

Service for the Lord's Day February 6, 2022



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.

In an effort to keep our community safe and to love our neighbor, we are requiring masks in the building regardless of vaccination status.



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

February 6, 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

- L. We are here, O God, but we carry much with us.
- P. We are a mixed bag of hope and despair, faith and doubt, light and laughter.
- L. We are here, O God, but we often wonder why and if you are here too.
- P. We bring with us unanswered questions, scars and fears, anxiety and depression.
- L. Remind us once again, Creator God that you invite all of us.
- P. For God loves us just as we are.
- L. We are God's children, so let us worship the God of love.

Hymn #509 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

Forgive us for the chasm that so often exists
between our head and our heart, our desires and our actions.

Forgive us for our hard hearts, afraid to feel,
and soften them with your love.

Forgive us for our clenched hands, holding too tightly
to what we think we know,
open them with your grace.

Forgive us for our feet too firmly planted,
invite us to play and dance with you.

Forgive us for when we limit you and when we limit ourselves
for your love knows no boundaries.

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 Ephesians 1:3-14

Sermon Predestination: Is This Good News?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

Communion & 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 #649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound





TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie MUSIC: Columbian Harmony, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;

AMAZING GRACE

Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble Worship Leader: Sam O'Neill

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Soloist: Sulin Campbell

Pianist/Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer and Robin Bell

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

Ushers

Head usher: Barb Stowitts; Ron Davis

Flowers

The flowers today are given by Pat and Ted Hagan in memory of Archie Matthews.

Greeters

George & Sue Miller

Counters

Matt Nixon

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

This Week at Eastminster:

February 6 through February 13

SUNDAY, 2/06

Worship 10:00 a.m.
Congregational Meeting 11:00 a.m.
Adult Forum 11:15 a.m.
UKirk 7:00 p.m.

MONDAY, 2/7

Trivia at Royal Scott 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 2/8

Session 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 2/9

Men's Bible Study 8:00 a.m.
Bible Study 11:00 a.m.
UKirk 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, 2/10

Young Adult Gathering 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, 2/12

Advent House 8:00 a.m. PageTurners Book Club 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, 2/13

Worship 10:00 a.m. Adult Forum 11:00 a.m.



Our current sermon series is "Big Questions." The questions below are taken from what you, the congregation submitted. Please know if you submitted a question and it is not being addressed, you are welcome to come talk about it

with Kristin. Come explore big questions with us!

Today: Predestination: Is This Good News?

February 13th: The Cross: Why Did Jesus Have to Die? Is God Against Us?

February 20th: Heaven: Will We Recognize Each Other? Can We Trust We'll Get There? Is There Enough Room?

February 27th: What is the Role of the Church in 2022?

Education Formation Forum: Sundays at 11 am

Join us each Sunday at 11am following worship for our education forum. Over the next many weeks we will complement our Big Questions sermon series. Each week will be different, so join us whenever your schedule allows. We will engage questions and include thought provoking activities that will stretch our thinking as we grow in faith and learn from one another.

Today Predestination (Rev. Dr. Jeff O'Neill facilitating)

Feb 13 The Cross

Feb 20 Images of Heaven

Feb 27 Role of the Church in 2022

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is today after worship. The purpose of this meeting is to receive financial reports, vote on the pastor's terms of call, and elect the Nominating Committee. There are printed annual reports in the narthex.

Souper Bowl of Caring

"Even as we prepare to watch a football game, Lord, let us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat." Those words of a prayer at a Presbyterian Church in South Carolina started a movement. Now through February 13, we will be taking part in the Souper Bowl of Caring. This youth-inspired movement began in 1990, and has raised more than \$160 million dollars to fight hunger over the past 30 years. Last year alone, over \$10 million dollars was collected. The monies stay local and go directly to those tackling hunger.

Eastminster's collection will once again go to the MSU Student Food Bank. In these COVID times, the MSU Student Food Bank is still serving food-insecure students and their families and our collection can help them continue those efforts. Since we will not have soup pots at the sanctuary doors on Souper Bowl Sunday this year, we have the following options to participate:

- 1. Send a check to the church made out to Eastminster (memo line: Souper Bowl)
- 2. Give online using the special offerings option on the online giving menu

Advent House Meals

Want to help prepare our February Advent House lunch? We still need people to bring the following (in quantities to fill 60 lunches) for February 12th:

- Lettuce and cheese
- Hummus and wraps
- Cans of soup

We can also always use help assembling the lunches at 8 a.m. Please contact the church office to sign up.

PageTurners

The Eastminster book club will meet via Zoom this Saturday. They'll be discussing "The Women of Copper Country" by Mary Doria Russell. The book was a Great Michigan Reads selection of 2021. It's a riveting account of 25-year-old Annie Clements who stood up for the miners during the 1913 copper strike in the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan.

Can you build a ramp?

The Merchants are looking for someone who could build them a ramp. Please give them a call directly if you can help out. (New directories were emailed out yesterday--please let the church know if you did not receive it.)

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