship at Eastminster. Your child can sit with you in the pew, sit in the space created for children at the front of the sanctuary or right now in the back of the sanctuary on the padded chairs. We have not yet resumed childcare, so if you are worried about your child getting a little wiggly or loud you can also worship in the Green Room where your child will have more space to move.

This is a livestream worship service, and the camera and microphones are on the whole time. While the camera is most often focused on the front of the sanctuary, there is a chance that you will be captured on camera. We do turn the camera off during the children's sermon and have that part audio only. If you would prefer to stay out of the camera's eye, you're encouraged to sit on the left side of the sanctuary.

** Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

Bold text is read or sung by the congregation.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 12, 2021

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Call to Worship

We come to worship this morning from different places.

O God, do not be far from us.

We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

O God, do not be far from us.

We experience the presence of the Spirit in different ways.

O God, do not be far from us.

We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

O God, do not be far from us.

"Deny yourselves."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Take up your cross."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Follow me."

O God, we thank you for drawing near to us in this place,

in our lives. Amen

Hymn #451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send - est clear.
 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where.

Place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery - thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with thy chil - dren

set me free. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
 dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy

will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Creator God,

*forgive our moments of ingratitude,
the spiritual blindness that prevents us
from appreciating the wonder that is this world,
the endless cycle of nature,
of life and death and rebirth.*

*Forgive us for taking without giving,
reaping without sowing.*

*Open our eyes to see,
our lips to praise,
our hands to share.*

*May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread,
and our footsteps be worthy of following,
for they lead to you.*

*For all those times we bring a tear to your eye, bring us back into
your forgiving arms and teach us once again, your way.*

Amen

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Passing of the Peace (Share the peace of Christ with the person next
to you)*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings Mark 8:34-9:1

Sermon The Joy of Cross Bearing

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Silence & Reflection

Affirmation of Faith *from A Brief Statement of Faith*
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

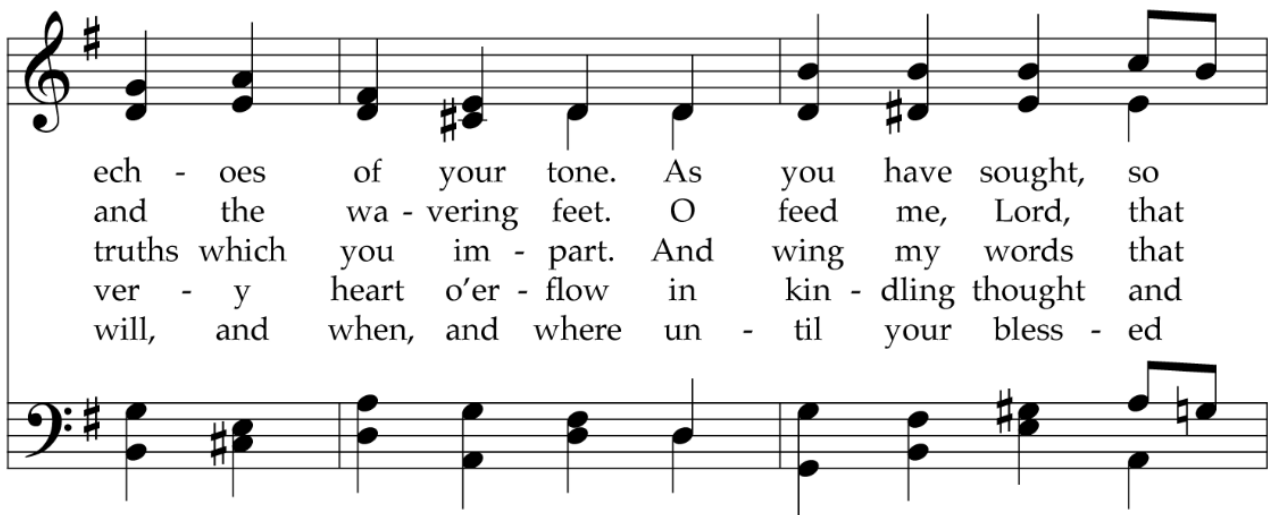
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn #722**

