



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
August 23, 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

August 23, 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: When we pass through the waters,

ALL: God is there with us.

One: When we suffer and feel hopeless,

ALL: God is there with us.

One: When we are joyful and celebratory,

ALL: God is there with us.

One: When we feel triumphant or defeated,

ALL: God is there with us, always.

One: Come, let us worship God together.

***Hymn #50 Deep in the Shadows of the Past**

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

*Creator God you have given each of us many gifts,
but sometimes we cannot recognize
what gifts we have to share,
so we hide them under a bushel.*

*Loving God, you remind us that all gifts are needed,
but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced
that some gifts are more special than others.*

*You call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body,
but sometimes we decide that membership in the body
is limited by our understandings.*

*Holy God, for the times we have ignored or mislabeled your gifts,
for those times we have cut another off from the body,
we ask for forgiveness and grace.*

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Forgiveness**

***Sung Response #155** Raise a Song of Gladness



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.
Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.
Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!

***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 Isaiah 43:1-2, 4a, 18-19

Scripture Reading Romans 12:2-6a

Sermon Emerging Faith with Hope for All

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;
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 #282** Come Down, O Love Divine

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Penny Swartz

Worship Leader: Robin Bell

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, DMA

Worship Credits: The call to worship is by Rev. Mindi from her *Rev-o-lution* blog; The Prayer of Confession is by Rev. Gord from <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca>; Hymns are printed and streamed with permission from One License #A-725831.

Today we welcome Rev. Penny Swartz as our guest preacher. Called to pursue ministry at the age of 40, Rev. Penny Swartz is a firm believer that it's never too late to reinvent oneself – or to reexamine one's faith. She is a direct descendant of Rev. John Lathrop, a Puritan dissenter during the time of King Charles I of England. Rev. Lathrop arrived in Massachusetts in 1634 to assume leadership of the Congregational Church in Barnstable. Rev. Swartz is ordained in the same non-creedal Congregational tradition. She has served churches in Minnesota and Michigan. Officially retired, she is Minister Emeritus at The Peoples Church in East Lansing.

Ushers

Head Usher: Rebecca Dean

Greeter

Bruce Augenstein

Flowers

Flowers today are given to the glory of God.

Video Producer

Susan Smalley

Fellowship

Elizabeth Evangelista and Jeff Lapinski

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: *August 23-August 30*

SUNDAY, 8/23

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Youth Gathering	11:15 a.m.

MONDAY, 8/24

Trivia at Royal Scot	7:00 p.m.
Queer Heart Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, 8/27

Middle Ground Gathering	7:00 p.m.
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SUNDAY, 8/30

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.

Pastor Kristin will be on vacation from Aug. 23-29.

Advent House

Our next Advent House meal is September 12th. Sign up to make a casserole in the narthex.

Youth Gathering today following worship

All middle school and high school youth in grades 6-12 are invited to a gathering today after worship. We will wrap up by 12:30 p.m. Monthly youth gatherings (in addition to other special event opportunities) will take place throughout the school year. Be on the lookout for a full calendar of dates soon.



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