



Eastminster United Church  
*An East End United Congregation*  
 June 3, 2018

\*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

*I think people often come to the synagogue, mosque, the church looking for God,  
 and what we give them is religion.*

- Bishop Gene Robinson

**We Gather as God's People**

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Neil Riach

\*Opening Hymn:

Gather Us In

Marty Haugen

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the dark ness vanished a-way,  
 see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. —  
 Gath-er us in; the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in; div - erse, yet the same;  
 call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en, we shall a-rise at the sound of our name. —

**2. We are the young - our lives are a mystery  
 we are the old - who yearn for your face.  
 we have been sung throughout all of history  
 called to be light to the whole human race.**

**Gather us in the rich and the haughty  
 gather us in the proud and the strong  
 give us a heart so meek and so lowly  
 give us the courage to enter the song.**

**3. Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
 Not in some heaven, light-years away, but  
 here in this place the new light is shining,  
 now is the kindom, now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever,  
 gather us in and make us your own;  
 gather us in, all peoples together,  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

## Lighting the Christ Candle

One: From this small flame, may a fire of passion spread from heart to heart!

All: **Holy Spirit, light our way!**

Opening Prayer

**Spirit God,**

**When we are afraid, you fire us up with courage.**

**When we are stuck, you move us to action and help us to see**

**When we feel alone, break down the walls that separate us.**

**Fill us with hope and promise that we might go forth as your people to love and serve the world! Amen!**

\*Sharing the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

*You are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

## We Share in Word and Song

Hebrew Scripture  
Greek Scripture

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 11-20  
Mark 2:23-3:6

Charles Brown

Sermon

What Good is Religion?

Rev. Sarah Miller

Anthem

We Are a Rainbow

David W. Kai

*We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill,  
We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light,  
We will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel any more,  
We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.*

*We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace,  
For the flood of tears will finally cease to be,  
Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,  
Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.*

*We're a coat of many colours, sewn from many different threads,  
Covering all in warmth, in welcome and in grace,  
God said "Let there be light", created every varied shade,  
In the rainbow each of us can find a place.*

*We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,  
We are peace in a world that's torn apart,  
We are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,  
We are love that blooms and grows in every heart.*

*When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone,  
For our God will be with us on the way,  
Hand in hand, side by side, we won't be frightened any more,  
As the mourning night of tears breaks into day.*

## We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Offering Hymn: MV #138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines

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

### \*Dedication Prayer

Prayers of the People

Paul Childerhose

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland

Toronto Southeast Presbytery: Northlea United Church

East End Prayer Cycle: Community and Discipleship Committee

## We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

### \*Closing Hymn:

For Everyone Born

words: Shirley Erena Murray;  
music: Brian Mann

1. (solo)

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead.

### Refrain:

11 E E/G# Emaj7/G# A B7(sus4) E E/G#  
God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors\_ of jus tice, and joy com

14 A B7(sus4) C#m7 Emaj7/B A B7(sus4)  
pas sion and peace: yes, God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors\_ of jus - tice,

17 A B7(sus4) E B/E A/E E B/E A/E  
just-tice and joy.

2. For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
for woman and man, a system that's fair.

3. For gay and for straight, a place at the table,  
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,  
a rainbow of race and gender and colour,  
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace.

4. For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free.

## Commissioning and Benediction

\*Sung Blessing

We Will Go Out with Joy

Hilary Donaldson and  
Andrew Donaldson

*fine*

1. We will go out with joy in the Spir - it, we will go out with God.  
2. Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir - it sing a new song of joy.

We will go out with joy in the Spir - it, we will go out with God.  
Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir - it sing a new song of joy.

Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy. Al -  
le - - - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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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. Nursery is available for toddlers and infants.

CANADA EH? Success!

A big thank you to everyone who attended Eastminster's Choir concert, CANADA EH? last Sunday. We raised over \$2500 for the Glen Rhodes Food Bank and the Canadian Food Grains Bank!

# East End News/Announcements

**\* A Closing Worship At Cosburn  
Sunday June 17 11:00am  
Cosburn United Church**

Join East End United for a joint service where we honour Cosburn's legacy and gather together in worship for their final service in the building. Light refreshments to follow in the gym.

Please note, this service will take place in the sanctuary which is not an accessible space.

**\* Want to receive the United Church Observer?**

The United Church Observer is an award winning magazine, published monthly. It features fascinating and challenging articles in the areas of justice, faith, ethics, culture, and more. Eastminster is currently renewing our group subscription, so please let the office know if:

1. You do not currently receive The United Church Observer and would like to.

-OR-

2. You DO currently receive The United Church Observer but do not want to in the future.

Please email Sarah H. in the office at [eastminster@eastendunited.ca](mailto:eastminster@eastendunited.ca) if either of these apply to you. If you are receiving The Observer and you want to continue doing so, no action is required. There is no charge to receive the magazine, but if you would like to make a contribution to help support the church's group subscription (\$25/subscriber), simply label the donation "for The Observer" in the offering plate or online:  
<http://www.eastminsteruc.org/donate-now/>

**\* Upcoming East End Worship:**

**June 10**

11:00am at Cosburn with Rev. Jane  
10:30am at Eastminster with Michiko  
10:30am at Glen Rhodes Hymn Sing

**June 17**

11:00am Shared East End Service at Cosburn

**June 24**

10:30am at Eastminster with Rev. Sarah- All Ages Pride  
Celebration: Glitter in the Park  
10:30am at Glen Rhodes with Michiko- Aboriginal Day  
Service

**\* EAST END UNITED IS HIRING SUMMER STUDENTS!**

Full job descriptions are available in the main office.

