



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
December 1, 2024**



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.

There are welcome pads on the end of each pew. We invite you to sign in! On the welcome pads are prayer cards. If you have a prayer request you can fill that out and put it in the offering plate as you leave the sanctuary. If you only want the pastor to see it, please mark it confidential.

There are offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors, for those who wish to give. You can also give online on our website or 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

December 1, 2024

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 *Inspired by Isaiah 43:1-4 and Luke 1:26-29*

One: God says,

ALL: *"Do not be afraid."*

One: God says,

ALL: *"I have called you by name."*

One: God says,

ALL: *"I will be with you."*

One: God says,

ALL: *"You are precious and honored in my sight."*

One: At the beginning of this season,

ALL: *at the start of this week,*

One: may we wrap ourselves in these words.

ALL: *May we begin again.*

*Hymn #395 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Candle Lighting Liturgy

Sung Response Candles Glowing, Promise Showing (tune: Infant Holy)

*Candles glowing, promise showing,
the great hope that calms our fear.
Darkness scatters, worry shatters,
Christ will always draw us near.
Calms our sighing, hears our crying,
helps our trying, love undying –
Christ will always draw us near!
Christ will always draw us near!*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*Affirming God,
Your first words to creation were words of love.
You looked at this earth and said, "It is good."
You spoke affirmations through the prophets.
You spoke blessings over Mary.
You spoke belonging through Christ.
At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing,
made in your image, held in your love.
Forgive us for forgetting this truth.
Forgive us for measuring our worth by society's measuring stick
instead of yours.
We believe.
Help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray,
amen.*

Silent Confession

Hymn #88 (Verse 1)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Assurance of Pardon

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 43:1-7 Old Testament, p. 631

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38 New Testament, p. 53

Sermon You Are a Blessing

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

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

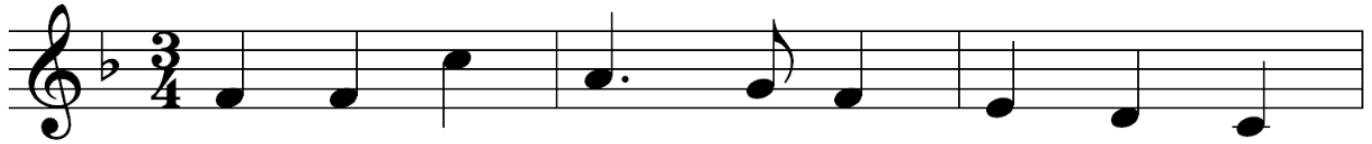
Please come forward down the center aisle to receive by intinction. Take a piece of bread and then dip it in the cup and partake. You may return down the side aisles. Those unable to come forward may be served at their seats. One of the servers has gluten-free wafers.

Prayer after Communion

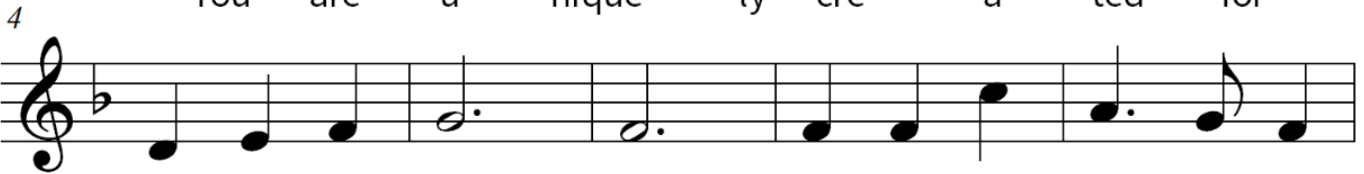
*Hymn In Case No One Ever Told You

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music from the *Praxis Pietatis Melica*, 1668



In case no one e - ver told you or
You are the mas - ter-piece born of God's
You are u - nique - ly cre - a - ted for



4
you have for - got - ten You are a bless - ing and
i - ma - gin - a - tion E - ven the parts that are
love and be - long - ing For - cing your - self to be



9
have been since you were be - got - ten
cry - ing out for res - tor - a - tion
some - one you're not is ex - haus - ting



13
Fash-ioned from love Sent to the earth from a - bove
All that you are Born out of star - dust and scars
You are a gift There is no box you must fit



18
You're no - thing short of a god - send
Re - flects God's per - fect cre - a - tion
Let your be - lov - ed - ness blos - som

*Charge & Benediction

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Mary Harvey

Advent Candle Lighters: Rick Johnston and Alex Mikeladze

Communion Servers: Jeff Lapinski, Elaine Cable, Sam O'Neill, Susan Smalley

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, D.M.A.

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

Ushers

Head Usher: Jeff Lapinski, Beverly Bonning

Greeter

Sara Weeden

Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God

Video Producer

Mike Brown

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

Pianist

This Week at Eastminster: *December 1-8*

SUNDAY, 12/1

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Decorating the Church! 11:15 a.m.

MONDAY, 12/2

CCR Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.

Trivia at Royal Scot 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 12/3

Chorale Ensemble	10:00 a.m.
Infrastructure Meeting	10:30 a.m.
UKirk Board	6:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 12/4

Men's Bible Study	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
LMM Holiday Program	11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, 12/5

Young Adults	7:00 p.m.
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FRIDAY, 12/6

Capital City Ringers Concert	7:00 p.m.
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SUNDAY, 12/8

Worship	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	11:00 a.m.
Advent Workshop	11:15 a.m.
Cindy Suehr Memorial Service	3:00 p.m.

TODAY - Hanging of the Greens

After worship today join us as we decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.

Capital City Ringers Concert

Capital City Ringers, a professional handbell choir, will be performing their Holiday concert here on Friday, December 6th at 7pm. The concert is free, but donations are accepted.

Advent Workshop - December 8th

Next Sunday after worship we will have an intergenerational event to engage our Advent theme of "Words for the Beginning."

Advent Devotionals

Advent Devotionals are in the narthex for those who would like one. They correspond with our sermon series for Advent and Christmas.

Taize Worship Service

On Wednesday, December 18th at 7pm we will be having a Taize Service at the church. This is a quiet, meditative service with song and scripture. The labyrinth will also be out.

Community Christmas Fest

Saturday, December 21st from 9:30am-11:30am we are going to have fun Christmas activities for all ages. Join us as we gather together to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Christmas Eve

Our Christmas Eve Service of candlelight and communion will be on Tuesday, December 24th at 5pm.

Stewardship

Please return your pledge cards as soon as possible. There are extra cards in the narthex or you can pledge online at www.eastminsterchurch.org. Thank you for your generosity!

Advent House

We still need a few more people to sign up to make a casserole for our Advent House Meal on Saturday, December 14th.