



Eastminster United Church  
*An East End United Congregation*  
April 22, 2018  
3rd Sunday after Easter

*\*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*

*"Grief is subversive, undermining the quiet agreement to behave and be in control of our emotions. It is an act of protest that declares our refusal to live numb and small. Contrary to our fears, grief is suffused with life-force. Grief is alive, wild, untamed and cannot be domesticated. It is truly an emotion that rises from soul."*

*-Francis Weller*

**We Gather as God's People**

Words of Welcome

Paul Childerhose

**\*Opening Hymn:**

VU #186 Now the Green Blade Rises

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: We light this candle to proclaim that even in the dark earth, in the cold tomb, in our moments of despair.

**All: Hope abides! Love is stronger! Hallelujah!**

Call to Worship

One: In believing, in doubting, we come to this service,

**All: And God accepts us.**

One: In wondering, in affirming, we come to his service,

**All: And God welcomes us.**

One: As individuals, as a faith community, we come to this service,

**All: And God's Word speaks to us.**

One: With rejoicing, with sorrow, we come to this service,

**All: And the risen Christ is eternal hope for us, as we worship and as we live.**

**\*Sharing the Peace**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

*Please share the peace of Christ with one another.*

Opening Prayer

One: Creator, we turn to you now for a time of worship through drama. May this embodied sharing of your story help us to better understand the wisdom you have shared through scripture in our hearts and mind. In the parable of the prodigal son, we witness the beauty, heartache, and mercy in coming home. May your comforting and gentle love hold all of those for whom this story is a mirror of their grief. Amen.

### **We Share in Word and Song**

Greek Scripture

Luke 15:11-32

Presented by EUC choir

Anthem

I Won't Give Up

Jason Mraz

When I look into your eyes  
It's like watching the night sky  
Or a beautiful sunrise  
Well, there's so much they hold  
And just like them old stars  
I see that you've come so far  
To be right where you are  
How old is your soul?

I won't give up on us  
Even if the skies get rough  
I'm giving you all my love  
I'm still looking up

And when you're needing your space  
To do some navigating  
I'll be here patiently waiting  
To see what you find

'Cause even the stars they burn  
Some even fall to the earth  
We've got a lot to learn  
God knows we're worth it

I don't wanna be someone who walks away so easily  
I'm here to stay and make the difference that I can  
make;

Our differences they do a lot to teach us how to use  
the tools and gifts we got, yeah, we got a lot at stake;  
And in the end, you're still my friend at least we did  
intend for us to work we didn't break, we didn't burn,  
We had to learn how to bend without the world caving  
in

I had to learn what I've got, and what I'm not, and who  
I am

*The children are invited to Church School in the Hurndale Room.*

Sermon

Parable of a Loving Dysfunctional Family

Rev. Sarah Miller

Musical Reflection

### **We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers**

Offering Hymn:

VU #112 O God, How We Have Wandered

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

\*Dedication Prayer

**Prayers of People & the Lord's Prayer (VU #959)**

Connie Zehr

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine

Toronto Southeast Presbytery: Glebe Road United Church

East End Prayer Cycle: Property Manager and Custodians

**We Go Out to Be the People of God**

Life and Work of the Congregation

\*Closing Hymn: VU #158 Christ is Alive

\*Commissioning and Benediction

\*Sung Blessing Peace, Salaam, Shalom Pat Humphries and Sandy O  
Emma's Revolution  
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Peace, salaam, shal-om, —      Peace, salaam, shal-om, —      Peace, salaam, shal-om,

—      Peace, sal aam, shal - om. —

Postlude

**Today**

**\* Welcome to Eastminster, an East End United Congregation**



If you're new, please fill out a contact card and drop it in the collection plate if you would like our weekly email newsletter or would like more information about Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book also in the Narthex. Children 4+ are invited to church school after we pass the peace.

Thanks to Paul Childerhose, Connie Zehr, Mary Brehaut and William Anum, and Charles Wakefield for all their help with the service today!

## East End News/Announcements

- \* **Rev. Sarah Miller will be away on study leave April 23-30. Please contact Rev. Jane Brushey-Martin or Intern Minister Michiko Bown-Kai for pastoral concerns.**

- \* **Upcoming East End Worship:**

*"If an audience kept complete silence during a challenge parable from Jesus and if an audience filed past him afterward saying, 'Lovely parable, this morning, Rabbi,' Jesus would have failed utterly."*

*— John Dominic Crossan, The Power of Parable: How Fiction by Jesus Became Fiction about Jesus*

For the season of Easter, we explore the teachings of Jesus through parables and how they spoke to Jesus' first audience, and are still relevant to us today.

