

Service for the Lord's Day March 20, 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.

Masks are now optional in the building. If Ingham County moves to a high level again (based on CDC's communities levels) we will require



masks again. We do have masks available at the welcome table.

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

GATHERING

Prelude

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

Threshold Take, O Take Me As I Am

Opening Prayer Holy One, Our Balm, Our Feast we lift our hands and call your name, in need of healing—thirsting and hungry. Your steadfast love is better than life. Open us this day to your nourishment in the songs of the land, in the beauty of the sky in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

Choir Hymn #800 Sometimes a Light Surprises

Call to Confession

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 Psalm 63:1-8

Special Music "There is a Fountain"

Handbell Choir

Scripture Reading Luke 13:1-9

Sermon Lots of things can be medicine

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

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 #833 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go



*A Blessing For Slowing Down

*Benediction

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble Worship Leader: Cindy Nixon Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer Pianist/Organist: Tamar Mikeladze Handbell Choir Director: Heather Myer Video Producer: Susan Smalley

<u>Worship Credits</u>: The theme and liturgy is from a series designed by Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Worship Series and Visual: We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility — climbing ladders of prosperity fabulous with increasingly experiences that we can post to ever-more-likable social media accounts. But life happens, right? Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we've just slipped from. So what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves? Welcome to a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our "good enough" lives.

<u>Ushers</u>

Head usher: Sue Kalvonjian; Barb Lowes

<u>Greeter</u>

Bruce Augenstein

Counters

Barb Stowitts, Jesse Turner

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:

March 20 through March 27	
SUNDAY, 3/20	
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
MONDAY, 3/21	
Lent Small Group	12:00 p.m.
Trivia at Royal Scott	7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, 3/22	
Handbells	7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 3/23	
Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	11:00 a.m.
Lent Small Group	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, 3/24	
Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, 3/27	
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship	11:00 a.m.

Lent Small Groups

This Lent, we will be focusing on reconnecting and forming new relationships, sharing the joys and the struggles of life and discovering together how beauty can be found amid the chaos. After reviewing the Google forms and times you are able to meet for small groups we have created four options to gather. Even if you didn't fill out a form, we encourage you to consider joining one of the groups below. They began meeting the week of March 13th. Please contact Neil Myer at the church office with any questions or neil@eastminsterchurch.org.

- Mondays from 12-1 pm This group will meet in a hybrid manner. You can come to the church or join on Zoom. (Unlimited spaces)
- Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm -This group will meet in-person at Beverly Bonning and Jeff Lapinski's home. (Three spaces left, contact Neil Myer to sign up)
- Thursdays at 7 pm This group is specifically designed for young adults (20/30/40s). The meeting place changes. Please contact Pastor Kristin for more information.

Collection for Recently Arrived Afghans

St. Vincent Catholic Charities is in need of men's coats and underwear, sizes M and L. Please note that they **do not** accept used clothes. We have a bin in the narthex to collect these items. Thank you!

Fellowship Help

Bev Bonning will be out of town next week and needs a volunteer to help serve coffee fellowship on March 27. Please let her know if you can help out.

An Update from the Session:

Throughout these two years of the pandemic, the Session has done their best to follow our local health department recommendations as well as CDC guidelines in an effort to care for one another. Following the CDC's updated guidance, Session voted this week to relax our guidelines. CDC has a new tool that helps communities decide prevention steps based on



the latest data. Counties are labeled as low, medium, or high and that data is updated weekly. They recommend that those communities in low and medium levels can make masks optional and in high require them.

Ingham County is currently a medium transmission community and so Eastminster will be mask optional beginning immediately. We will continue to monitor the data and the transmission

rates for Ingham County and if our transmission rates become high again, we will follow the CDC's guidelines to require masks again.

We recently heard in worship the passage from 1 Corinthians that says "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." We know that many of you will be thrilled not to wear a mask while others will want to continue wearing a mask. As the body of Christ we commit to respect and honor each other's decisions without judgment and shame. We also ask that you continue to love your neighbor by staying home if you are sick or if you have COVID. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Grace and Peace, Kristin

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders and Deacons for 2021-2022

Susan Smalley, Clerk/Robert Kleine, Treasurer

Elders	Deacons
Robin Bell	Beverly Bonning
Mike Brown	Sulin Campbell
Ron Davis	Judy Dickinson
David Duryea	Suzanne Hunt
Mike Jones	Sue Kalvonjian
Estelle McGroarty	Cindy Nixon
Heather Myer	Barb Stowitts
Susan Smalley	Brenda Ramsby
Bob Walter	

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