



Eastminster United Church
September 27, 2015
Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." - Theodore Roosevelt

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Judith Ramsay

*Opening Hymn MV#12 Come, Touch our Hearts

Lighting the Christ Candle

adapted from Debra Faulk, *UU Words for Worship*

One: We light this candle, symbolic of the warmth of community and the brightness that love brings to the world, illuminating our search for justice and peace.

All: **Here in our midst is this flame, so tiny and so significant**

Opening Prayer

adapted from Cathy Rion Starr

In this place of peace;

May we find moments of quiet contemplation.

In this place of celebration;

May our hearts soar with gratitude for the gift of life.

In this place of sacred love;

May we gently hold all that is broken here.

In this place of inquiry;

Here, may we be challenged to open our minds and hearts ever wider.

May we, together, draw the circle of love and justice ever wider. Amen

The Peace Shared

The Children are invited to Church School

We Share in Word and Song

Hebrew Scripture

Psalm 146

Refrain:

Elise S. Eslinger

(1)

Praise to the One who sets pri-soners free, who ___

(2)

shel - ters the stranger, gives food to the hungry, O

(3)

praise to God, who is just.

Leader: Praise the Lord!
All: Praise the Lord, O my soul!
Leader: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
All: I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Refrain

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
All: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;
Leader: who brings justice to the oppressed;
All: **who gives food to the hungry.**

Refrain

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free;
All: the Lord comforts the oppressed.
Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
All: the Lord loves the righteous.
Leader: The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,
All: but the way of the wicked, God brings to ruin.
Leader: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
All: Praise the Lord!

Refrain

Greek Scripture	Matthew 25:35-40	Michelle Suzanne
One:	The word of Hope.	
All:	Thanks be to God!	
Meditation	Welcoming the Stranger	Anne Erickson
Anthem	Take, Lord	Matt Wessel; based on a prayer of Ignatius Loyola

*Take, Lord, receive all my liberty, all my memory.
Take, Lord, receive my understanding, my will.
Take, Lord, receive all that I possess; all that I
have has come from you, Lord.
Now, I return it to you.
Take, Lord, receive what is truly yours, all of this
and more.*

*Dispose of all that I have given according to
your will.
For your love and your grace are all that I need,
are enough for me.*

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn VU#600 When I Needed a Neighbour

Please stand in body or in spirit during the last verse for the presentation of the offering.

*Dedication Prayer

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn VU#582 There's a Spirit in the Air

*Blessing & Sending Forth

*Sung Blessing We Receive your Blessing

Grace & Natasha Moes

We re - ceive your blessing, we re - ceive your grace, as we walk in the light___ shining
 from your_ face. May the peace that you give___ change the way that we live;___ we re -
 ceive your bles - sing as we leave this place. *Fine* Praise God___ from whom all
 blessings flow; Praise God,___ all creatures here be - low; praise___ God___ a - bove, ye
 heav' - nly hosts;___ praise Father, Son,___ and praise the Holy Ghost. We re

Postlude

Today's Announcements

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:35-40 *p. 29*

~ Today we welcome to Eastminster guest preacher: ANNE ERICKSON

Anne was raised in the United Church, which formed her ideas of the social gospel. Her lifelong concern for justice has led her to volunteer roles in West Scarborough Community Legal Services and the East End Refugee Committee, among others, as well as to a 15 year career as a fundraiser for social service charities. Her church, Kingston Road United, was one of the founding members of the EERC (East End Refugee Committee) and she has been active in it for five years since she answered a call for volunteers from another member of the congregation.

~ UPCOMING WORSHIP

Our services in September focus on stories of refugees and migrants, both biblical and modern. On October 4 we celebrate World Wide Communion Sunday: Making Room at the Table and our preacher will be Jim Patterson! We celebrate Thanksgiving on October 11!

(UPDATE: Sarah's surgery went well and she is now home and resting comfortably)

~ REV. SARAH will be away from September 22 until October 3 following surgery.

For pastoral care concerns during this time, please contact Rev. Michael Cottrell from Kimbourne Park United Church at 416-880-8124, michael.cottrell@rogers.com

~ HILARY will be away from September 23-30

Hilary will be attending two sacred music continuing education events, in New York and Dallas. She will participate in a workshop gathering for Music that Makes Community, a not-for-profit organization which connects a worldwide network of practitioners and leaders who share a practice of paperless song leading (www.musicthatmakescommunity.org). They are gathering their leaders to further develop pedagogy practices, and to vision for the future of the organization. Next, Hilary will be at the 50th anniversary symposium for the Sacred Music programme at her alma mater, Perkins School of Theology. This meeting will be a chance to connect with musicians and scholars of church music, trade ideas about music ministry in contemporary practice, and come home with some exciting new music! Hilary has been invited to speak on a panel entitled "Vocational Witnesses from the 21st Century."

