



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day  
December 4, 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](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. We do have masks available at the welcome table for those who would like to wear them.

Children are always welcome in worship at Eastminster. Your child can sit with you in the pew or sit in the space created for children at the front of the sanctuary. Our nursery is on the lower level for children 3 and under. It is staffed by two background-checked volunteers.

Hymn books and Bibles can be found under the pews.

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. 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**  
December 4, 2022 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.*

**Opening Song**      From Generation to Generation, vs 1&2

From gen-er-a-tion to gen-er-a-tion, we have shared the Christ-mas sto-ry

of a ba-by in a man-ger, who was born in Beth-le-hem.

Hope is wing-ing, Peace now ring-ing, Joy we're sing-ing, Love he's bring-ing.

1. There is room for ev-'ry sto-ry. There is hope through God's great glory.  
2. God will meet you in your fear. And bring peace both far and near.  
3. We can choose a bet-ter way. And find joy in ev-'ry day.  
4. We see God in one an-oth-er. As we learn to love each other.

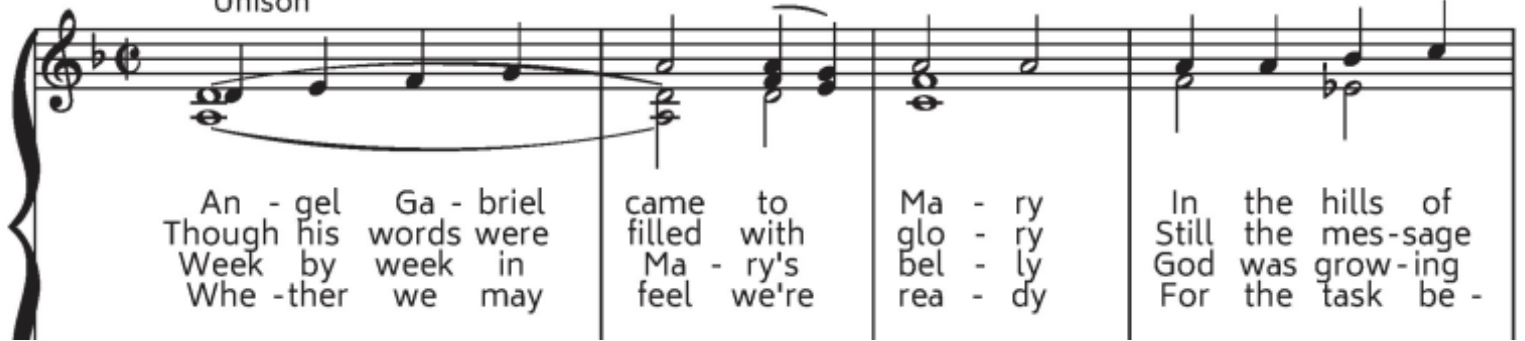
# Advent Candle Lighting

## \*Hymn Here I Am

Text: Anna Strickland (2022)

Music: Traditional French carol (17th cent.)

Unison

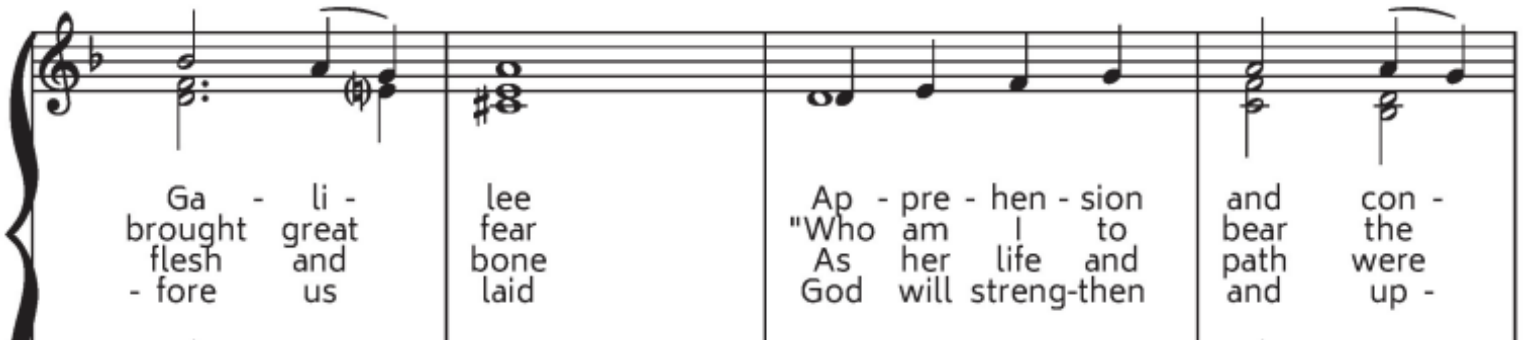


An - gel Ga - briel  
Though his words were  
Week by week in  
Whe - ther we may

