



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Service for the Lord's Day
January 26, 2025**



Learning to Walk in The Dark

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

January 26, 2025

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 Psalm 8

One: O God, our God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth.

ALL: *We stare into the night sky; the work of the heavens,
and declare that your majesty is the music of the starry skies.*

One: What are human beings, that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

ALL: *O God, our God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!*

*Hymn #51 To Abraham and Sarah

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Lord for whom the night is as day, we confess our fear of the dark. From childhood anxieties of monsters under the bed to fears of criminals hiding in darkened streets, we imagine the worst when we cannot see. We admit that our fears run wild in our minds when we feel vulnerable. Forgive us when we consciously make wasteful and hurtful decisions based on irrational fears. Grant us the courage to walk in the dark, to practice calming our fears and trusting your presence. In the name of Jesus, who shines in the darkness and is not overcome, we pray, Amen.

*Silent Confession

*Words of Forgiveness

*Sung Response #447 We Are Forgiven

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*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 Psalm 8

Old Testament, p. 466

Scripture Reading Genesis 15:1-6

Old Testament, p. 11

Sermon Darkness is for Hoping

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 #772** Live Into Hope

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill

Children's Message: Neil Myer

Pianist: Tamar Mikeladze, D.M.A.

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

Usher

Head Usher: Estelle McGroarty

Greeter

Rebecca Dean

Video Producer

Susan Smalley

Flowers

Today's flowers 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

Pianist

This Week at Eastminster: *January 26-Feb. 2*

SUNDAY, 1/26

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Annual Meeting 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:15am

MONDAY, 1/27

Trivia at Royal Scot 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 1/28

Chorale Ensemble 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, 1/29

Men's Bible Study 8:00 a.m.

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

UKirk Gathering 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, 1/30

20s/30s/40s Gathering 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, 2/2

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Book Discussion 11:15 a.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be today after worship. It will be a combination of the annual meeting of the corporation and the program meeting. The purpose is to receive the annual report, vote on nominating committee members, vote on terms of call for the pastor, and to amend the bylaws.

Book Study: We are starting a new sermon series and book study today. We will be reading “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor. You can purchase the book to read along or join the discussion on Sundays after worship even if you haven’t read the book.

School Break Adventures

School Break Adventures will be returning on Friday, February 14 and Monday, February 17 for children and youth in kindergarten-8th grade. These are days off from school spent engaging in a variety of faith formation activities. To sign up a participant, please contact the church office or let Neil Myer know.



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

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www.eastminsterchurch.org

www.youtube.com/eastminsterpresbyterianchurcheastlansing