



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
March 26, 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. 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
Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 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. Have you ever felt washed up, brittle, worn-down to the bone?

P. Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?

L. Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

P. Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?

L. If you have, then you are in the right place, for this is God's house.
Hope lives here.

P. So, come. Rest your weary bones.

L. Let us worship Holy God.

***Hymn #395** Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Jesus of Nazareth,

I confess: I forget that you know this feeling.

I forget that you, too, have wept.

I forget that you, too, have lost.

I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb,

*have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity.
Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you.
Forgive me for all the times I create distance,
imagining that you could never feel what I feel.
Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be a sea of space
between us.
Pour yourself into the cracks in my heart.
Bring these bones back to life.
Bring me closer to you.
With gratitude I pray, amen.*

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***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 the melody, starting with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics "Don't be a - fraid." are aligned under these notes. The second measure begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics "My love is strong - er," are aligned under these notes. The bass clef staff contains a whole rest for the first measure and a whole rest for the second measure.

my love is strong - er than your fear.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, starting with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The lyrics "my love is strong - er than your fear." are aligned under these notes. The bass clef staff contains a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note G3.

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

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

***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 Romans 8:6-11

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

Sermon Can these bones live?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe that God loves us —

God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.

We believe that God does not give up on us —

breathing new life into tired bones.

We believe that God returns to us —

always seeking us when we are lost.

We believe that God holds hope for us —

so we hold onto hope as well.

We believe, help our unbelief.

In Christ's name we pray, 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 #53** O God, Who Gives Us Life

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude

Participants in today's service:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill

Worship Leader: Sam O'Neill

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

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.

Ushers

Head Usher: Beverly Bonning; Jeff Lapinski

Greeter

Barbara Lowes

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 26 through April 2

SUNDAY, 3/26

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Choir Practice	11:15 a.m.

MONDAY, 3/27

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

WEDNESDAY, 3/29

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

THURSDAY, 3/30

Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.
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FRIDAY, 3/31

Quintet Practice	1:00 p.m.
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SUNDAY, 4/2 Palm Sunday

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

Kristin and Bridgette will be out of the office on Monday, March 27 and Kristin will be out on Thursday, March 30.

One Great Hour of Sharing

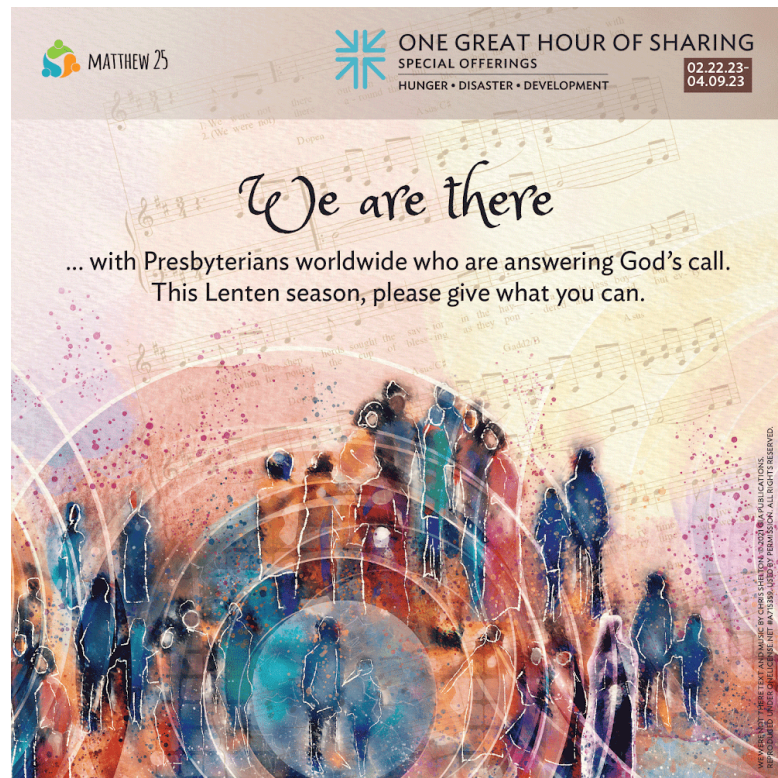
One Great Hour of Sharing's original goal was to make the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer from the effects of disaster, conflict or severe economic crisis.

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.

Advent House

Our next Advent House meal is April 8. The new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex as well as soup recipes.



UKirk Trivia Night

Mark your calendars—UKirk's biannual fundraiser will be on April 14 at 7 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos. Consider forming your own team or joining Eastminster's. Talk to Mike Brown for more information.

Maundy Thursday, April 6

Maundy Thursday service will be at 7 p.m., in-person and live streamed. We will gather together for dinner at 6 p.m. Please sign up to bring soup, bread and salad.

Easter Lilies

Easter lilies are coming soon to beautify our sanctuary for Easter. Would you like to make a dedication? A list of memorials/honoraria will be in the bulletins on April 9 and 16. Please complete the form in the Narthex and drop a check in the offering plate or pay online at our website.

Please submit your order by Monday, April 3.

Please note that this is for a dedication only. You will not be able to take the flowers home as we will order only three lilies for the chancel. Thank you!

Easter Choir

We are putting together a choir for Easter Sunday. Anyone is welcome to participate. Rehearsals will be today after worship and Sunday, April 2nd after worship. Please let the church office or Sulin Campbell know if you would like to participate.

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

Eastminster Prayer Concerns

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

- For the MSU Community
- For Chase Hunt, now home
- For Maddy Trimby's sister, Carol
- For Jack, who is related to Dave and Mary Ann Merchant's daughter-in-law
- For Marian Boulus, Brenda Ramsby's friend whose cancer has spread
- For Dave Merchant
- For Bob and Maddy's daughter, Susan, who has cancer
- For Kim Dickens, UKirk board member, who has cancer
- For Heidi, Ron Davis' niece, who has breast cancer
- For Larry Hartwig

Names to be included on the prayer list can be suggested to Rev. Stroble.

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www.eastminsterchurch.org

www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing