



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day  
September 26, 2021**



Seen | Lisle Gwynn Garrity

## 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](http://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 26, 2021

10:00 a.m.

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## GATHERING

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome & Announcements**

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

### **\*Call to Worship**

Here in this space,  
we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

*There is no use in filters or walls.*

*This space is an authentic space.*

This space is a brave space.

*For when it comes to God,*

*we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.*

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy,  
your prayers and your dreams.

*All of God's children are welcome here.*

Let us worship Holy God.

**Hymn #819** Be Still, My Soul

### **Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession | Truth telling**

**Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Family of faith, in the journey to love and care for one another, we are bound to make mistakes. Fortunately for us, we worship a God who showed us how to love, and who extends grace to us when we fail to do so for others.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

***We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.***

***Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.***

**\*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 Reading**      1 Samuel 1:1-18

**Scripture Reading**      Mark 5:21-43

**Sermon**      I've been meaning to ask...where does it hurt??

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Time of Reflection—Where does it hurt?**

*What makes your heart hurt?*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

***On my best days,***

*I believe that God is there — standing in the sun with me,  
laughing a contagious laugh and cheering me on.  
On my hardest days,  
I believe that God is there — standing in the rain with me,  
holding me up and sharing in my grief.  
No matter where I go —  
in joy or in loss,  
in pain or in love,  
in heartache or in gratitude —  
I believe that God is there,  
leaning in, noticing where it hurts,  
and carrying me through it.  
And so, I believe we are called to care for each other  
as God cares for us.  
On your best days in the sun  
and on your worst days in the rain,  
I will do my best  
to be there for you too. Amen.*

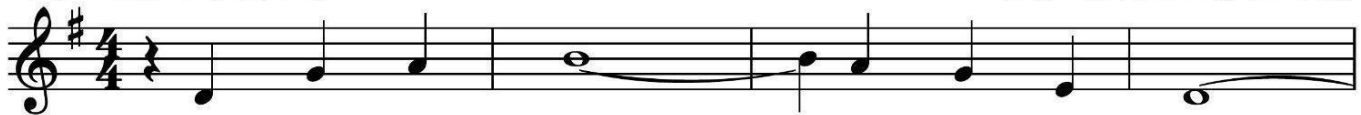
### **Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

*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**    *A Covenant of Grace*

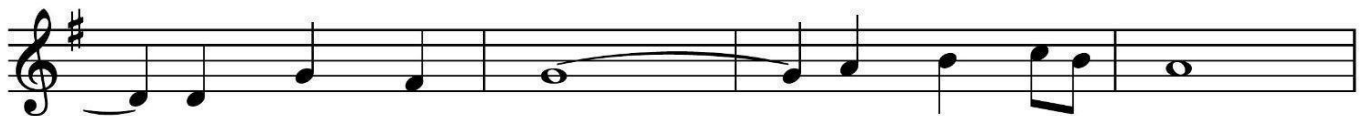
Text: Anna Strickland (2021)

Music: Traditional English melody



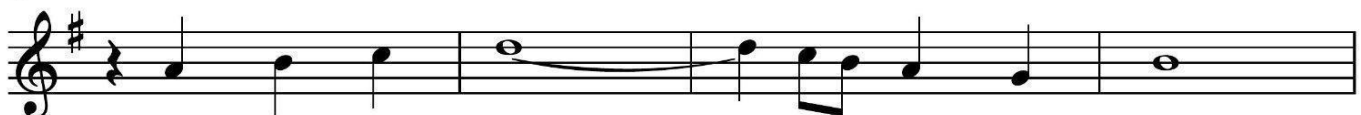
We all come from the dus - ty earth  
We all have wounds that no one sees  
We all need peo - ple who will be  
Sur - prised by God's un - bound - ed love

5



And from the pla - ces of our birth  
Op - press - ion, trou - ma, and dis - ease  
With us in sol - i - dar - i - ty  
From ma - ny walks of life we come