~ JANE (Youth & Intergenerational Ministry) will be away from September 22 - October 3

~ SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE at 10:15am

Refreshments will be served before the service begins. Please feel free to bring your coffee into the sanctuary during the service and share the warm hospitality of your church!

~ 70'S ACCESSIBILITY FUNDRAISER TIME IS RUNNING OUT!.... GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!



Only a few days left to purchase tickets for our Boogie through the 70's fundraiser for Eastminster's Accessibility Fund!! Don't be sad that you missed this crazy, fun filled, event. Join the Eastminster Choir and Friends on October 3 at 8pm to sing and dance the night away! Boogie to the incredible beat of Scott's rockin' band! Cash bar, outta sight finger foods, totally tubular cakes. Bring extra cash for the amazing silent auction, and let's help raise some serious funds! For more tickets please contact Diana Hilton or to purchase tickets, either drop by and see Sue in the church office Tues-Fri 9.30-3pm, or contact any of the choir members. Tickets are \$50 per person with a \$40 tax receipt.

Spread the word, invite family & friends, we need a full house to make this a successful event! Check out the scoop & share the info with your friends at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/945833995455157/>

Also don't forget our.....

SILENT AUCTION!

We are still looking for donated goodies to put up on the (silent) auction block! Donations can include anything from your time, to your knowledge, to your products. Also, check your closets, basement, spare room and walls for those amazing treasures that need a new home....

If you have any contributions for the auction, contact Laura Cory at: dla619@rogers.com / 416-465-3297 soon!



~ LOOKING FOR SOME ITEMS... CAN YOU HELP? ~

Eastminster is a member of the East End Refugee Committee (EERC) along with 8 other east end churches, which sponsors refugees from all over the world. Currently, we are awaiting the arrival of a refugee family of 4 from Ethiopia via South Africa. The family includes a father, mother, 3-year-old boy and 9 month-old girl. Below is a list of items we still need to collect for the family.

We don't know their exact date of arrival but hope it will be in 2015.

If you have any questions, or can help out with needed items, please see Joy Klopp or any other member of the Social Justice Committee.

(There is a space at Eastminster for storage of items for the Ethiopian refugee family.)

Wish List

Queen size comforter (if queen futon is used as a bed)

Mattress covers-single bed and queen size

Pillows - 3

Towels & face cloths

Ladies clothing-do not know size yet

Men's clothes-do not know size yet

Clothes-3 year old boy (We have some.)

Clothes-9 month old girl

Books & toys-3 year old boy (We have some.)

~ REFUGEES

Do you want to help with Refugee Sponsorship? Please speak to Joy Klopp or contact her at: joyklopp4@gmail.com

~ YOUR OPINIONS MATTER

The Accessibility Project Building Committee would like to hear from users and members of the congregation regarding any issues with accessibility and mobility that should be brought to the Committee's attention. Please e-mail Alan Munn at: lamunn@pathcom.com. Thank you.

Eastminster Events

~ Tues. September 29 at 7pm: THE JEWISH HOLY DAY OF SUKKOT & THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEES
Join Rabbi Miriam and the Danforth Multifaith Committee, for celebration, learning, and discussion in the DJC sukkah. Along with members of the Eastminster United Church community, we will learn about the holy day of Sukkot – the festival of temporary dwellings, precariousness, and harvest – and explore this powerful symbol and practice in relation to contemporary refugee issues. Dress warmly – it can be chilly outside at the end of September! **RSVP: info@djctoronto.com. Please speak to Bruce Chown if you can help with refreshments.**

~ Sun. October 4 at 12 noon: JUSTICE MINISTRIES MEETING

~ Mon. October 5 from 7-9pm: FOLK MUSIC GROUP

Everyone is welcome, even if you don't play an instrument and only want to sing. If you have questions contact Alan Munn at: lamunn@pathcom.com. Meetings will be every second Monday, meet on the Auditorium Stage.

~ NEW EASTMINSTER STUDY SERIES: BULLIES, GOSSIPS, GODS, & SCAPEGOATS

Tues. October 6 from 7-8:30pm: Subsequent sessions on Oct. 13 & 27, & Nov. 10. Meet in the Parlour. How are all these things connected?

Anthropologist and literary critic **René Girard**, author of such works as *Violence and the Sacred*, *Things Hidden Since the Foundation of the World*, and *I See Satan Fall Like Lightning* offers us a set of powerful tools for thinking about human relations, social order, and the divine.

Drawing on selections from Girard's work, this 5-session study series will explore a fresh and provocative way of thinking about violence, cruelty, tribalism, and religion in our contemporary setting.

Discussions led by Eastminster's **Cameron Thomson**.