came to  
filled with  
Ma - ry's  
feel we're

Ma - ry  
glo - ry  
bel - ly  
rea - dy

In the hills of  
Still the mes - sage  
God was grow - ing  
For the task be -

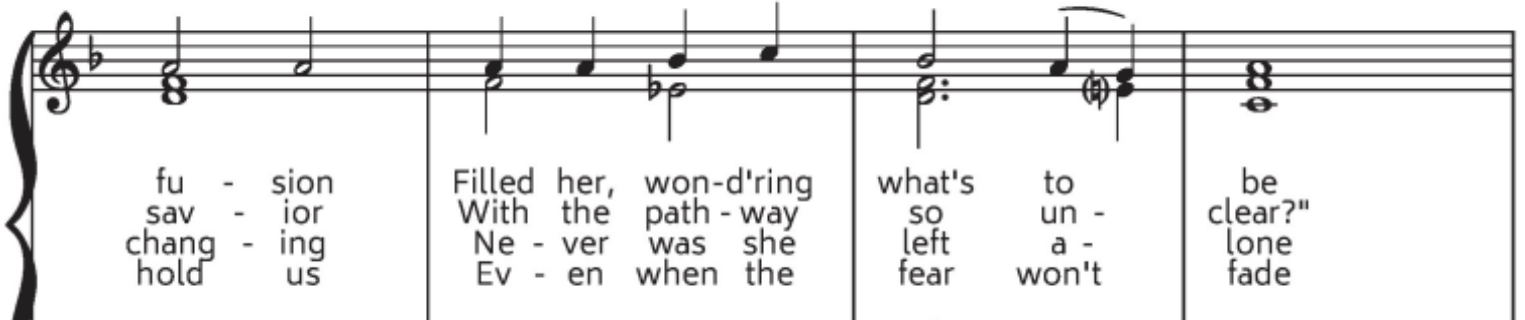


Ga - li -  
brought great  
flesh and  
- fore us

lee  
fear  
bone  
laid

Ap - pre - hen - sion  
"Who am I to  
As her life and  
God will streng - then

and con -  
bear the  
path were  
and up -



fu - sion  
sav - ior  
chang - ing  
hold us

Filled her, won - d'ring  
With the path - way  
Ne - ver was she  
Ev - en when the

what's to  
so un -  
left a -  
fear won't

be  
clear?"  
lone  
fade



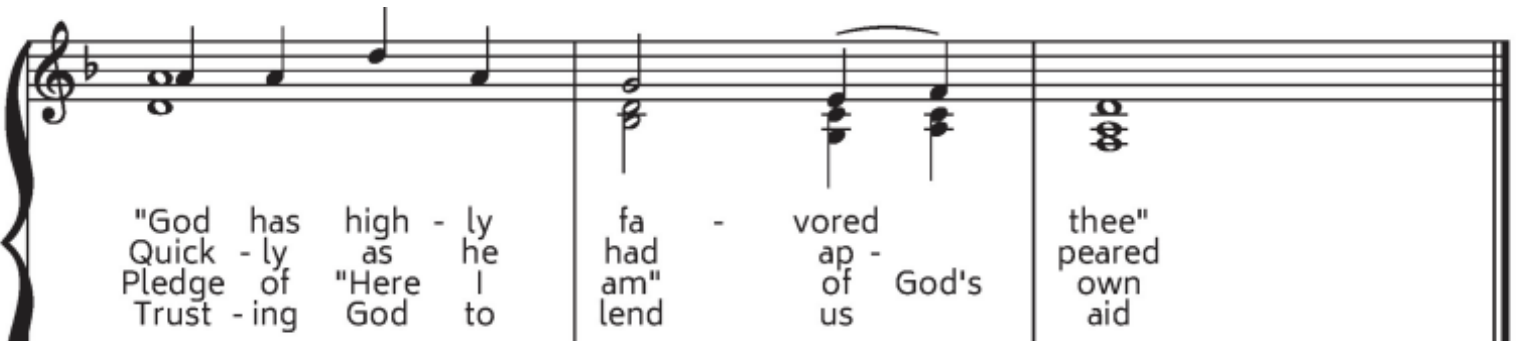
"Do not be a -  
"Here I am," she  
With her all the  
We say, "Here I

fraid,"  
pledged;  
while  
am,"

the  
the  
was  
to

an - gel told the  
an - gel Gab - riel  
Ma - ry's ho - ly  
God's tran - scen - dent

