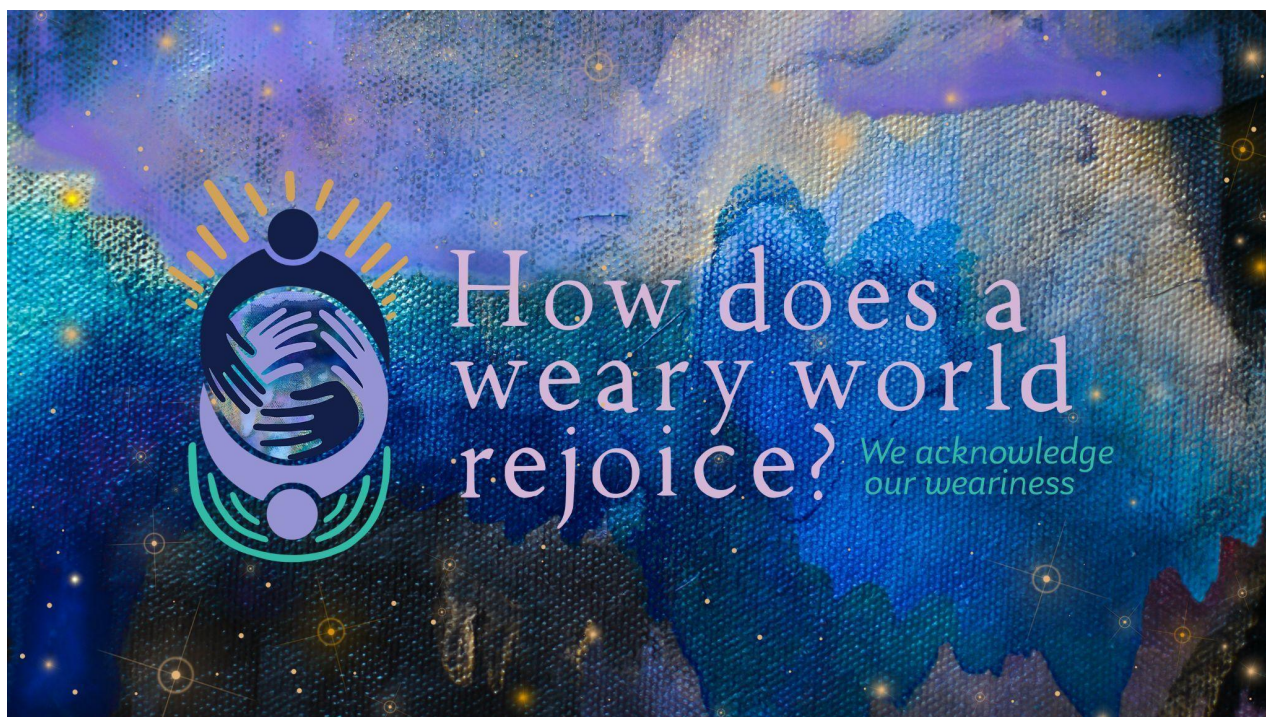




Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
December 3, 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 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.



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.

** 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
1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Prelude *Gaudete* arr. Larry Sue
 Le Petit Ensembell

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Opening Video

***Call to Worship**

L. In God's house, we can be joyful.

P. We can be grateful.

We can be hopeful.

L. In God's house, we can be weary.

P. We can be anxious.

We can be grieving.

L. In God's house, we can be honest —

***P. inspired or tired,
delighted or doubtful,
connected or curious,
and everything in between.***

L. This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

P. Let us worship our loving God.

***Hymn** God Be With Your Weary People



1. God, be with your wea - ry peo - ple, rise from
 2. God, be with your hun - gry peo - ple, serve a
 3. God, be with your har - dened peo - ple, ease each



sa - cred an - cient root. Branch of ag - es,
 feast for all to eat. Bread of life, a -
 brit - tle mind and soul. Source of stir - ring,



bud a - mong us, leaf and blos - som, fill with
 bun - dant bless - ing, bring a jus - tice more com -
 right - eous wa - ters, free us as your mer - cies



fruit. We a - wait your new be - gin - nings,
 plete. We have yearned for peace and plen - ty,
 roll. We have longed for life un - bound - ed,



dreams de - ferred and hopes de - layed.
 snared by greed and worn by war.
 fresh and flow - ing, clear and bright.



Meet de - spair with sweet as - sur - ance,
 Make our weap - ons fit for farm - ing,
 Bap - tize us with fire and spir - it,



strength - en hearts so long a - fraid.
 move our hands to share once more.
 birth a - mong us new de - light.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we are weary.

For weary bodies that ache and cry out, we pray:

Forgive us for pushing ourselves too hard.

Reminds us that we deserve Sabbath rest.

For weary minds that feel overwhelmed

and saturated with news, we pray:

Forgive us for creating so many distractions.

Remind us that in the quiet, we can hear you.

For weary hearts that long to feel the joy of this season, we pray:

Forgive us for being impatient with ourselves.

Remind us that healing takes time,

and that joy and grief can coexist.

For the weary edges of our faith that struggle to hold onto hope,

Forgive us. Remind us of Zechariah and Elizabeth.

