



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
February 19, 2023**

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear
-Psalm 46

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. 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.*

Text is read or sung by the congregation.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 19, 2023

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** *(inspired by Psalm 1)*

L. Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers.

P. Lord, this week we have tasted the bitter fruit of wickedness.

L. Our delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on God's law we meditate day and night.

***P. Our hearts are broken, our minds filled with disbelief.
Through our grief, we ask, "Where were you?"***

L. We are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in season, our leaves do not wither.

***P. Let our worship be for us streams of living water.
Sustain the faithfulness of your community.
In the face of all we have endured, let us not wither!***

L. Let us prosper in our worship of the Lord!

***Hymn** God of Mercy, You Have Shown Us

Tune: Beach Spring 8.7; ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

***God of mercy, you have shown us ways of living that are good:
Work for justice, treasure kindness, humbly journey with the Lord.***

*Yet your people here are grieving, hurt by weapons that destroy.
Help us turn to you, believing in your way that brings us joy.*

*On a street where neighbors gather, shots are heard; a young girl dies.
On a campus, students scatter as the violence claims more lives.
In a family filled with anger, tempers flare and shots resound.
God of love, we weep and wonder at the violence all around.*

*God, we pray for those who suffer when this world seems so unfair;
May your church be quick to offer loving comfort, gentle care.
And we pray: Amid the violence, may we speak your truth, O Lord!
Give us strength to break the silence, saying, "This can be no more!"*

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

God of peace, we confess to you this day that we are hurting, angry, or confused. We confess that gun violence no longer surprises us and that scares us. We cry out, "How Long?" and do not hear an answer from you. Our hearts are broken. Unsure of what to do and where to turn for comfort and strength, we gather here...and wait. We wait for your goodness, your hope, and your peace to appear once again. Be with us in our waiting. Be with us as we hurt. Bear gently our anger. Walk with us through our confusion. Be our peace, this day and everyday. Amen.

***Silence for Personal Prayer**

***Invitation to Restoration** *"Don't Be Afraid" (3 times through)*

Don't be a - fraid. My love is strong - er,

my love is strong - er than your fear.

Don't be a - fraid. My love is strong - er and

I have prom-ised, prom-ised to be al - ways near.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949
 Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949
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*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

Psalm of Restoration Psalm 126

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Isaiah 43:1-7

Reading from the New Testament Romans 8:18-27, 35-38

Sermon

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

Communion & Lord's Prayer

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 #543** God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Director of Christian Education/ UKirk Campus Minister: Neil Myer

Organist/Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Worship Credits: The Liturgy is from "Recovering from Un-Natural Disasters"; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Usher

Head Usher: Sue Kalvonjian; Tom Hardenbergh

Greeter

Ron Davis

Flowers

Today's flowers are given in memory of the three MSU students who lost their lives to gun violence this week: Arielle Anderson, Brian Fraser and Alexandria Verner.

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:

Feb. 19 through Feb. 26

SUNDAY, 2/19

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Mardi Gras Celebration	11:00 a.m.

MONDAY, 2/20

Quartet Practice	1:00 p.m.
UKirk Meal	6:00 p.m.
Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 2/21

UKirk Board	6:30 p.m.
Faith Formation	7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 2/22

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Morning Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
Ash Wednesday Service	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, 2/23

Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.
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SUNDAY, 2/26

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.

MSU Care

We have set up a MSU Care Fund, which will be used for the care of students, staff, and faculty. Anyone can donate, either online, using a church envelope or writing a check to Eastminster with the note "MSU Care" on it. We will be putting together care packages for students

connected with UKirk or Presbyterian Churches. You can help assemble these after the service today. There will be a lot of care needed in the days to come, so let us know if you have ideas or hear of needs that Eastminster or UKirk can help with.

Mardi Gras Lunch: Today after worship we will be having a Mardi Gras lunch in the fellowship hall! It is important to gather together, no matter the circumstances. All are welcome.

Enjoying our Fellowship Hour? We Need Volunteers!

One or two volunteers are needed to set up and take down Fellowship on February 26, March 5 and March 12. All supplies are provided and instructions are in the kitchen. Or, you can be creative and bring your own goodies for everyone to enjoy! Please contact Beverly Bonning to volunteer or use the sign-up sheet located on the Narthex table. Thank you!

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 the end of the month placing them in the Green Room. You can also contact Kristin (revstroble@eastminsterchurch.org) and she can let you know what the most needed items are at the moment. Let's help welcome refugees.

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders and Deacons for 2022-2023 Susan Smalley, Clerk/Robert Kleine, Treasurer

Elders	Deacons
Robin Bell	Beverly Bonning
Mike Brown	Sulin Campbell
Ron Davis	Barb Dalzell
David Duryea	Suzanne Hunt
Mary Lou Clifton	Sue Kalvonjian
Terry Graham	Jeff Lapinski
Heather Myer	Cindy Nixon
Susan Smalley	Brenda Ramsby
Bob Walter	Barb Stowitts



SCAN ME

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