maid  
fled  
child  
plan



"God has high - ly  
Quick - ly as he  
Pledge of "Here I  
Trust - ing God to

fa -  
had  
am"  
lend

vored  
ap -  
of  
us

thee"  
peared  
own  
aid

God's

## **\*Call to Confession**

### **\*Prayer of Confession**

*Patient God,*

*you know just how often*

*we make decisions from a place of fear rather than love.*

*You know just how often*

*we allow fear to take the place of logic,*

*fanning unhealthy fires in our lives.*

*You know just how often*

*we tuck your words, “Do not be afraid”*

*on dusty shelves and in the back of closets,*

*stubbornly holding onto our own point of view.*

*Forgive us for giving fear the microphone.*

*Silence the voices of scarcity, shame, and rejection,*

*which spark and feed so much of our fear,*

*to recenter us in love.*

*With hope we pray, amen.*

### **\*Silent Confession**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

### **\*Sung Response #82**

*Come, thou long expected Jesus,*

*born to set thy people free;*

*from our fears and sins release us;*

*let us find our rest in thee.*

*Israel’s strength and consolation,*

*hope of all the earth thou art;*

*dear desire of every nation,*

*joy of every longing heart.*

**\*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** Isaiah 11:1-10

**Special Music** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Handbell Trio

**Scripture Reading** Luke 1:26-38

**Sermon** "God meets us in our fear"

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Time of Reflection**

**Communion**

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord 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.*

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*Please come forward down the center aisle to receive by intinction. Take a piece of bread and then dip it in the cup and partake. You may return down the side aisles. Those unable to come forward will be served at their seats.*

## Prayer after Communion

**\*Hymn #726** Will You Come and Follow Me

**\*Charge & Benediction**

## Postlude

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

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Handbell Choir Director: Heather Myer

Pianist/Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Mike Brown

Communion Servers: Jeff Lapinski, Barb Stowitts, Bob Walter, Susan Smalley

Worship Credits: Prayers by Rev. Sarah Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctified art.org; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

### **Usher**

Head usher: Barb Stowitts

### **Greeter**

Irv Nichols

### **Counters**

Jeff Lapinski and Sue Rosser

### **Flowers**

Today's flowers are given 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  
Heather Myer

Organist  
Bell Choir Director

**This Week at Eastminster:**

*Dec. 4 through Dec. 11*

**SUNDAY, 12/4 - 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Intergenerational Art Project	11:15 a.m.

**MONDAY, 12/5**

Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.
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**TUESDAY, 12/6**

Presbytery/Grand Rapids	9:30 a.m.
Bell Choir	7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, 12/7**

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	10:00 a.m.

**THURSDAY, 12/8**

Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.
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**SATURDAY, 12/10**

Advent House	8:00 a.m.
UKirk Study Hours	

**SUNDAY, 12/11 - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Intergenerational Art Project	11:15 a.m.
UKirk Study Hours	

**“From Generation to Generation”** is our theme for Advent and Christmas this year. The stories, scriptures, and traditions of the Advent and Christmas season have been passed down to us throughout the generations. This Advent as we explore our theme "From Generation to Generation," may we remember that we belong to God and to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to a love that won't let us go.



Advent Devotionals are available in the narthex. We will also gather each Sunday after worship in the Green Room for an intergenerational art project that connects with our theme.

## **ADVENTures**

School children who will be on break (K-6th grade) are invited to participate in a special December series called "School Break ADVENTures" at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. ADVENTures will be held Dec 19-21, from 9am-3pm at the church. We will explore the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, and prepare to celebrate God coming into the world at Christmas! Daily activities will include stories, songs, arts and crafts, yoga, quiet reflection time with interactive stations, games, and more. Children are encouraged to bring their own lunch. Space is limited to 20 kids. Please contact the church office to sign up.

## **Volunteers Needed for ADVENTures**

Volunteers are needed to help with a special December series for kids (K-6th grade) called "School Break ADVENTures" at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. Please contact Neil Myer if you would be willing to help out for any part of this series.

## **Alternative Advent Giving**

Right about this time each year, we start thinking about Christmas shopping. What is the perfect gift for Dad? Can I get my college-age niece something meaningful that she'll actually like?

The EPC Community Connections team has put together a list of organizations you can consider giving to either in your name or as a donation on someone else's behalf rather than giving them a gift. In a year when so many are struggling, it is part of our attempt to live out our call to follow Christ.

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Mission CoWorkers
- Justice League of Greater Lansing
- Lansing Food Bank

- Living Waters for the World (LWW)
- Eve: End Violent Encounters
- Global Institute of Lansing
- Refugee Development Center (RDC)
- Refugee Services at St. Vincent
- UKirk

## **Advent House Needs**

The following items are what Advent House says they need for their weekend guests. They can use both the smaller, travel sizes\* for individuals and the larger size for families.

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Toothpaste
- Disposable razors
- Socks in men's sizes
- T-shirts (Men's sizes L-XXXL)
- Toothbrushes, single-wrapped
- Styrofoam plates and cups
- Plastic forks and spoons

\*Guests are generally homeless and the travel size takes up less space in backpacks.

Please bring whatever you can and place them in the baskets in the Green Room. We will then deliver the items periodically to Advent House.

## **Advent House/Soup**

The next time we provide lunch for Advent House is Dec. 10. Please sign up if you are able to bring something or help put the lunches together. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex or you can call the church office. This month's soup is Santa Fe Soup. Because it is a larger recipe, we need only 5 people to bring soup this month.

***Please bring your soup (or other items) to the church in a labeled pot or container by 4pm Thursday, December 8, or on Saturday morning December 10 by 8:30am.***