For electronic copies please email: cameron.thomson@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

~ Wed. October 7 at 7pm: COUNCIL MEETING

~ Thurs. October 8 at 10.40: CHESTER VILLAGE SERVICE

Please speak to Rev. Sarah if you would like to help out.

~ Mon. October 12: THANKSGIVING

~ Wed. October 14 at 6pm: CHURCH NIGHT

Stay tuned for details...

~ Mon. October 19 from 7-9pm: FOLK MUSIC GROUP

Everyone is welcome, even if you don't play an instrument and only want to sing. If you have questions contact Alan Munn at: lamunn@pathcom.com. Meetings will be every second Monday, meet on the Auditorium Stage.

~ Fri. October 23 at 7pm: EUC READS! BOOK CLUB

Book: THE BEST LAID PLANS **Canadian Author:** Terry Fallis **Moderator:** Cheryl Suttie.

Just in time for the federal election! Winner of The Stephen Leacock Humour Award and Canada Reads. Irreverent and sophisticated political satire on Ottawa and Canadian political life. You are welcome to join in - come out for a lively discussion, followed by the 9pm Social Wine & Cheese at the home of Neil Riach & Carolyn Curren. Info: John Brown 416-463-0844 or Carolyn Curren 416-465-6174

info@neilandcarolyn.com

~ Fri/Sat October 23 & 24: GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER!

Stay tuned for details...

From Our Friends & Partners

~ Thursdays -1.30-3.30pm, September 24 to November 12: HERITAGE ONTARIO GROUP SERIES

Presteign-Woodbine United Church (16 Presteign Ave.) is running their Heritage Ontario Group every Thursday with a fascinating slate of speakers presenting on a wide variety of topics about including: Play by the Bay – A Nostalgic History of Recreation and Amusement on Toronto's Waterfront, Dogs & Underdogs, Canadian Women in the Air and so much more. \$7/presentation. Info at: 416 755 8352 presteignwoodbineunitedchu@bellnet.ca/www.presteignwoodbineuc.com. (check poster on the community board).

~ Thurs. Oct. 1, 8:30-3pm: 2015 GREEN CHOICES FOR FAITH COMMUNITIES ANNUAL FORUM

Climate Change in our Backyard: A Multi-faith Symposium on Extreme Weather Resilience

Join the conversation about faith-based preparation for extreme weather emergencies in the GTA & learn about:

- The expected local impacts of extreme weather and our shared vulnerability
- How faith communities can enhance community based-resilience to extreme weather impacts
- Local community resources that can be accessed, in order to more effectively respond to extreme weather emergency disaster

Keynote addresses by: The Hon Glen Murray, MPP and Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change and Rev David Hallman, former Climate Change Coordinator, World Council of Churches. Workshops will be led by Toronto Public Health, Office of Emergency Management, Environment and Energy, City of Toronto, and Faith & the Common Good.

Location: Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive, (McCowan Rd & Ellesmere Rd)

Registration Fee: \$20/person or pay what you can. Includes a delicious lunch.

Organizing Partners: Faith & the Common Good, Intercultural Dialogue Institute GTA, Toronto Area Interfaith Council, Green Awakening Network.

Info at: <http://tinyurl.com/climatechangeinourbackyard>

~ Sat. October 3 from 9am-1pm: FALL FEST FUNDRAISER!

Enjoy some fun and great food (all day breakfast, Egg McBluffs and BBQ) with the folks at Birchcliff Bluffs United Church (33 East Rd. Warden Ave./Kingston Rd.) on Sat. October 3 as they run their annual Fall Fest Fundraiser. Bring your antique's to be appraised (5\$ each), get your blades sharpened, buy some fresh Ontario produce and homemade goodies. Check out lots of interesting tables including books, vintage collectables, children's toys, baking and wander through the clothing boutique. Proceeds to help both the church & their Food Bank. Vendors tables \$30, contact Linda at: 416-690-7230 (see poster on Community Board)

~ Fri. Oct. 16 from 6-8.30pm & Sat. Oct. 17 from 10.30-5pm: THE ANNUAL RIVERDALE ART SHOW

Saint Barnabas Church (our neighbours across the street – 361 Danforth Ave.) are extending a warm invitation to all to come out and enjoy their 27th Annual Art Show & Sale which showcases local artists work. Also, new this year is 'Square Foot' Forward! 12 x 12" square paintings for only \$130. Admission is Free! Entrance off Hampton. Info at: www.saintbarnabas.com (see poster on Community Board)

Our Staff

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Alex Sinclair, Bookkeeper pmsinc@interlog.com 416-463-2179 ex. 105

Custodians: Alison LeGrow, Jessica Aguiar, Joseph Telford, Robert Covert, Joshua Somers

Soloists: Michelle Suzanne - *soprano*, Andrew Hodwitz - *bass*, Jeff Schissler - *tenor*, Joy Klopp - *alto*