



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
March 1, 2026**



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

March 1, 2026

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

One: Tell me something good!

ALL: God loves you more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

ALL: God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

ALL: God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

One: This is good news indeed!

ALL: Let us worship our compassionate God.

*Hymn #14 For the Beauty of the Earth

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?

Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?

Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?

Or did we cross the street?

Did we avert our eyes?

Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors

with the same overwhelming love that you have for them.

But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Forgiveness**

***Sung Response #448 Peace of God Be With You**

Am G F Am G F C

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you. Sa -
As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. Sa -

Dm F Am G F Am

laam, sa - laam. Peace of God be with you.
laam, sa - laam. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 6/8 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter).

***Passing of the Peace**

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:35-40 New Testament, p. 27

Scripture Reading Luke 7:36-50

Sermon The good news is...great love for God and neighbor

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

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 pads) 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**

Communion

Invitation to the Table

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 may be served at their seats. All of the bread is gluten free.

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn #515** I Come with Joy

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Robin Bell

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, DMA

Communion Servers: Sue Kalvonjian, Suzanne Hunt, Robin Bell, Frank Boster

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

Usher

Head Usher: Jeff Lapinski; Beverly Bonning

Greeters

Mary Lou Clifton

Video Producer

Heather Myer

Fellowship

Beverly Bonning

Flowers

Flowers today 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, DMA

Pianist

This Week at Eastminster: *March 1-March 8*

SUNDAY, 3/1

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Tacos & Testimonials 11:00 a.m.

Brass Quintet Rehearsal 2:00 p.m.

Community Bell Ringers Rehearsal 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY, 3/2

Girl Scout Troop Meeting 4:30 p.m.

CCR Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.

Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.
Queer Heart Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, 3/3	
LMM Chorale Ensemble	11:00 a.m.
Infrastruture Meeting	6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 3/4	
Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
UKirk Gathering	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, 3/5	
Middle Ground Gathering	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY, 3/7	
Daylight Savings Time—set your clocks forward	
SUNDAY, 3/8 Centsability	
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Deacons	11:30 a.m.
Brass Quintet Rehearsal	2:00 p.m.
LMM Concert	3:00 p.m.
Community Bell Ringers Rehearsal	3:30 p.m.

Advocacy Day: March 18, 2026 at Central United Methodist, Lansing

United Methodists and friends from across Michigan will spend the day meeting with lawmakers and encouraging policy action. The focus for this day of advocacy will be on hunger and the need for food security. This is an opportunity to deepen one's advocacy skills, to meet your legislators, and to



join with the ecumenical community in prayer and action. Pastor Kristin will be attending and can help you navigate this event. To learn more and register go here: <https://miumc.swoogo.com/advocacyday/10295035>



Palm Sunday Path: March 29th from 3-5pm

The Palm Sunday Path is a movement of Christians anchored in Matthew 25 values, organizing in contrast to White Christian Nationalism. On Palm Sunday, March 29th

at 3pm there will be a procession in Lansing from Pilgrim Church (125 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing) to the Capitol. Presbyterians are invited to park at First Presbyterian, Lansing (510 W Ottawa St, Lansing) and we will shuttle you to the start of the procession. For more information, reach out to Pastor Kristin.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The work done in support of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees — serves individuals and communities in need. Received during Lent (Feb. 18–April 5), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need. Thank you for supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, an Offering that responds directly to the call to do justice in Micah 6:8. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

You can give to this offering using the envelopes in the pew racks or online at Eastminster’s giving page.

Advent House

Our next Advent House meal service is on March 14. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to make a meal.



World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service. “I Will Give You Rest: Come” is the theme of this year’s World Day of Prayer.



Daily Devotionals: The Good News is Great Love for God and Neighbor

Good news mantra: God's love is delightfully surprising.

Sunday, March 1: When you hear the word "neighbor" what comes to mind? Who do you picture?

Prayer: Dear God, I know that your definition of neighbor is bigger than mine. I tend to see those who look or speak like me as my neighbors. Help me to see as you do. Help me to see the children on the news, a world away, as my neighbors. Help me see those I disagree with as neighbors. Help me to see the world as you do. With hope I pray, amen.

Monday, March 2: If you were to teach a child what it means to be a good neighbor, what would you say?

Prayer: Dear God, I know being a good neighbor is more than sharing a cup of sugar. It's choosing to assume the best, to speak with kindness, to lead with curiosity, and to love whenever possible. Help me remember that your invitation to be a good neighbor is always an invitation to love. Maybe it's all that easy, and it's all that hard. With hope for more love I pray, amen.

Tuesday, March 3: Who does your heart break for? What neighbors are you called to love, pray for, or pay attention to in this season?

Prayer: With-us God, I worry for my neighbors who are hungry. I worry about those who are cold at night. I worry about my neighbors who are targets of oppression. I worry for my neighbors. Help me pay attention to that concern rattling around in my heart. Show me how to turn that worry into action. Show me how to use this worry as an invitation to do the good that is mine to do. With hope I pray, amen.

Wednesday, March 4: In the past, how have you practiced loving your neighbors? Moving forward, are there new acts of compassion you wish to embrace?

Prayer: Holy One, teach me your ways. Teach me the expansive ways that I could love my neighbor as myself. I am sure that I can do more than offer just a prayer, so in the coming weeks and months, reveal the ways that I might embrace compassion. Give me eyes to see. Give me hands to serve. Give me words of love. Grant me a heart like yours. With gratitude I pray, amen.

Good news mantra: When I love my neighbor, I love God.

Thursday, March 5: Mother Teresa once said, “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then just feed one.” How does this quote shape the way you think about being a good neighbor?

Prayer: Loving Christ, there are days when I look at the news and am overwhelmed by the amount of need in the world. How can I be a good neighbor in a world as messy as ours? Where do I even begin? Remind me that you fed the masses with a few loaves and a couple of fish. Remind me that I do not do this work alone. Remind me to start with one, and to trust that you are by my side. Amen.



Friday, March 6: Mr. Rogers once said, “Everyone longs to be loved. And the greatest thing we can do is to let people know that they are loved and capable of loving.” Do these words help you think about how to show love?

Prayer: Holy One, we humans are more similar than we are different. We long to be loved. We long to be seen. We long to be heard. We long to matter to someone. If I can help someone feel loved and like they matter, then I want to do just that. Open up room in my heart to give the same love that I long for. Open up room in my heart to offer the love that my neighbors deserve. Amen.

Saturday, March 7: What kind of neighbor would you like to be? What acts of compassion would you like to be known for? Take a moment to reflect on these things.

Prayer: Holy God, when I get to the end of my days, I pray that people will say that I was a good neighbor. More than a résumé or worldly accomplishments, I want to be known as someone who acts with compassion. I want to leave a legacy of love. Keep this desire at the forefront of my mind. Teach me how to love like you. Amen.



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

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www.eastminsterchurch.org

www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing