



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
May 17, 2026**



We Sing Our Faith

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

May 17, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

Thought on Entering

“For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.”

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The strife is o'er, the battle done,

People: *the victory of life is won.*

Leader: The song of triumph has begun.

All: *Alleluia*

Leader: Lord, by the stripes that wounded thee,

People: *from death's dread sting thy servants free,*

Leader: that we may live and sing to thee.

All: *Alleluia*

***Hymn #366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed by those things we have done which are painful to remember, and those things we have left undone which we regret. You have blessed us with grace and called us to be Christ's people every day,

— but we fall short. In your mercy, forgive us. Help us to be true to our calling. We pray in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Forgiveness**

***Sung Response #649** Amazing Grace

***Passing of the Peace**

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Our God, open our ears, to hear your Word in scripture, hymn and message. Open our hearts, we pray, to receive the Good News in faith. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 96

Old Testament pp. 520-521

Acts 1:1-9

New Testament p. 110

Sermon We Sing Our Faith

Special Music

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Sulin Campbell, Sara Weeden, Jim Engelkes.

***Hymn #442** Just As I Am

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 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;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People & 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 #463 How Firm a Foundation**

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Shirley Paxton

Worship Leader: Jim Engelkes

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, DMA

Worship Credits: Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Today we welcome Rev. Shirley Paxton to the pulpit.

Usher

Head Usher: Sacha Roeneckke

Greeter

Elizabeth Evangelista

Video Producer

Robin Bell

Fellowship

Jeff Lapinski

Flowers

The flowers are given by Barbara Stowitts in honor of the wedding of Abby Nixon and Jesse Pierce.

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: *May 17-May 24*

SUNDAY, 5/17

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

MONDAY, 5/18

Girl Scout Troop Meeting 4:30 p.m.

Trivia at Royal Scot 7:00 p.m.

Queer Heart Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 5/20

Financial Review 9:30 a.m.

Community Connections Mtg. 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, 5/21

Middle Ground Gathering 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 5/24

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Kristin is out of the office from May 5 through May 23.

Hymn Sing

We will gather on May 31 for a Hymn Sing. If you have a favorite hymn you would like included, please let the church office know by Tuesday, May 26.

Youth Summer Camps

We invite you to support our middle and high school young people by donating to the CE Fund to support summer youth conference opportunities that provide them with incredible ways to grow in faith. These young people get a glimpse of how deep and wide the body of Christ is. Please give generously if you have not had the chance to do so. Checks can be made to Eastminster Church with a memo of “summer youth” or you can give online at the church website. Please leave a comment saying it is for the CE Fund.

Per Capita

Per capita connects Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations and mid councils with the work of the wider church. Per capita is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21st century. The work of the PC(USA), and in particular the work of the General Assembly, is only possible because members of the church have said they are “all in” and committed to connection through per capita support. It is about joining together as a community and being one body, the body that is Christ’s church in the world.

This year’s per capita is \$42.42. Eastminster pays the full per capita each year, relying on its members to pay their share throughout the year. If you have already paid your per capita for 2026—thank you. If you have not and are able to do so, you can put a check in the offering plate with a note it is for per capita, or go to the online giving page of the church website and look for the “Per Capita” option.



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