

Eastminster United Church
March 6, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Annual General Meeting

**Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*



"I just need one more shot at forgiveness. Is it too late now to say sorry." -Justin Bieber

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Jill Holroyd

*Opening Hymn MV#1 Let Us Build a House

Opening Prayer

**Forgiving God. We are your wandering children.
We tread uncertain paths and make wrong turns.
In moments when we feel lost and alone on our journey,
help us to remember that we always have a home in you.
Amen.**

*Sharing the Peace

Children's Time

Children's Choir: I Feel it All Over Me

We Share in Word and Song

Scripture

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32
Psalm 51: 1-4, 10-12

Zoe Anum

One:

The word of Hope

All:

Thanks be to God!

Meditation

Believing in Forgiveness- Canada's Prodigal Son
Words and slideshow by Jane Sanden

Nathalie Strang
Isabelle Strang

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn VU#229 God of the Sparrow

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

Mary Miller

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

- * Closing Hymn MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts
- * 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

Scriptures: Luke 15:1-2, 11-32 *p. 78*

*** Today following service: Annual General 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 request from Sue in the church office....**

Hi everyone! Lots of great events going on over the next few weeks both here, at Eastminster, and with our friends in the East End community. I would really appreciate it if we could capture some of this with interesting, great photographs that I can freshen up the website with and add 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!

I'm looking for sharp and clear pics of: **Today's service & the EUC youth, Messy Church Night, Palm Sunday & bike parade, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday's walk & gathering afterwards, Men's Easter Breakfast and Sunday 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!

*** An important message from our Social Justice Ministry**



The Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) published its report and recommendations last summer. One of the recommendations that would truly impact the learning of all students from K-12 is recommendation #62 which calls for the residential school legacy, Treaties, and past and present Indigenous contributions to this country to be a mandatory part of the curriculum in each province and territory.

KAIROS' latest campaign, *Winds of Change*, includes background information on the TRC and **has produced a petition to encourage all Canadian provinces to adopt such a stance in our curriculum.**

Please consider signing on to this petition, (it is due in on March 15) A copy will be available for signing in the Narthex following the service. If you're interested in learning more about this initiative, visit: www.kairoscanada.org and if you'd like to read their complete newsletter you will find it here: <http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?u=fea30f3893d409c9fd74ebf82&id=8bfb8495ef&e=89a0138e38>

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. March 13 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!

* **Wed. March 9 from 6:15-8:30pm: Messy Church Night & Potluck Dinner!**

Come out to another church night and join in some EUC fun! Share in a potluck meal, after which everyone (all ages) are invited to experience "a story in a playful and creative way!" Everyone is encouraged to bring enough food to share with everyone, and we need volunteers to help set up/clean up the activities and the potluck. If you're interested and can help out, please contact Jane at janesaden@bellnet.ca



* **Thurs. March 10 @ 10:40: Chester Village Service**

Please let Rev. Sarah know if you can help out.

* **Sat. March 12: March Break begins...**

* **Sun. March 13: Daylight Savings Time starts! (Clock's spring forward..)**

* **Sun. March 13 after service: Worship Committee Meeting**

* **Thurs. March 17: St. Patrick's Day**

* **Sun. March 20: Palm Sunday & the first day of spring!!**

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

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

* **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

* 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** **

* Sun. March 6 @ 3pm: Syrian Refugee Resettlement Presentation

By Paul Kingston, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Development Studies, University of Toronto. **Location:** St. Barnabas Anglican Church - 361 Danforth Ave. (416) 463-1344

* Fri. March 11 @ 7 pm: Jerusalem: Seven Days that Changed the World

A drama in one act: From Palm Sunday to Resurrection. Presented by the Metropolitan Silver Band and the Church School. **Location:** Metropolitan United Church 56 Queen St. East. Please RSVP to Karlos Griffith & Dr. Mastandrea at: johnjosephm@metunited.org or 416-809-6044

* 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

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

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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*