



Eastminster United Church

March 13, 2016

Fifth Sunday of Lent

*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

"Centuries of secularism have failed to transform eating into something strictly utilitarian. Food is still treated with reverence...To eat is still something more than to maintain bodily functions. People may not understand what that 'something more' is, but they nonetheless desire to celebrate it. They are still hungry and thirsty for sacramental life." - Alexander Schmemmann

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Lee Perry

*Opening Hymn VU#111 As the Sun with Longer Journey

Opening Prayer

adapted from Libbie D Stoddard

We have come into this space of hope

where our hearts and minds are opened to the future.

We have come into this place of justice

where we set aside our fear to name freely every oppression.

We have come into this home of love where we know that no lives are insignificant.

We have come into this room of song

where we unite our voices in the somber and the beautiful melodies of life. Amen

*Sharing the Peace

Children's Time

Musical Chairs

We Share in Word and Song

Scripture

Acts 11:1-18

Michelle Suzanne

One:

The word of Hope

All:

Thanks be to God!

Meditation

A Wider Table

Rev. Sarah Miller

Anthem

Comfort the People

Roger Summers and Trilby Jordan

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Minute for Mission

Pam Cameron

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn VU#183 We Meet You, O Christ

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 (sung) VU#959

Charles Brown

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn MV#145 Draw the Circle Wide

*Blessing & Sending Forth

*Sung Blessing MV#218 May the Love of Our God

*Extinguishing of the Lenten Candle

During Lent we end the service without a postlude.

We invite you to take a moment of silent reflection at the conclusion of the service.

Today

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18 p. 130

**** Today following the service: Worship Committee Meeting ****

*** Welcome to Eastminster**

Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and include your email address if you'd like to receive the weekly eblast announcements from Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book also 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.



A Special Thank You..

On behalf of the full congregation, the Worship Committee would like to express our deep appreciation to **Merle Roach** who has so faithfully volunteered her time and talent for many, many years (too numerous to count!) in the coordination of our Sunday morning greeters and communion servers. At Sunday's AGM we were able to present Merle with a flowering plant in recognition of her intrepid service. **Thank you Merle!**

*** El Hogar Update & Thank You**

The El Hogar Service Team would like to extend a huge thank you to the Eastminster congregation for their interest in and donations for the children and the school. Your donations of \$375 will go such a long way. The Team will be in Honduras from March 15-22.

Please follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/leasidegoes2honduras/>.

*** EASTER FLOWERS**

Please bring potted spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. After the service they will be delivered to those unable to join us at church.

* **A request from Sue in the church office....**

Hi everyone! Lots of great events going on both here, at Eastminster, and with our friends in the East End community. I would really appreciate it if we could capture some of it with clear, sharp photographs that I can use to freshen up the website with and add occasionally to the eblasts. There are some really good shutterbugs in the congregation, (you know who you are...) and taking pics with cellphones is so easy now too. Give it a shot, the more the better! (Thank you so much for the great ones received already!)

I'm looking for pics of: **Sunday services, Palm Sunday & bike parade, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday's walk & gathering afterwards, Men's Easter Breakfast and Easter service.**

Use interesting angles, subjects/scenes, settings etc. (not just people), and let's show everyone what an interesting and vibrant church Eastminster is!! Please send your photos to Sue @ eastminster@bellnet.ca thanks!



Eastminster Events

* **Worship Services**

Our theme during Lent looks at the stories of gatherings at the table. Awkward tables, family tables, borrowed tables and overturned tables tell stories of relationship and community, or boundary crossing, exclusion and welcome. Today, we explore the role of food in welcoming or excluding at the table. March 20 is Palm Sunday, when we will begin the service with a bicycle palm parade at 10:15am. Our Holy week includes Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7pm and Good Friday, March 25 at 10am beginning at Riverdale Presbyterian Church. You don't want to miss a minute of worship at Eastminster!

* **Tues. March 15 & Wed. 16: Rev. Sarah away**

* **Sun. March 20: The first day of spring!!**

* **Tues. March 22@ 7.30pm: Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting**

* **Good Friday - March 25: Church Office Closed**



* **Sun. March 20 @ 10.30am: Palm Sunday & Bicycle Parade!**

(Join us for the Palm Bicycle Parade at **10.15am** and don't forget your cameras!)

* **Thurs. March 24 @ 7pm: Maundy Thursday: Service of Foot & Hand Washing and Communion**

Joint evening service here at Eastminster, together with Glen Rhodes United Church, all are welcome!

* **Fri. March 25 @ 10am: Ecumenical Good Friday Walk!**

Begins at Riverdale Presbyterian Church (662 Pape Ave.) and continues to 4 other neighbourhood churches, concluding at Eastminster with hot cross buns.

* **Sun. March 27@ 9.30am: Easter Breakfast hosted by the Men's Group!**

* **Sun. March 27@ 10.30am: Easter Sunday Service**



Announcement Deadline for the Eblast & Sunday Bulletin is: Wednesday at 9am

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

From our Friends

* **Tonight, March 13 @ 7pm: "Where Have They Taken My Lord"**

Please join us tonight at 7pm at **Hope United** for an Easter Cantata composed by Brian Stevens. The cantata, a set of 11 pieces interspersed with readings, explores the Easter Story through the eyes of the characters of the biblical narratives. "Do You have a Donkey or a Horse", a musical dialogue between disciple and street vendor, "Do a Little Miracle" a taunting rock song sung by Herod and "You Will Deny Me" a poignant duet between Peter and Jesus, are a few of the musical selections that you will hear. **Admission is free. Hope United is located at 2550 Danforth Ave.**

* **Calling all tree loving young ladies! ... Young Urban Forest Leaders**



LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) is seeking applications from young women for our free **Young Urban Forest Leaders program** (female-identified youth aged 18-24). The goal of the program is to provide hands-on experience in the field of urban forestry and community engagement. Successful applicants will receive 5 months of free formal training and mentorship to develop the skills needed to lead a community tree tour and mulching event, help to establish Adopt-A-Park-Tree projects in select Toronto parks, and so much more! Don't miss out of this great opportunity! Info & application at: <http://www.yourleaf.org/participate> ** **The deadline for applications is: March 20th by 5pm** **

* See what's happening at the **Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)** here: www.tucc.ca

* Read Beth Baskin's great "**Justice Note**" bi-weekly updates & events notice, and connect with the



Toronto Southeast Presbytery website here:

<https://torontoconference.ca/torontosoutheast/outreach-social-justice-project.php> or contact Beth at: BBaskin@united-church.ca

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

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*