As we now share a ministry staff team for East End United, we will be sharing worship together more frequently. Here's a schedule for the next couple of months so you can plan ahead.

### **April 29: Parable of the Good Samaritan**

NO SERVICE at Cosburn

10:30am at Eastminster with Michiko

10:30am at Glen Rhodes with Rev. Jane

### **May 6: Parable of the Vineyard Worker**

11:00am at Cosburn with Michiko

10:30am at Eastminster with Rev. Sarah

10:30am at Glen Rhodes with Rev. Jane

### **May 13: Parable of the Sower and Mustard Seed**

11:00am at Cosburn with Rev. Jane

10:30am at Eastminster with Rev. Sarah

10:30am at Glen Rhodes with Michiko

### **May 15: Taize Service**

7:00pm at Glen Rhodes with Hilary Seraph

Donaldson

- \* **East End Covenant Vote and Q&A**

**Q&A - Sunday, April 22, After Service in the Sanctuary**

**Covenant Vote - May 6**

Our next step is for each congregation to vote on our Joint Covenant.

Before the vote, we welcome your questions regarding the covenant and anything else you're curious about regarding the transition.

### **Motion**

**Resolved that this congregation of Eastminster, meeting on 22 April, 2018, request that Toronto Southeast Presbytery approve the amalgamation of Cosburn United Church, Eastminster United Church and Glen Rhodes United Church into a single pastoral charge as of June 30, 2018 in accordance with the terms and considerations of the Covenant Agreement dated March 13, 2018.**

- \* **OUT OF THE COLD at Eastminster. Providing basic needs, warmth, dignity, kindness**

So far we have served over 2,300 hot dinners, 2500+ bowls of homemade soup, and served approximately 7,000 cups of coffee and tea, 2800 glasses of orange juice, 2600+ nutritious snack size protein and fruit salads. We are short of volunteers to serve our final delicious meals of the season on Friday April 27th. If you are available to help out from 6:15 - 8:30, please sign up. If you are a new volunteer to OOTC, please use the link on the church website.

- \* **Volunteers are needed to welcome, read Scripture, offer prayers of the people, and provide refreshments.**

If you would like to offer your time and talent, please sign up in the narthex!!

- \* **Eastminster Nursery is Hiring**  
We're looking for one or two people who are interested in a part time job looking after babies on Sunday mornings in our nursery.  
For more info, contact Jane Sanden [janesanden@eastendunited.ca](mailto:janesanden@eastendunited.ca).
- \* **GLEN RHODES OUTREACH MINISTRY: Drop-in Food Bank**  
**Wednesdays 9:00-11:30am & 2:00-4:00pm**  
**Glen Rhodes United Church**  
Glen Rhodes Food Program Update: Second Harvest food rescue organization delivered more than 30,000 pounds of perishable food valued at more than \$75,000 to the Glen Rhodes Food bank in the six months ending on February 28. Second Harvest, founded in 1985 is dedicated to reducing waste and diverting food from landfill sites. In a mid-year report to Glen Rhodes it said "Second Harvest would like to express our gratitude to your team for ensuring the food we rescue is put to good use. We are thankful to be partnered with organizations like yours, whose dynamic programming and commitment to addressing food insecurity is helping to make Toronto a stronger, healthier city."
- \* **Volunteer opportunity:** The food bank at Glen Rhodes Church needs able-bodied helpers on Monday mornings to unload the weekly food delivery from Daily Bread. The task takes about one hour. The truck arrives between 9am and 12pm. Also needed are calm, responsible volunteers on Wednesday morning or afternoon for a variety of tasks such as helping in the kitchen to breaking down boxes or cleaning-up and stacking chairs after closing at 3:30pm Need more information? Contact Clarisse at [Clarisse@TekSavvy.com](mailto:Clarisse@TekSavvy.com) or 416-690-1834.
- \* **CATS: Community Art Time Studio**  
**Thursdays 1:00-4:00pm**  
**Cosburn United Church**  
Drop-in for art and community, all levels and interests welcome - bring a project you're working on, or start something new. Some basic materials are available but participants are welcome to bring their own.  
For more information, contact Greta King 416-421-5711.

