

Eastminster United Church

January 17, 2016

Second after Epiphany Communion

**Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*

"It's a human need to be told stories. The more we're governed by idiots and have no control over our destinies, the more we need to tell stories to each other about who we are, why we are, where we come from, and what might be possible." ~Alan Rickman

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Dale Hildebrand

**Opening Hymn* VU#584 Through the Heart of Every City

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

Holy One, Creator of the universe, through the wisdom of the ages and our connection with one another, you teach us who we are; through our pain and reconciliation, you teach us to be forgiving. In community and as individuals, you are with us as we wrestle with decisions, ask questions and seek transformation in our lives and our world. With open minds and hearts we give you thanks. Amen.

**Sharing the Peace*

We Share in Word and Song

Greek Scripture

Mark 4:1-34

Maya Brathwaite

One:

The word of Hope

All:

Thanks be to God!

Meditation

Weird Things Jesus Said

Rev. Sarah Miller

Anthem

Many and Great are Bearers of the Word

Ricky Manalo

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn: VU#503 When Seed Falls on Good Soil

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

**Dedication Prayer*

We Celebrate Holy Communion

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Dale Hildebrand

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift our hearts in prayer.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Sung Responses: Kingsfold Communion MV# 203, 204, 205

All are invited to come forward to receive Communion by dipping the bread in the cup.

Communion Hymns MV#193 God Bless to Us Our Bread

Welcome Table

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, hallelujah!

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table,

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days!

I'm gonna eat with my sisters and brothers...

We're gonna feast on milk and honey...

Here all the world will find a welcome...

Prayer Following Communion

Blessed Creator, we give thanks for these gifts of the Earth that become sacred symbols of oneness and brokenness, life energies and love poured out. By these communal actions, strengthen our faith and our resolve to seek justice. May all we seek be of goodness and compassion, multiplied by your love. Amen.

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn VU#676 God, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

*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.

Copyright © 2007 by GIA Publications, Inc. • All Rights Reserved
Reprinted with permission via Onelicense.net no. A-723573

Postlude

Today

Scripture

Mark 4:1-34 *p. 38*

~ REMINDER ~

2015 ANNUAL REPORTS - Committee Chairs & Staff

Reports are due into the office (eastminster@bellnet.ca) by **next Sunday January 24 please.**

*** Today @12 noon:** Community and Discipleship Committee Meeting

* **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.

* **Sunday Volunteers:**

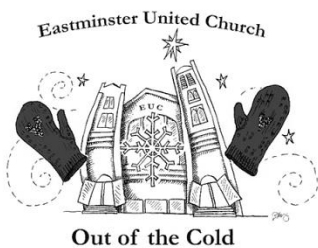
Worship

We are always welcoming congregants to take a part in our worship service. Lay leadership roles include: greeters, servers for communion and offering collection, scripture readers, communion preparation (including bread baking), telling a children's story, composing and leading prayers of the people or sharing a faith story. Please consider this as your invitation to participate. Please speak to Susan Bower or Rev. Sarah Miller. Or add your name and contact details to the ***new Worship signup binder*** at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays.

Coffee

Jesus shared food with his followers and friends. At Eastminster, we love to chat over coffee after the service, and to make that happen we need volunteers to serve coffee and tea, bring milk, cream, juice and snacks and to wash the dishes. Sign up with Marlene or Cathy.

* **OOTC**



According to Japanese cleaning guru Marie Kondo we should all embrace minimalism, get rid of unneeded belongings in our lives and keep only those things that 'spark joy.' If you get on board with KonMari and want to experience the "Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up," the Out of the Cold Program is here to help you! We would love to have your donations of men's jeans and hoodies, winter coats and boots as well as all those current magazines and paperbacks overflowing your bookshelves.

* **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

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

Eastminster Events

* **Worship Services**

Join us on January 24 as our service focuses on Jesus the teacher. 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.

* **Tues. January 26 at 7pm: Newcomers & Seekers: Exploring Faith, Doubt, Questions & Struggles.**

Who am I? What is creation? What is the future? and other big questions. A time for exploring Christian faith with others in a small group. Starts Tues. January 26, 7 – 8:30pm at Eastminster (in the Parlour). Presented by East End United, and led by Rev. Sarah Miller & Rev. Robin Wardlaw (Glen Rhodes United Church). Continues on February 9, April 12, and April 26. Please speak to Rev. Sarah to register.

* **Rev. Sarah will be away on Study Leave from Jan. 25 until Feb. 9.** Rev. Michael Cottrell, from Kimbourne Park United Church will be on call for pastoral care during that time. His contact info is: **416-880-8124, michael.cottrell@rogers.com**

* **Sue will be away from the office from Feb. 2 to Feb. 10.**

~ NOTICE ~

There will be no Eblast on February 4

Please include any announcements for the **next two weeks** of Bulletins & Eblasts in your submissions on **Wednesday Jan. 27 at 9am**

Send to Sue at: eastminster@bellnet.ca Thanks!

From Our Friends

* **Thurs. January 21 @ 6.10pm: Extracting Justice: Faith Communities & Mining Activism**

Location: U of T Multi-Faith Centre, 569 Spadina Ave. Join Connie Sorio & Shannon Neufeldt of KAIROS with Rachel Small of Mining Injustice Solidarity in a lively discussion of the ethics and social responsibility of Canada's mining companies. Info: www.multifaith.utoronto.ca

* **Sat. January 23 from 9.30am-2:00pm: East End United Workshop on Regional Ministries**

Location: Presteign Woodbine United Church, 16 Presteign Ave. Keynote Speaker: Rev. Chris White, Fairlawn United. No cost! Bring your questions and ideas about the future of the church.

Weekly Events

Mondays: **1:00pm** **Prayer Shawl Knitters** - meet in Sarah's Office

Thursdays: **6:00 - 6:45pm** **Children's Choir** - meet in the Parlour

7:30 - 9.30pm **Adult Choir** - meet in the Sanctuary

Our Staff

Rev. Sarah Miller, sarah.bmiller@bellnet.ca Office: 416-463-2179 ex. 100 Cell: 416-209-1181

Hilary Donaldson, Pastoral Musician music.eastminster@bellnet.ca

Scott Pietrangelo, Music Leader

Jane Sanden, Youth & Intergenerational Ministry janesanden@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 102

Sue Swann, Church Administrator eastminster@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 103

Gerald Gordon, Property Manager property.manager@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 104

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

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

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

----->

----->



Regional Ministries Workshop

Date: Saturday, January 23, 2016

Place: **Presteign – Woodbine United Church**
16 Presteign Ave, Toronto
3 blocks west of St. Clair-O'Connor intersection; you can access their parking lot from St. Clair.

Time: 9:30am – 2 pm

Program Details: **Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Chris White, minister at Fairlawn United Church, who studied Regional Ministries during his sabbatical.

Small Groups: “World Café” Format - Spend approx 20 minutes at one table before moving to another table; choose topics of interest to you.
Lunch: Sandwiches provided by congregations

Cost: FREE

**Table Topics:
(partial list)**

- New Forms of Worship
- Collaborative Community Outreach / Mission in Field
- Social Justice Ministries
- Book Clubs, Learning Events
- Property Management
- Bible Dinner Theatre
- Discussion with Chris White
- Communications
- Administration
- Other Suggestions?

Table Questions:

1. What are your best ideas for projects we can do together for the next 6-12 months?
2. What needs to happen to get projects started and prove our commitment?

VISION STATEMENT

East End United group of churches:
Working together to give new life to the United Church in East Toronto, to once again be a vibrant presence in our community.