9



An - ces - tral sto - ries who we'll be  
When we bear wit - ness to the pain  
No ex - pla - na - tion, no de - fense  
To build a cov - e - nant of grace

13



We bring it all to come and see  
It can be - gin to heal a - gain  
Just min - is - try of their pres - ence  
And in our diff'r - enc - es em - brace

## **\*Charge & Benediction**

## **Postlude**

### **Participants in today's service:**

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Robin Bell

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

**Worship Credits:** Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831. Liturgy by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art

**Ushers**

Head usher: Brenda Ramsby; Maddy Trimby

**Greeter**

Lacy Myer

**Flowers**

The flowers today are placed to the glory of God.

**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. 26 through Oct. 3*

**TODAY, 9/26**

Worship	10 a.m.
Fellowship	11 a.m.
Small Groups	11:15 a.m.
Block Party	2:00 p.m.

**MONDAY, 9/27**

Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
Trivia at Royal Scott	7:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, 9/28**

Bell Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.
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**WEDNESDAY, 9/29**

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	11:00 a.m.

UKirk	7:30 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY, 9/30</b>	
30s/40s group	7:00 p.m.
<b>SUNDAY, 10/3</b>	
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Small Groups	11:15 a.m.
Virtual Crop Walk	

### **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 (started Sept. 15), and Sunday after worship (started last week).

### **Block Party--Today!**

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!

### **Cultured Purls Returns**

After a pandemic-enforced separation, the Cultured Purls, Eastminster's knitting group, will resume meeting from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday, starting on Oct. 7.

### **Advent House “Serving”**

In the past, Eastminster provided meals one Saturday a month at Advent House. At that time we recruited 10 members to prepare pan meals and additional 2 – 3 people to cook and serve the meals on the



second Saturday of the month. This year we are trying something different; we are planning to recruit 8 church members to prepare 8 identical sack lunches.

The lunches should include:

- Sandwich (no peanut butter) or Quesadilla
- A drink box or small drink bottle or can
- Small bag of chips or granola bar or cheese and cracker packet
- Fresh fruit or a small fruit cup or a small cup of applesauce or a small box of raisins or dried cranberries
- Sandwich bag with small carrots and small celery sticks and/or sliced cucumbers (or other fresh vegetables such as cherry tomatoes) with small container of dip
- Pudding cup or yogurt cup

The bag should include a plastic spoon, and the front of the bag should indicate the contents. The sack lunches should be delivered to the church on the second Saturday of the month by 10:00 am. They can be dropped off on Friday upon arrangement. Our first date for delivery is October 9, 2021.

If you would be willing to provide a set of 8 sack lunches for the October 9 delivery, please contact Bridgette Redman, the Church Office Administrator, at 517-337-0897 or [office@eastminsterchurch.org](mailto:office@eastminsterchurch.org).

### **Peace & Global Witness Offering**

One of the special offerings of the PC(USA), a gift to this offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations keep 25% of the offering to use in their community. We are designating our portion to Refugee Services at STVCC to aid in the

resettling of Afghans in our community. To donate go to our website [eastminsterchurch.org](http://eastminsterchurch.org) and go to the "Give" tab or bring/mail your offering to the church.

## **Sunday Offering Counters Needed**

Eastminster needs several additional counters. The job is easy, you would work just one Sunday each month and it usually takes only about 20 minutes, immediately following worship.

We need two people — preferably not from the same household — to count each week. There are step-by-step instructions and we will schedule a short training session as soon as we hear from enough volunteers. Counters open envelopes, record the giving, make copies of checks and prepare and make the bank deposit. With fewer people attending worship in person and more folks giving online, the counting job has gotten much faster — but still necessary!

If you would like additional information or are ready to volunteer, please contact Dave Duryea ([drduryea@aol.com](mailto:drduryea@aol.com)) or Susan Smalley ([smalley3@msu.edu](mailto:smalley3@msu.edu)).