## East End Events

- \* **ANCIENT COIN TALK by Enrico De Dominicis**  
**Wednesday April 25 7:00pm**  
**Eastminster United Church Auditorium**  
'Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's....a journey with the coins of ancient Judea!'
- \* **EXPLORING OUR FAITH**  
**Tuesday May 1 7:00-9:00pm**  
**Eastminster United Church - Parlour**  
  
Come join our Circle Talk. We will be reflecting on an article by Pema Chodron "The Answer to Anger and Aggression is Patience", Lion's Roar, March 1, 2005. <https://www.lionsroar.com/>  
  
"We can suppress anger and aggression or act it out, either way making things worse for ourselves and others. Or we can practice patience: wait, experience the anger and investigate its nature." -Pema Chodron  
  
Come join the circle for a discussion on this step by step powerful practice
- \* **Experience a Therapeutic Touch session for yourself**  
**Sunday May 6, 11:45AM - 1:30PM**  
**Eastminster Parlour**  
Therapeutic Touch® (TT) is an accepted healing modality which can promote relaxation, reduce anxiety, manage pain, improve sleep and facilitate healing. Standing firmly on 40 years of clinical practice and research, it is widely used both by health-care professionals and laypersons. Although profound in effect it is easily taught and learned and

is a skill available to everyone. Experience the benefits of TT for yourself.  
Sign-up sheet in the Narthex to reserve your spot  
Contact – Paula Neilson pmneilson@gmail.com  
Eastminster Therapeutic Touch Branch

- \* **EAST END TAIZE WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**Tuesday May 15 7:00pm**  
**Glen Rhodes United Church**

Join Hilary Seraph Donaldson as she leads us through a contemplative Taize worship service.

- \* **DOCUMENTARY SCREENING**  
**Belonging in the Body- Transgender Journeys of Faith**  
**June 8 7:30pm**  
**Eastminster United Church**

Join East End United in collaboration with Generous Space Ministries for a screening of "Belonging in the Body- Transgender Journeys of Faith" followed by a Q&R with Executive Director, Wendy VanderWal-Gritter.

## Community Events

- \* **SISTER ACT presented by the Curtain Call Players (CPP)**  
**May 4-12 Matinees @ 2:00pm, Evening shows @ 8:00pm**  
**Fairview Library Theatre- 35 Fairview Mall Dr.**  
CCP was founded at Glen Rhodes and many of our members either appear on stage or help with front of house or crew! For more information and tickets, you can check out their website <http://www.curtaincalltoronto.com/>
- \* **The TCO Presents "Dancing with the Stars"**  
**May 8, 7:30pm**  
**Eastminster United Church**

The Toronto Community Orchestra is very pleased to invite you to a fantastic evening of classical, folk, and all that Jazz!

Featuring Dvorak's Romance for Violin and Orchestra, Holst's Jupiter (from the Planets), a Suite from the movie Chicago (arr. Ted Rickets), and more!

With soloists Alessia Disimino, and Alex Redman

All are welcome, admission is free, donations are gratefully accepted. Please join us in the Auditorium for a reception after the concert.

## Weekly Events

<b>Mondays:</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Prayer Shawl Knitters –</b>	<b>Meet in Sarah's Office</b>
<b>Thursdays:</b>	<b>7:30 - 9.30pm</b>	<b>Adult Choir</b>	<b>Meets in the Sanctuary</b>

## Staff

**Rev. Sarah Miller** sarahmiller@eastendunited.c Office: 416-463-2179 ex.100 Cell: 416-209-1181  
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**Rev. Jane Brushey-Martin**, Supply Minister janebrushey@eastendunited.ca 416-399-6810

**Michiko Bown-Kai**, Intern Minister michiko@eastendunited.ca 647 967 0746

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

**Scott Pietrangelo**, Music Leader

**Jane Sanden**, Manager of Communications & Community Programs janesanden@eastendunited.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 102

**Sarah Hallikas**, Church Office 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:** Joshua Somers, Jordana Kuhn, Neil Powers, Benjamin Priede

**Soloists:** Michelle Suzanne - soprano, Sarah Hallikas – alto, Jeff Schissler - tenor, Andrew Hodwitz - bass



**THE EASTMINSTER  
CHOIR PRESENTS**

# CANADA

*Sweet and savoury  
snacks, coffee and  
tea provided*

# EH?

*A live rock band and  
surprise special  
guests!*

**CONCERT AND DANCE PARTY!**

**Featuring the works of Canadian  
Singer/Songwriters**

**MAY 27, 7pm | \$20 ADMISSION**

**Plus over \$3,000 worth of  
raffle prizes to be won!**

**BENEFITTING THE CANADIAN  
FOODGRAINS BANK**