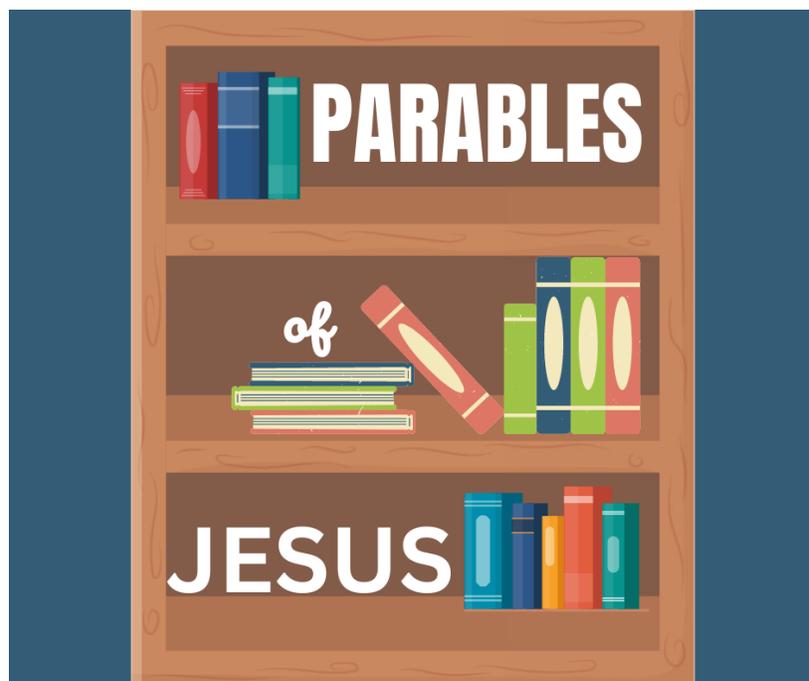




# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day  
January 22, 2023**



# 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

January 22, 2023

10:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

### Prelude

### Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

### Opening Song #743

### Step by Step

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise  
you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise  
you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will  
learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead  
me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

G D C D  
G Dsus7 D7 G D C D  
G Em Dsus D  
C Am7 G  
D C Dsus7 D7 G

### **\*Call to Worship**

Like laying in bed at night, wondering if we can make a difference

*Jesus said, "The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed."*

Like helping a neighbor, offering a loaf of bread

*Jesus said, "The Kingdom of heaven is like yeast."*

Like searching our calendars, trying to discover where our life has been,

*Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field."*

Like the one who woke up early and the other who slept late,

*Jesus invited both to help build God's kingdom.*

Like wearing glasses we never knew we needed,

*Jesus invites us to see the world from a new perspective.*

**\*Hymn #5**      God the Sculptor of the Mountain

### **\*Call to Confession**

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

*Holy God, at times we feel frail and fragile, as small as a mustard seed. We are blown about by the latest crisis, by bad news, or by our own short tempers and failings. You call us to hold fast to what is good. You call us to the smallest morsel of faith, but so often we flounder. Our energy and our compassion run on empty. Help us to see you nurturing us so that we might flourish with love and kindness. Help us grow even more into Christ's likeness, that we will bear his love in the world. Amen.*

#### **\*Silent Confession**

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

## \*Sung Response #447 We Are Forgiven

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.  
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

\***Passing of the Peace** (*Share the peace of Christ with a person near you*)

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**Children's Sermon**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 13:24-32

**Sermon** The Parable of the Mustard Seed

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Time of Reflection**

\***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in the love-kingdom of God, through Christ upon us, within us, beyond us.

***We believe the love-kingdom is like a mustard seed; sown in apparent insignificance, growing into magnificence for the greening of the world.***

We believe the love-kingdom is like yeast; inserted in humble insignificance into the dough of life, expanding into enough bread for the world.

***We believe the love-kingdom of God is like a treasure; lost and rendered insignificant under the ground, now found with joy and thanksgiving.***

We believe the love-kingdom of God is like pearls; all others become insignificant when the largest, most beautiful pearl of all is found.

***We believe the love-kingdom of God is like a net full of fish; where even insignificant sardines are saved but worm-ridden barracuda are thrown away.***

We believe in the love-kingdom of God, through Christ upon us, within us, beyond us; where the meek and the poor, the merciful and the hungry, rejoice with the angels of God.

***Loving God, we believe; scatter our unbelief.***

**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 #771    What Is the World Like**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

## **Postlude**

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

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Mike Brown

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Organist/Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Worship Credits: The Affirmation of Faith is by Bruce Prewer, [bruceprewer.com](http://bruceprewer.com); Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

### **Usher**

Head Usher: Beverly Bonning; Jeff Lapinski

### **Greeter**

Mary Lou Clifton

### **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

Organist

### **This Week at Eastminster:**

*Jan. 22 through Jan. 29*

#### **SUNDAY, 1/22**

Worship

10:00 a.m.

Fellowship

11:00 a.m.

#### **MONDAY, 1/23**

Trivia at Royal Scot

7:00 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, 1/25**

Men's Bible Study

8:00 a.m.

Morning Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

**THURSDAY, 1/26**

Young Adult Gathering 7:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, 1/29**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Annual Meeting 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:20 a.m.

Children/Youth Gathering

**Refugee Development Center Welcome Kits**

Eastminster has committed to making welcome kits for the Refugee Development Center to distribute during 2023. Every new arrival in Lansing gets one of these kits. We will be collecting items on an ongoing basis. We have printed off cards with items needed. Some of the items that go in the kit are bars of soap, dish soap, shampoo, toothpaste, sugar, etc. If you are willing to help with the kit, pick up a card and return the items purchased by placing them in the Green Room. You can also contact Kristin ([revstroble@eastminsterchurch.org](mailto:revstroble@eastminsterchurch.org)) and she can let you know what the most needed items are at the moment. Let's help welcome refugees to our community this year!

**Flowers for 2023**

Our flower prices have gone up for the first time in many years, so new flower dedications will be \$50. You can sign up outside the church office or online. Payments can be made by check in the offering plate or in the locked box outside the church office or by paying online under "Sanctuary Flowers."

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation - Next Sunday after worship**

The annual meeting of the congregation/corporation will take place after church on Sunday, Jan. 29. We will vote on the slate of nominating committee members, pastor's terms of call, and review the financials for the year. The annual report is available in the Narthex and will be emailed out.

## **A gathering for children, youth and their grown ups**

### **Next Sunday after the congregational meeting**

All children and youth (birth through 12th grade) and their grown ups are invited to a lunch and fellowship gathering in the church fellowship hall on Sunday, January 29 (after the congregational meeting). It will be a great time to connect with one another and talk about ministry possibilities. Please let [neil@eastminsterchurch.org](mailto:neil@eastminsterchurch.org) know if you know you plan to attend so we can get a ballpark number for food. (Just showing up that day is OK too!)

### **Mark Your Calendars**

We've got a couple upcoming events that you'll want to put on your calendars!

- Saxophone Quartet Concert: Sunday, February 12th at 3 p.m.
- Mardi Gras Lunch: Sunday February 19 after worship
- Ash Wednesday Worship Service: February 22nd at 7pm



**Scan the QR code with your phone to donate online to Eastminster.**

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