



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day**  
**March 27, 2022**

*Good Enough:*

Embracing the Imperfections  
of Life and Faith

*Lent 4*

"We often believe we are the problem."



## 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.

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

March 27, 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.*

**Threshold**    *Take, O Take Me As I Am*

### **Opening Prayer**

*Holy One, God of Forgiveness,  
we call out to you*

*and you surround us with deliverance.*

*You love us infinitely more than we love ourselves or others.*

*Open us this day to your counsel,*

*helping us be more merciful, more grace-filled,*

*so that we might rejoice in simple and good enough moments that  
fill our days.*

*Amen.*

**Choir Hymn #53** O God, Who Gives Us Life

### **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 32

**Special Music**

**Scripture Reading**      Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Sermon**      We often believe we are the problem

## **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 #774 There Is Now a New Creation



1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,  
2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:  
3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.  
4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;  
5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.



peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.  
now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.  
All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.  
Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.  
Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!



TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009  
MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.  
Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

STUTTGART  
8.7.8.7

## \*A Blessing For Becoming Real

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

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

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Brenda Ramsby

Pianist/Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Special Music: Kaori Marikawa

Video Producer: Mike Brown

Worship Credits: The theme and liturgy is from a series designed by Marcia McFee, [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough](http://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 with increasingly fabulous 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.

## **Ushers**

Head usher: Barb Stowitts;

## **Greeter**

Becky Brown

## **Counters**

Sue Rosser

## **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 27 through April 3*

### **SUNDAY, 3/27**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

### **MONDAY, 3/28**

Lent Small Group 12:00 p.m.

Trivia at Royal Scott 7:00 p.m.

### **WEDNESDAY, 3/30**

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

Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Lent Small Group 6:30 p.m.

### **THURSDAY, 3/31**

Admin & Finance Meeting 9:00 a.m.

Young Adult Gathering 7:00 p.m.

### **SUNDAY, 4/3**

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](mailto: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!



Eastminster is hoping to get together at least two teams for **UKirk's Team Trivia Night**, which will take place at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos.

Contact the church office if you want to join in.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

We'll be collecting for One Great Hour of Sharing between now and Easter. This special offering supports three programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. They all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance and hope.



You can give using the envelopes in the sanctuary, by mailing a check into the church with "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the memo line or on our website.

## News in Brief

*Church office hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m....Sign-up now for Easter lilies...Neil Myer will be on vacation March 27 through March 31....Per Capita this year is \$36.73.*

## April Advent House

We need people to sign up to bring food for Advent House and to assemble the lunch bags on Saturday morning, April 9. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office at 517-337-0893.



## 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*

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>
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	

**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)**