**\* GLEN RHODES OUTREACH MINISTRY: Drop-in Food Bank**

**Wednesdays 9:00-11:30am & 2:00-4:00pm**

**Glen Rhodes United Church**

Volunteers needed to pick up bread!

The Glen Rhodes Food Bank needs a volunteer with a car May - September to pick up bread from Cobs on the Danforth on Tuesday evenings around 7:20pm, and transport it to the food bank where Ruth will assist in unloading.

Thank you John and Eleanor for their service picking up bread this year!

For questions or to volunteer, 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

- \* **Spring Cleaning At Cosburn**  
**Volunteer Opportunity**  
**Tuesday, June 5 9:00am-1:00pm and/or**  
**Thursday, June 7 12:00- 3:00pm**  
**Cosburn United Church- 1108 Greenwood Ave**

We'd love your help to spiff up Cosburn's sanctuary before their very special service on June 17. We need some hard workers and a bit of elbow grease. This is a perfect way to acquire a few volunteer hours if you are a student. Stay as little or as long as you are able. It is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow East Enders. Cosburn is TTC accessible and street parking is available.

If you'd like to help out, please RSVP to Pam Cameron [cameron.pam@gmail.com](mailto:cameron.pam@gmail.com)

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

Would you like to better understand transgender experiences from a Christian perspective? Join us on for a special film screening of Generous Space's new video, "Belonging in the Body: Transgender Journeys of Faith" at Eastminster United Church. The video features the stories of 11 trans Christians.

Following the one-hour film, Executive Director of Generous Space, Dr. Wendy VanderWal Gritter, will be hosting Q&R with a panel of trans Christians. You'll also hear updates about the work of Generous Space both locally and nationally, and an opportunity to financially support Generous Space will be given.

- \* **IRIDESCE - The Living Apology Workshop**  
**June 9 1:30-4:30pm**  
**Eastminster United Church- Hurndale Room**

In 1988, The United Church of Canada did something historic when it voted not to exclude gay and lesbian (and, a little later) bisexual, trans and 2-Spirit people in full participation and ministry in the Church. Before, then and now... how welcoming has our welcome been? On June 9, you are invited to learn, remember and share about this important time in our history.

The Iridesce workshop is a compassionate and engaging time to learn, share and respond, regarding "the issue" of the United Church's 1988 vote. This was a vote not to exclude those who are lesbian, gay (and later, bi and trans) from membership and from being eligible for ministry in our church. This is a process of faith and healing from these times — all stories from all sides of "the issue" are welcome and need to be preserved for our church, and all of us, to heal, as we consider the need for making an apology as a national sign of reconciliation with people who are gay, lesbian, bi and transgender. Our goal is to have brave conversations and becoming a stronger church together.

The workshop is a safe-space to share and be heard, or to simply listen and be present. We hope you can join us!

On Sunday June 10 the worship service at Eastminster, will feature a sermon reflection by the Iridesce coordinator, Aaron Miechkota.

\* **IRIDESCE Worship Service**

**June 10 10:30am**

**Eastminster United Church**

Learn about the Iridesce national project of story-sharing and dialogue with people affected by the United Church's 1988 decision. These stories are helping the church to discern if, and how, it might live into an apology to the church's LGBTQ and Two-Spirit people.

AARON, THE IRIDESCE COORDINATOR, NEEDS A BILLET THE EVENING OF JUNE 9. IF YOU HAVE A SPARE ROOM AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST, PLEASE EMAIL JANE [janesanden@eastendunited.ca](mailto:janesanden@eastendunited.ca)

\* **Pastoral Care Team Meeting**

**Sunday, June 10 12:30-1:45pm**

**Glen Rhodes United Church**

The Pastoral Care Team meets monthly at 12:30 at Glen Rhodes.

We are a lively group. Our meetings centre around "learning conversations" and experiential sharing, finding innovative and personalized ways of providing gentle pastoral care within our East End United communities.

Anyone interested in joining us to discover a learning pastoral environment, and perhaps be a part of a supportive pastoral care and outreach, we welcome you to come and see.

\* **READS Book Club**

**Friday June 22 Book Chat 7:00pm, Social 9:00pm**

Book this month: The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald

Available at the library in all formats: books, ebook, eAudiobook, audiobook CD, and CD Talking Book.

