



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
September 5, 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 5, 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**

The story of scripture assures us that

In the beginning

before time, before people,

before the world began,

God was.

Here and now

among us, beside us,

never forsaking us, always calling us back to love

God is.

In the future,

when we have turned to dust

and all we know has found its fulfilment,


God will be.

Not denying the world, but delighting in it,



not condemning the world, but redeeming it,

through Jesus Christ, love incarnate,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
God was,
God is,
God will be.



Hymn #611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee




1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

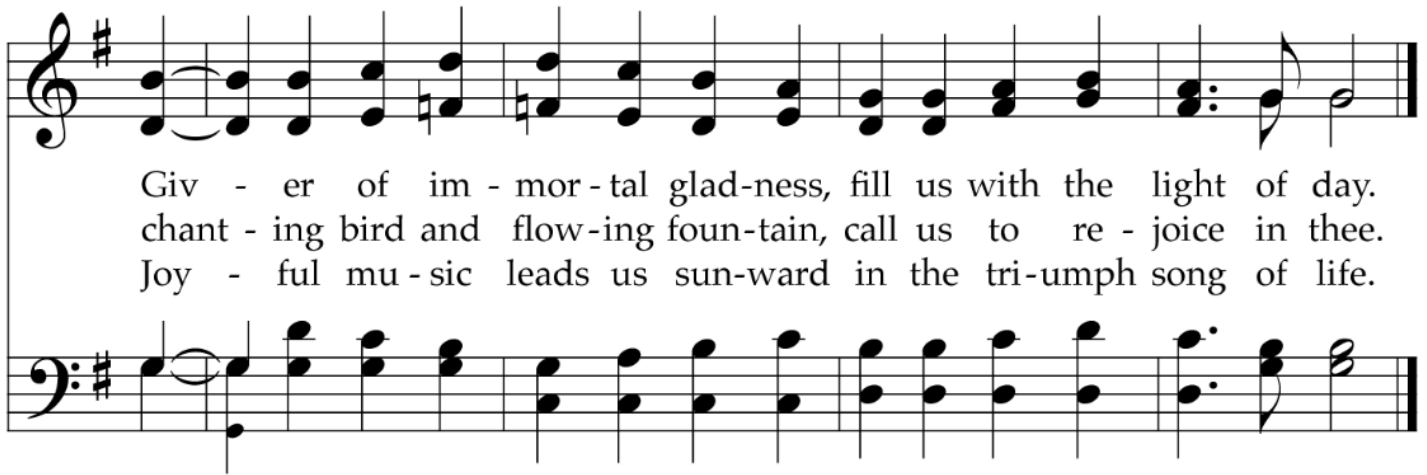


Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.





Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

*Scripture is given to us as a gift and we dare to be casual with it,
selective in our study, reading only when we remember.*

*We've heard the old, old story of your love
and we confess our sin of indifference.*

God, jolt our lives to turn and look at you once more.

Holy One,

we confess that we've wielded scripture as a weapon,
using it to exclude instead of include,
quoting it to support our own opinion.

Give us the ears to hear your amazing story of love.

O Lord,

we confess that we dismiss your Word so casually,
calling it antiquated, outdated, no longer useful.

***Open our hearts to the story of how love became flesh
and how that love continues to dwell among us.***

Forgive us for not hearing, trusting, or sharing your sacred story.

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 Reading Colossians 3:16-17

Sermon The Story of Scripture

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Silence & Reflection

Communion (*If you are worshiping at home, please supply your own elements*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 #462 I Love to Tell the Story

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: '1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove, 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love. what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet! seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it, like the rest.'

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Mike Brown

Soloist: Sulin Campbell

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Worship Credits: Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831. The Call to Worship is adapted from a prayer in the Wee Worship Book.

Ushers

Head usher: Barb Stowitts

Greeter

Jan Coye

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. 5 through Sept. 12

TODAY, 9/05

Worship 10 a.m.

Fellowship 11 a.m.

MONDAY, 9/06

Staff Meeting 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, 9/07

Worship Committee 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, 9/08

Men's Bible Study 8 a.m.

Bible Study 11 a.m.

UKirk 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, 9/11

PageTurners Book Club 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, 9/12

Worship 10 a.m.

Fellowship 11 a.m.

Block Party--Postponed!

Join us Wednesday, Sept. 26 from 2-4pm.

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. 8), and Sunday after worship (starting Sept. 12).

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!

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) is requesting help with supporting their Immigration law clinic. Right now they are actively working to bring Afghans to the U.S.

Refugee Development Center (RDC), in partnership with the Afghan Association of Michigan has begun the Afghan Welcome Fund which will be used to welcome and support refugees as they begin new lives in mid-Michigan.