



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
January 11, 2026

The background of the lower half of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of an open Bible. The pages are a warm, yellowish-tan color. The word "GENESIS" is clearly visible in large, bold, black capital letters at the top of the right page. Below it, the text of the Bible is visible but out of focus. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the Bible pages.

Inspired

Finding new ways to love the Bible

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.



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.

In the pew racks there are prayer cards. If you have a prayer request you can fill that out and put it in the plate during the offering. If you only want the pastor to see it, please mark it confidential.

There is an offering time during the worship service. You can also give online on our website or by using the QR code at the end of the bulletin.

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

January 11, 2026

10:00 a.m.

*“Origin stories tell us who we are, where we come from,
and what the world is like.”*

-Rachel Held Evans

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***Call to Worship**

One: In the beginning God created all things

ALL: and God saw that they were good.

One: In the beginning of Jesus' ministry he was baptized by John

ALL: and God declared that he was beloved.

One: At our beginning, God created us

ALL: unique and irreplaceable, known and loved by God.

One: In all our new beginnings, God keeps creating.

ALL: So let us seek God in the newness of this morning.

***Hymn #20 All Things Bright and Beautiful**

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

*Forgive us, O God, when we limit you –
when we remake you in our image,
when we claim our causes as your own,
when we box you in,
and explain you away,*

*and in our attempts at understanding, whittle away all mystery.
 Forgive us for our human impulses, and change us:
 awaken us to your blinding glory,
 confound us by your love,
 shower us with grace so that we will be made new,
 recreated in your image,
 grateful for all that we cannot know.
 In the name of Christ, who brought us closer to you, we pray. Amen.*

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Forgiveness**

***Sung Response #582** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F \sharp) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

***Passing of the Peace**

(Share the peace of Christ with the people around you.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Message

Sung Prayer for Illumination #469 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing. Lord, send your

Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the bass line provides harmonic support in the Bass staff. The lyrics are written below the Treble staff. The piece consists of three lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The first line ends with a repeat sign, indicating that the phrase 'Lord, send your' is repeated. The second line also ends with a repeat sign, indicating that the phrase 'Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren' is repeated. The third line ends with a final double bar line.

Scripture Reading Genesis 1:1-2:4

Old Testament, pp. 1-2

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:13-17

New Testament, p. 2

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

On the ribbon answer these questions:

- What words have been used to describe the Bible, both ones you deem appropriate and ones you do not?
- How would you describe the Bible? How is it active in your life?

Offering of Resources and Prayer

Financial offerings support the ministry and mission of Eastminster Presbyterian. You can also place prayer requests (cards are in the pew racks) in the offering plate.

***Doxology #606**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

***Hymn #547** Go, My Children, with My Blessing

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Susan Smalley

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, DMA

Worship Credits: The Prayer of Confession is written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog "Hold Fast to What is Good." Used with permission. The video is from The Work of the People. Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Usher

Head Usher: Jason Giddings

Greeter

Estelle McGroarty

Video Producer

Mike Brown

Fellowship

Sulin Campbell

Flowers

Flowers today are given by Bruce Augenstein, in memory of his wife, Sue.

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, DMA

Pianist

This Week at Eastminster: Jan 11th-18th

SUNDAY, 1/11

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Adult Education 11:15 a.m.

Deacons 11:30 a.m.

MONDAY, 1/12

Girl Scout Troop Meeting	4:30 p.m.
CCR Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.
Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, 1/13 RECORDS DAY Office Closed	
Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
LMM Chorale Ensemble	11:00 a.m.
Session Meeting	7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 1/14	
Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
UKirk Gathering	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, 1/15	
Middle Ground Gathering	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY, 1/17	
Page Turners	10:00 a.m.
SUNDAY, 1/18	
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Adult/Children Education	11:15 a.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual Congregational Meeting will be held Feb. 1 immediately after worship. If you have any photos from church events throughout the year, we would love to have you share them to help tell the story of Eastminster in 2025.

Greater Lansing Food Bank

During the month of January, Eastminster will be collecting non-perishable food items to support the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Items most needed include cooking oil, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meat, beans, rice, pasta, canned soup, boxed dinners, and baby food or formula. Donations can be dropped off in the Green Room.

The Greater Lansing Food Bank has led mid-Michigan's fight against hunger since 1981, serving families and neighbors across a seven-county area to ensure access to nutritious food that supports health and well-being. Thank you for helping us care for our community.

Cents-ability

Today we will collect loose change as part of the PC(USA) Cents-ability Program. Last month, Eastminster gave the funds you donated to the MSU Food Bank, now known as Spartan Shelf. Founded in 1993, the MSU Food Bank was the first collegiate food pantry in the nation to be run by students, for students. Created to support students experiencing food insecurity, the MSU Food Bank addresses challenges related to limited food access and nutritional quality—factors that can disrupt eating habits and academic success. The MSU Food Bank is available to all MSU undergraduate students, graduate students, professional students, scholars, and other eligible participants. Guests may visit once per week to access fresh dairy, produce, proteins, shelf-stable items, cleaning products, and personal hygiene supplies. They are open year-round to support those in need.

Inspired Books

We have started a new sermon series, “Inspired: Finding New Ways to Love the Bible.” This series is based on the book “Inspired” by Rachel Held Evans. See Kristin if you would like a copy of the book for \$10.

Join a Bible Study

We have two weekly Bible Studies that more deeply explore each week’s sermon topic. If you are interested in attending, the Men’s Bible Study meets at 8 a.m. every Wednesday. The second (unnamed) Bible Study meets at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Both meet in the Green Room and you are welcome to join.



Scan the QR code with your phone to donate online to Eastminster Presbyterian Church and its ongoing ministries.

You can also give via Venmo @EastminsterEL-Church