



Eastminster United Church

January 10, 2016

Baptism of Jesus

*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

"Patience is not waiting passively until someone else does something. Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest, to be completely present to the moment, to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient, we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later, and somewhere else. Let's be patient and trust that the treasure we look for is hidden in the ground on which we stand." - Henri Nouwen

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Judith Ramsay

*Opening Hymn VU#442 Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

Lighting the Christ Candle

adapted from U.U. Words for Worship

One: We light this candle to affirm that new light is ever waiting to break through to enlighten our ways

All: May we be open to this light, and to the rich possibilities that it brings us.

Opening Prayer

**We wander to the shore with you, drawn to the river of life;
be with us in our excitement and longing to quench our thirst.
Some of us dip in a toe; others dive headlong into the waves;
open us to the different ways we approach life and labour.
We emerge from the water refreshed, cleansed and ready for a new beginning;
be with us as we begin again following your way. Amen**

The Peace Shared

The Sacrament of Baptism

Introduction

Parents' Promise and Commitment

Godparents' Promise and Commitment

*Congregational Promise and Commitment

Let us pledge our support and care to those who we have welcomed today.

As your brothers and sisters in Christ, we rejoice in the gifts you bring to this congregation. We pledge to you our love and our support. With God's help, we will together live out and celebrate the life and ministry of Christ's church.

*Affirmation of Faith : A New Creed

**We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God:
who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit**
**We trust in God. We are called to be the Church;
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Blessing of the Water and the Act of Baptism

Baptismal Blessing: MV#214 May God's Sheltering Wings

The Children are invited to Church School.

We Share in Word and Song

Greek Scripture	John 1:1-18	Mary Gerritsma
Greek Scripture	Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22	
One: All:	The word of Hope Thanks be to God!	
Meditation	Why Baptism?	Rev. Sarah Miller
Anthem	Down in the River to Pray	Trad. arr. Andrew Donaldson

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn: MV#161 I Have Called You By Your Name
Please stand in body or in spirit during the last verse for the presentation of the offering.

*Dedication Prayer

Prayers of People and the Lord's Prayer (spoken)

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn VU#443 God, We Pray at this Beginning

*Blessing & Sending Forth

*Sung Blessing Salaam Aleikum

Sa - laam a - lei - kum le,
 May peace be in your hearts,

sa - laam a - lei - kum le, sa - laam a - lei - kum
 may peace be in your homes, may peace be in your

le,
 land, sa - laam a - lei - kum le.
 may peace be in our world.

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Postlude

Today's Announcements

Scriptures

John 1:1-18 *p. 91* Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 *p. 60*

* **Welcome to Eastminster**

Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and include your email address if you'd like to receive weekly eblast announcements from Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book in the Narthex. Children are invited to Nursery (up to age 4) and Church School following the Children's Time. Please pick up children from Church school and Nursery following the service.

* **Today we welcome through baptism** Hudson Smith, son of Morgan Flemming Smith and Jeffrey Smith and Annabelle Willow Grant.

* **Today @12 noon: Worship Committee Meeting**

* **2016 Offering Envelopes**

2016 Offering envelopes are ready for pick up in the Narthex. If you are not on PAR (pre authorized monthly withdrawals) then there will probably be a box with your name on it. If you would like to switch over to PAR (a "Greener" choice) pls. speak to Judith Ramsay jaramsay@sympatico.ca or Norm Tanaka ntanaka@sympatico.ca

**** REMINDER ****

Committee Chairs & Staff

Please remit your 2015 Annual Reports to Sue at: eastminster@bellnet.ca as soon as possible.
(Deadline is January 24, 2016)

Thanks everyone!

Eastminster Events

* **Worship Services**

Join us on January 17 we explore parables and the teaching of Jesus. January 24 our service focuses on healing and miracles and what those mean in our context. On January 31 our guest preacher will be Marc Doucet. February 7 is transfiguration and our preacher will be Cameron Thomson. We begin our Lenten journey February 14! You don't want to miss a minute of worship at Eastminster.

* **Mon. January 11 @ 1pm: Knitter's Group resumes**

* **Wed. January 13 @ 7pm: Council Meeting**

* **Thurs. January 14 @ 10.40am: Chester Village Service**

Please speak to Rev. Sarah if you're able to help out

* **Thurs. January 14 from 6-6:45pm: Children's Choir resumes**

* **Sun. January 17 @ 12 noon: Community & Discipleship Committee Meeting**

* **Thurs. January 24 following the service: Congregational Meeting**

* **January 26 at 7pm: Newcomers and Seekers:**

Join with others at Eastminster to explore life questions. A path to church membership. Led by Rev. Sarah Miller and Rev. Robin Wardlaw.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE for the Eblast & Sunday Bulletin is: **Wednesday at 9am**

Please send to Sue at: eastminster@bellnet.ca ... thanks!

Our Staff

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Custodians: Alison LeGrow, Jessica Aguiar, Joseph Telford, Joshua Somers, Rodney David

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