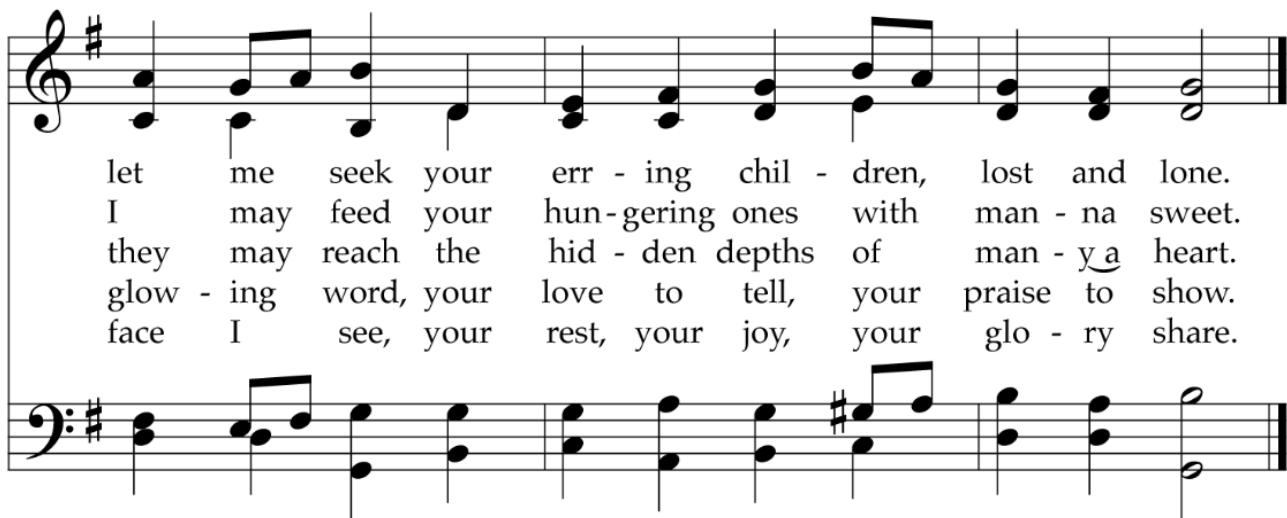
Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak



1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you



ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed



let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 I may feed your hun - gering ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Guest Minister: Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston

Worship Leader: Neil Myer

Children's Sermon: Neil Myer

Soloist: Sulin Campbell

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Worship Credits: Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Ushers

Head usher: Cindy Nixon; Matt Nixon

Greeter

Sue Kalvonjian

Flowers

The flowers today are placed by Linda Hardenbergh in celebration of her birthday.

Church Leadership and Staff

Rev. Kristin Stroble	Pastor
Rev. Shirley Paxton	Parish Advisor
Neil Myer	Director of Christian Education
Bridgette Redman	Office Administrator
Tamar Mikeladze	Organist
Heather Myer	Bell Choir Director and Video Producer

This Week at Eastminster:

Sept. 12 through Sept. 19

TODAY, 9/12

Worship 10 a.m.

Fellowship 11 a.m.

MONDAY, 9/13

Staff Meeting 10 a.m.

Worship Committee 10:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, 9/14

Bell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.

Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 9/15

Men's Bible Study 8:00 a.m.

Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

UKirk 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, 9/16

Choir Brainstorming 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, 9/17

Lugnuts Faith Night 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 9/19

Worship 10 a.m.

Fellowship 11 a.m.
Darlene Bullerdick memorial 12 p.m.

New Worship and Christian Education Series

“I’ve been Meaning to Ask...” Our upcoming worship series centers around four guiding questions: “Where are you from? Where does it hurt? What do you need? Where do we go from here?” The series will run five weeks and there will be weekly small group opportunities on Wednesday mornings (starting Sept. 15), and Sunday after worship (starting Sept. 19).

Memorial for Darlene Bullerdick

A memorial service for Darlene will be held at noon, Sunday, Sept. 19. All are welcome to attend and join in an outdoor reception afterward.

Calling All Singers

Without a director, we probably won’t have a formal choir this year, but a number of people want to keep it alive as an “Informal Choir,” so anyone who likes to sing is welcome to join us!

We’re planning a brainstorming meeting for **Thursday, September 16, from 6:30-7:30**, at the church. During that time we’ll discuss what this new choir will look like, the possibility of having practice before church on Sunday instead of Thursday nights, how many Sundays we would want to sing, songs we can sing from the Choir Library downstairs, etc. We’d love your input!

If you want to let us know you’re coming, or if you can’t come that night but have suggestions, you can contact us: Sulin Campbell (517-349-5384; sulin@msu.edu;) and/or Bob Walter (517-669-5123; bobwalterretired@yahoo.com). Hope you’ll join us!

Calling All Ringers!

The first handbell rehearsal will be this Tuesday, September 14th at 6 p.m. New ringers are welcome and no previous experience is necessary! Contact Heather Myer (heather.c.myer@gmail.com) for more information.

Block Party--Wednesday, September 26th

All are invited from 2-4 p.m. to join us outside the church for games, music, fellowship, and the Melting Moments food truck. Make sure you come and invite a friend!

RDC Classes

All ESOL classes with the Refugee Development Center will be online this semester and will not be returning to the church until at least the winter semester.

Ways you can help...

Hurricane Relief in Louisiana

We do not yet know the full extent of damage from Hurricane Ida, but we do know the needs will be significant. To support the response of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, designate gifts to DR000169.

Haiti after the August 14th earthquake

The quake and its aftershocks have left almost 1,300 people dead, thousands more injured and an unknown number of people are still missing. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas.

Afghanistan

St. Vincent Catholic Charities (STVCC), the only refugee resettlement site in mid-Michigan, is expecting hundreds of refugees in the next few months and 300 evacuees from Afghanistan. Afghans are coming

through a special program and therefore will not qualify for government assistance. They need our help! You can sponsor a newly arriving family. A sponsorship of \$2,000 will support a family of four for a month. Checks can be sent to St. Vincent Catholic Charities with “Afghan Sponsorship” in the memo line.