Remind us that your good news knows no bounds. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Sung Response** *Doxology for a Weary World*

Text: Anna Strickland (2023)

Music: Gustav Holst (1906)



Praise the one Cre - a - tor, praise the Liv-ing Christ



Praise the Ho-ly Spi - rit, praise both day and night



Praise when you are wea - ry, praise in times of joy



Praise, my soul, with all your strength and your heart and voice

***Passing of the Peace** *(Share the peace of Christ with the person next to you)*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

Advent Wreath Lighting

Sung Response #314 Christ, Be Our Light

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 church gath - ered to - day.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Scripture Reading Luke 1:1-23

Sermon How does a weary world rejoice?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

Communion

Great Thanksgiving and 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

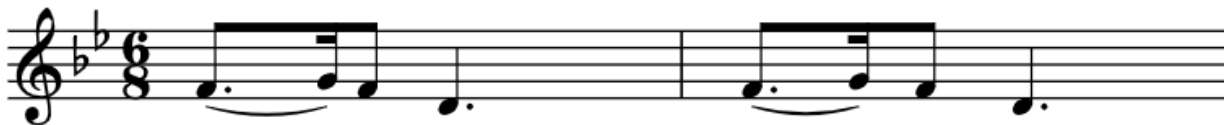
down the side aisles. Those unable to come forward will be served at their seats. Please ask if you need gluten-free bread.

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn Weary World Rejoice

Text: Anna Strickland (2023)

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1818)



Wea - ry world, God's own vine
Wea - ry world, bro - ken and bruised
Wea - ry world, out of hope
Wea - ry world, wait - ing still



Tears our on - ly bread and wine
Name of God so mis-used
Dis - be - lief is how we cope
Hold - ing our breath un - til



Cry - ing out to be re-stored
Can we see the light of Christ
We've left faith to rot and rust
Christ re - turns in truth and grace



Des - perate for a break from war
Glow - ing in each per - son we spite?
Dreams are cov - ered in lay - ers of dust
Will we re - cog - nize his face?



Wea - ry world re - joice



Come and raise your voice

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Charlotte Smith

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze

Le Petit Ensembell: Lorraine Finison, Shannon Quinn, Laura Sparks, Kristin Stroble

Worship Credits: The Liturgy and art is by A Sanctified Art, used with permission; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Ushers

Head Usher: Jeff Lapinski; Beverly Bonning

Greeter

Barb Lowes

Video Producer

Mike Brown

Flowers

Today's flowers are given by Ted Hagan in memory of Pat Hagan's parents.

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:

December 3 through December 10, 2023

SUNDAY, 12/3

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
All-Church Lunch	11:15 a.m.
Community Bell Rehearsal	4:30 p.m.
Brass Quintet Concert	7:00 p.m.

MONDAY, 12/4

Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
CCR Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.
Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 12/5

Choral Ensemble Rehearsal	10:00 a.m.
Presbytery Meeting	All Day

WEDNESDAY, 12/6

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
Lansing Matinee Musicale Concert	11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, 12/7

Infrastructure Meeting	2:30 p.m.
Young Adult Gathering	7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, 12/9

Advent House	8:30 a.m.
Capital City Bell Ringers Concert	7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 12/10

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Deacons	12:00 p.m.
UKirk Study Hours	

Kristin and Neil will be out of the office for the Presbytery meeting on Tuesday. Bridgette will be out of the office on vacation Wednesday and Thursday.

Advent

The season of Advent begins today. This year we are going to ask the question "How does a weary world rejoice?" Joy is often a companion to many other emotions. We can feel joy as well as grief, anticipation, anxiety, disappointment, exhaustion. Joy is rooted in the truth that we belong to God. This Advent we will hold space for our weariness and our joy. The world needs our joy and in this weary world, I pray that we find ways to rejoice.

This year's Advent devotional can be found in the narthex. You can also call the church office to request that one be mailed to you.

We have two Advent calendars that you can also use. One for adults and one for children. The adult Advent calendar prompts will also be posted on Facebook daily. We invite you to share with each other.

After worship today, join us for an all-church lunch. We will decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Thank you for the baked goods!

Sesame Street's Cookie Monster is probably jealous that he doesn't attend our Fellowship Hour! The Deacons would like to everyone who baked cookies and other goodies for Fellowship Hour during the month of November. They were delicious!

Cookies and Punch needed for Christmas Eve



The Deacons are hosting a reception after the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service and we need your help! Please consider baking 2 dozen cookies for the reception and/or making and serving the Christmas Eve punch. Items can be dropped off during church office hours or during the 10 a.m. Christmas Eve service. A sign-up sheet is located on the Narthex table. Contact Bev Bonning if you have any questions. Thank you!

Advent House

We still need four people to sign up for this Saturday's Advent House meal. The sign-up sheet and casserole dishes are in the Narthex. This month's recipe is spaghetti pie.

Lansing Matinee Musicale

LMM will be holding their holiday concert at Eastminster this Wednesday at 11 a.m. All are welcome.



CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

This year, coming together to reclaim Advent and Christmas can be humbling and fulfilling. As we excitedly await the birth of Christ, it's important to remember the reason for the season: the newborn Servant of All, the perfect gift. With Christ at the center this holiday season, we can follow in his example of servant leadership by serving our brothers and sisters in faith. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we are able to support those in our community and give them the gift of hope. Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering help the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions provide critical financial assistance to eligible church workers and retired pastors and their families in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Christmas Joy Offering also supports the education and development of our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Join us for

A Holiday Concert

with

The Asbury Brass Quintet

and

The Looking Glass Saxophone Quartet



Featuring Festive Holiday Music, including

~ Jingle Bells ~ Joy to the World ~

~ It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas ~

~ The 12 Days of Christmas ~ O Holy Night ~ Let It Snow ~



Sunday, December 3, 2023

7 pm

**** FREE ADMISSION ****



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823



Capital City Ringers

Mark Loring, Artistic Director

"The Many Colors of Christmas"

A Colorful Handbell Concert



December 9
7:00 p.m.

Eastminster Presbyterian Church
1315 Abbot Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 337-0893

December 11
7:00 p.m.

Delta Presbyterian Church
6100 W. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48917
(517) 321-3569

Tickets: Donation



capitalcityringers.com

