



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day**  
**March 19, 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**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 19, 2023

10:00 a.m.

---

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

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

**Opening Video**    *Land of the Seeking*

**\*Call to Worship**

L. Scripture is full of questions...

*P. Where are you?*

L. Am I my brother's keeper?

*P. Whom shall I send?*

L. Who do you say that I am?

*P. Who sinned?*

L. How many times shall I forgive?

*P. If God is for us, who can be against us?*

L. Scripture is full of questions,  
so just like those in our scriptures,  
may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

*P. Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.*

**\*Hymn**    We Come with Questions

We come with  
Here is the  
God help us

ques - tions as  
mys - t'ry we  
live in - to

sum - ing that  
claim as the  
mys - t'ry be

there will be  
fol - lowers of  
yond com - pre

an -  
Je -  
hen -

- swers  
- sus:  
- sion

Set - ting the  
Christ has died,  
Qui - et our

world  
Christ  
minds

in an  
is raised,  
al - ways

or - der that  
Christ dai - ly  
clam - or - ing

o - obeys our  
comes to re -  
for some di -

gram  
- deem  
- rec

mar  
us  
tion

We want to  
Grace free, not  
Give us your

know  
earned,  
peace

where Spir - it's  
whe - ther or  
with all that

riv - er will flow  
 not we de - serve  
 we can't per - ceive  
 Frustrat - ed by her me  
 God works be - yond rules and  
 Hold - ing us with - in the  
 an - boun - ten -

- ders  
 - d'ries  
 - sion

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession and Words of Forgiveness**

L. Who here has sinned?

*P. We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand. We ignored people in need. We make false assumptions and fail to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.*

L. Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

*P. Thanks be to God for a love like that.*

**P. Have you sinned?**

L. I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I, too, am in need of forgiveness.

**P. Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.**

L. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

**\*Sung Response Don't Be Afraid**

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

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a whole rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest.

my love is strong - er than your fear.

The second system of musical notation continues in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, and a half note D3. The bass clef staff contains a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, a quarter note D2, and a half note C2.

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

The third system of musical notation continues in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a whole rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest.

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

The fourth system of musical notation concludes in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, and a half note D3. The bass clef staff contains a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, a quarter note D2, and a half note C2.

**\*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** John 9:1-41

**Sermon** Who Sinned?

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Time of Reflection**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in a merciful God,  
*a God who does not keep score,  
a God who wants good for us.*

We believe in a creative God,  
*a God who would heal with mud,  
a God capable of seeing what we cannot.*

We believe in a saving God,  
*a God who heals,  
a God who greets our questions with patience,  
a God who sends us out with hope in our step.*

What wondrous love is this. Amen.

**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 #817**      We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

**\*Charge & Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Participants in today's service:**

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Mary Harvey

Children's Message: Mary Lou Clifton

Organist/Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Worship Credits: The liturgy is written by Sarah Speed, A Sanctified Art; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Worship Art: The logo for our Lenten Sermon Series is an eye. Each week we will be adding imagery to the eye in the sanctuary. The eye summarizes the theme of seeking, while referencing various scriptural texts. Today we added a drop of mud which references the mud that is rubbed in the blind man's eyes.

**Ushers**

Head Usher: Sue Kalvonjian

**Greeter**

Jan Coye

**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:**

*March 19 through March 26*

### **SUNDAY, 3/19**

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Deacons	11:30 a.m.
Open Space for MSU Faculty and Staff	2:00 p.m.

### **MONDAY, 3/20**

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

### **TUESDAY, 3/21**

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

### **WEDNESDAY, 3/22**

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m. (Zoom only)
Morning Bible Study	10:30 a.m. (Zoom only)

### **THURSDAY, 3/23**

DAR Meeting	12:00 p.m.
Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.

### **FRIDAY, 3/24**

Quintet Practice	1:00 p.m.
------------------	-----------

### **SUNDAY, 3/26**

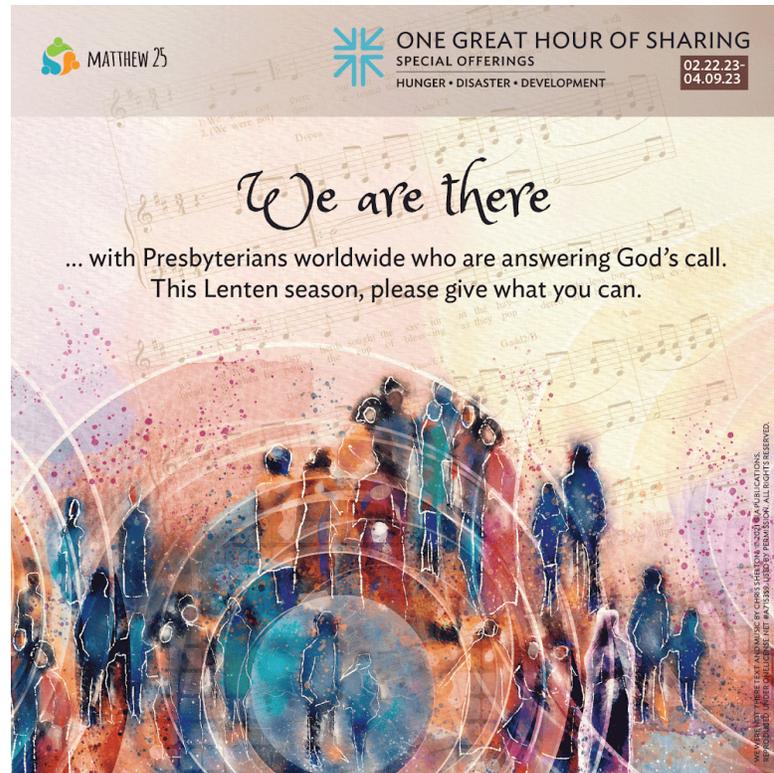
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Intergenerational Education	11:15 a.m.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing's original goal was to make the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer from the effects of disaster, conflict or severe economic crisis.

Today, the purpose of One Great Hour of Sharing has remained the same, responding to needs in 100 countries, including the U.S. and Canada. The last time it was reported the funds exceeded \$20 million annually funded by eight denominations.

This season of Lent and the tradition of "One Great Hour of Sharing" combine to remind us that our faith is not only about the words we speak or proclaim or sing, but the Christian faith is a very human, relationship-building faith done in the name of God.



## Creato Divina—Art & Spirituality Workshop

Eastminster and UKirk will be hosting an art and spirituality workshop for MSU faculty, staff and students. If you know of anyone interested in participating, please refer them to the UKirk website to register.

## Eastminster Church Officers

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

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>
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 the QR code with your phone to donate online  
to Eastminster.**