



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
October 17, 2021

I've been  
meaning  
to ask...

a series for curiosity,  
courage, & connection

## 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

October 17, 2021

10:00 a.m.

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## GATHERING

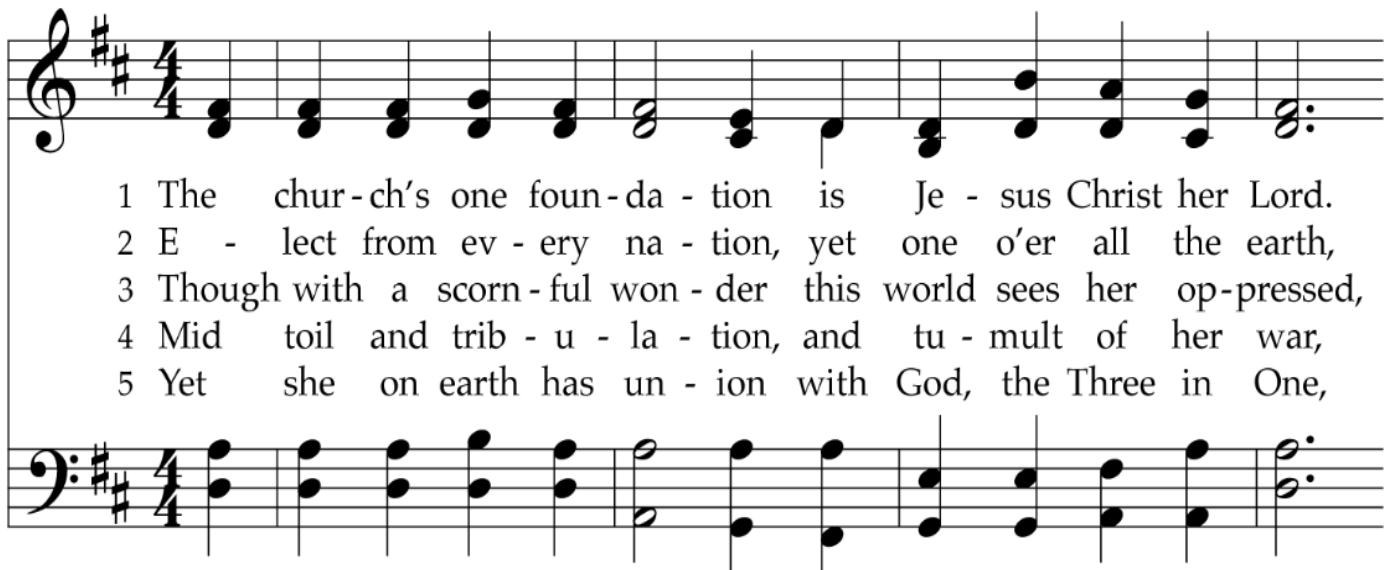
### Prelude

### Welcome & Announcements

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

### Call to Worship

### Hymn #321 The Church's One Foundation



1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.  
2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,  
4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,  
5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,



She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more:  
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:



From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride.  
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,



With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.  
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.



## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession | Truth telling**

*Gracious God,*

*some days it just seems too exhausting*

*to keep asking the hard questions,*

*to try again in relationships,*

*to do the hard work of curiosity, vulnerability, and connection.*

*Forgive us for forgetting or choosing not to ask -*

*“Where are you from?*

*Where does it hurt?*

*What do you need?*

*And where do we go from here?”*

*Enable us to start again.*

*We pray, we trust, we believe, that if we keep asking,*

*we just might find our way home.*

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

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

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

## **Scripture Reading**      John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## **Conversation & Connection**

### Conversation round 1

1. What place feels most like home? What do you love about it?

2. How did you get connected to this faith community? What is one of your favorite memories here?
3. What is one thing that the pandemic brought into your life that you would like to keep or hold onto?
4. What is a hope you have for yourself in the coming year? For your family? For the church? For this city?

### Conversation round 2

1. What brings you joy these days?
2. What weighs heavy on you, or causes you grief?
3. What is something you have learned about yourself in the past year?
4. If you could go back in time and teach your younger self one lesson, what would it be?

### Conversation round 3

1. What's your favorite family tradition? Or, what's a tradition you want to start and pass along to those you love?
2. We often talk about "mountain top" experiences in our faith - places where God feels close. Where is a place that you have felt close to God? What was holy about it?
3. Share a key moment in your faith journey. How did that moment shape what you believe today?
4. Who is someone who has been influential in your faith? What impact did they have?

### Conversation round 4

1. Is there a story behind your given name or your surname? If you have a nickname or a chosen name, how is this name meaningful to you?
2. Share a memory related to food - a family recipe, a baking ritual or a time of breaking bread with loved ones.

3. What is your first memory of grief? What have you learned from your grief?
4. Share a story of a time when you felt the most like yourself.

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **Reflection**

*While the song, "All Belong Here" by the Many, plays respond to the reflection prompts on prayer cards.*

Front of the card: What made you feel connected in your conversation?

Back of the card: What is something you learned about yourself or a partner? (exclude names)

### **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 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

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

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**Ushers**

Head usher: Sue Kalvonjian; Susan Smalley, Jim Artabasy

**Greeter**

Judy Dickinson

**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:**

*Oct. 17 through Oct. 24*

**TODAY, 10/17**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

**MONDAY, 10/18**

Trivia at Royal Scott 7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, 10/20**

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

Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

UKirk 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, 10/21**

Cultured Purls 10:00 a.m.

30s/40s group 7:00 p.m.

## **SUNDAY, 10/24**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.

### **Worship Help Needed!**

We are grateful to be worshipping in person and online as a community of faith. We need your help, though, with these services. Below are some of the volunteers we need:

**Worship Leaders:** Are you willing to help Kristin with leading the worship in-person on Sunday mornings? We would love to include as many different voices as possible. Contact the office if you're interested.

**Virtual Worship Hosts:** We are seeking individuals that will help engage those worshipping online. A virtual worship host would use the chat function in YouTube to welcome people and invite participation. Contact Kristin if you are willing to help and she will give you more information.

**LiveStream Help:** Now that the livestream is up and running, we are seeking to train more people to run that on Sunday mornings. Anyone comfortable with a computer is able to learn this. We need people who are willing to run it once a month or to fill in on occasion. This is a paid position. Please let Kristin know if you are interested in learning!

### **Advent House**

Advent House fully opened its day shelter and food programs in August. In the past, in addition to providing Saturday lunches once a month, Eastminster provided items to support the day shelter and food programs. Thus, we are requesting donations as we had in the past, as listed below. There are baskets in the Green Room where you can drop off items.

## **Personal Needs**

Toilet paper  
Laundry soap  
Bleach  
Dish soap  
Bar soap  
Paper towels  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Shampoo  
Tampons & pads  
Tissue

## **Weekend Day Shelter**

Paper towels  
8" heavy-duty paper or Styrofoam plates  
Napkins  
lg (50-gal) garbage bags  
Pine-Sol  
Aluminum foil  
Bleach  
Food handling (non-latex) gloves (M)  
Dawn dishwashing soap  
Grease-cutting spray  
String mop heads

**1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823**

**Phone: 517-337-0893**

**[www.eastminsterchurch.org](http://www.eastminsterchurch.org)**

**[www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing](http://www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing)**