A book set in Iowa yet written by a Swedish author! It begins with a correspondence between two quite different women: 28-year-old Sara from Haninge, Sweden, and 65-year-old Amy from the small town of Broken Wheel, Iowa. After years of exchanging books, letters and thoughts on the meaning of literature and life, Sara travels from Sweden to visit her pen pal. When she arrives, however, she finds Amy's house empty; the funeral guests are just heading home! Sara is now alone. And what choice do the inhabitants of Broken Wheel have but to take care of their bewildered tourist? And what choice does Sara have, faced with a town where nobody reads yet she desires to honour her friend, but to set up the perfect bookshop with all the books she and Amy shared? And then watch as the townsfolk are, one by one, transformed in unexpected ways. In the glorious tradition of 84 Charing Cross Road and The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, this is a big-hearted, witty book about books, friendship, love (and romance). Primarily it's about being open to the unexpected!

Enjoy a lively discussion by the fire, followed by the 9 pm Social Wine and Cheese. Held at the home of Neil Riach and Carolyn Curren a block from the church. For address, queries email Carolyn at: [neilcarolyn@idirect.com](mailto:neilcarolyn@idirect.com) or call 416 465 6174 or John Brown at 416 463 0844.

## Community Events

\* **Niigaani-Gichigami Water Festival Presents:**

**Water/Bodies: Healing Trauma, Celebrating Resistance.**

**Thursday May 31st 6:30pm free supper, 7:00pm Panel discussion.**

**Cathedral Centre 65 Church St**

Join us for a panel discussion on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Two-Spirit people, and Girls, and how it is connected to violence against creation.

Our panel will also discuss healing from trauma, and how ceremonial connection with the waters and lands guides community based resilience.

## Weekly Events

<b>Mondays:</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Prayer Shawl Knitters</b>	<b>Meets 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

<b>Rev. Sarah Miller</b>	sarahmiller@eastendunited.ca	Office: 416-463-2179 ext.100 Cell: 416-209-1181
<b>Rev. Jane Brushey-Martin</b> Supply Minister	janebrusheym@eastendunited.ca	416-399-6810
<b>Michiko Bown-Kai</b> Intern Minister	<a href="mailto:michiko@eastendunited.com">michiko@eastendunited.com</a>	647-967- 0746
<b>Hilary Donaldson</b> Pastoral Musician	music.eastminster@bellnet.ca	
<b>Scott Pietrangelo</b> Music Leader	music.eastminster@bellnet.ca	
<b>Jane Sanden</b> Manager of Communications & Community Programs	janesanden@eastendunited.ca	416-463-2179 ex. 102
<b>Sarah Hallikas</b> Church Office	eastminster@eastendunited.com	416-463-2179 ex. 103
<b>Gerald Gordon</b> Property Manager	property.manager@bellnet.ca	416-463-2179 ex. 104
<b>Alex Sinclair</b> <b>Bookkeeper</b>	pmsinc@interlog.com	416-463-2179 ex. 105

**Custodians:** Joshua Somers, Jordana Kuhn, Neil Powers, Benjamin Priede

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



East End United in partnership with Generous Space Ministries Presents

## Film Screening and Q&A

# Belonging in the Body Transgender Journeys of Faith

**June 8 7:30pm**

**Eastminster United Church- 310 Danforth Ave**

Would you like to better understand transgender experiences from a Christian perspective?

This video features the stories of 11 trans Christians.

For more event details visit [eastminsteruc.org/upcoming-church-events](http://eastminsteruc.org/upcoming-church-events)

## **IRIDESCE: The Living Apology Project**

Iridesce: The Living Apology Project is a joint project of Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble and The United Church of Canada.

**Workshop June 9 1:30-4:30pm**

**Worship June 10 10:30am**

**Eastminster United Church**

**29 years ago  
The United  
Church of Canada  
did something  
historic when it  
WELCOMED  
gay and lesbian  
(and, a little later)  
bisexual, trans\*  
& 2-Spirit people  
INTO full participation  
in the Church**

For more event details visit [eastminsteruc.org/upcoming-church-events](http://eastminsteruc.org/upcoming-church-events)

# KIDS PRIDE!

THROUGHOUT JUNE, EASTMINSTER CHURCH SCHOOL WILL BE CELEBRATING PRIDE WITH BOOKS AND ACTIVITIES THAT HONOUR OUR DIFFERENCES



**ALL AGES CHURCH NIGHT  
& POTLUCK!**

**CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES TO  
CELEBRATE PRIDE**

**JUNE 19 6-8PM**

**EASTMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**



June 24 10:30am  
glitter in the park

wear your  
rainbows  
and glitter

a pride parade  
from eastminster  
to riverdale park



  
**Pride**  
TORONTO

Join us on June 24, 2018  
as we celebrate  
Radical Love-  
Forward, Together in unity.  
The United Church float  
will be out in full force  
supporting the community.  
Out for Life,  
Out for Love,  
Out for God.



Be a part of the United Church  
AFFIRM Pride Bus  
and marching team.  
RSVP to Rev. Dr. Mastandrea