

*RESPONSE 609

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of all that is good, we know that too often we focus on what is owed us rather than the great abundance that has been provided through you. With your help, we can become generous and grace-filled, using our resources as tools for ministry rather than for our own desires. Help our hearts understand how earthly wealth can be used for your kingdom’s work. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD WITH GOD’S WORD

*DISMISSAL AND BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 441

“Hear the Good News of Salvation”

WELCOME! Let us know that you are here. Please fill out the Registration of Attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are worshipping here for the first time or the hundredth time, we are glad you are here.

The nursery is staffed with loving caregivers and is available for children through age 4. A pager system is provided to keep you in touch, should you be needed during the service, and a *Child Protection Policy* is in place here at Eastminster. If you are unfamiliar with the building, an usher will be pleased to direct you.

Worship bags with worship-related materials are available for young children. The bags are in a basket in the narthex.

At the *Time for Young Disciples* during the service, all children are invited to come to the chancel. After the *Time for Young Disciples*, children 4 and younger may go to the nursery and the older children may return to the pews.

Please remember to **turn off** or **silence** your cell phone.

The following conventions are used in the worship service. An asterisk (*) invites you to stand if you wish. Items printed in **bold** are for the congregation to sing or say. Pew Bibles and *Lift Up Your Heart* (“LUYH”) may be found under the seats.

THOSE WHO SERVE		LAST SUNDAY’S RECORDS	
Pastor	Sherry Holloman	Attendance	79
Director of Christian Education	Kathy Kreger	Eastminster	70
Director of Music	Fred P. Watkins	Church Under the Bridge	9
Organist	Melody S. Davis	Christian Education Total	30
Lay Reader	Phillis Knox	Offering for the Week	\$3,879.00
Attendance Reviewer	Paul LaPorte	2016 Average Monthly Expense	\$29,571.00

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

September 17, 2017
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship at Eastminster

The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

Exodus 14:21, NRSV

OUR INVITATION

An invitation is extended to all to reconsider your relationship to God through Jesus Christ and his church. If you are not vitally involved in a local congregation, perhaps Eastminster is a place where you may worship, learn, find fellowship and serve. We receive members by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, by transfer of membership, or by reaffirmation of the faith you have professed in another church. Please indicate your interest on the registration of attendance pad and the pastor will contact you.

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

God before us, God behind us, God within us. Lead us. Use us. This and every day, our thanksgiving to you. Amen.

Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Embracing the Word...Celebrating the Word...Reflecting the Word...

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

VOLUNTARY “Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs” arr. Joseph Prentiss
Melody Davis

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN AND COMMISSIONING OF THE CHOIR AND WORSHIP STAFF

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 641 “When In Our Music God is Glorified (verses 1,2)
Today we recognize those who have responded to the call of God to the ministry of music in our church...

Covenant Questions and Promises

...May the faith expressed by our music live in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, practice in our lives. And may God give us grace to offer our music and our life in faithfulness and dedication, all to the glory of God.

To the Congregation:

As a congregation, will you support our Worship Staff and choir members with your encouragement and your prayers, as together we seek to call upon and praise God?

We will, God being our helper. May God give us all grace to offer our music and our lives in faithful service, thanksgiving, and praise.

Prayer

*HYMN 641 “When In Our Music God is Glorified (verses 3,4,5)

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Blessings without number, joy immeasurable;

love unconditional, arms everlasting and open;

comfort in every hour and every need;

acceptance—just as we are;

mercy in the face of failure:

These things, unmerited, God grants us abundantly.

Come, let us worship the God of our salvation!

CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, God of grace, we acknowledge that yours is an unconditional love which freely gives without any strings attached. We confess that we forget to love and serve you as we ought, as people made in your image and likeness. Touch hardened hearts with your goodness, we pray, and remind us

that forgiveness is one of the most precious gifts that we can offer one another. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE 582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*Pew Bible*, page 61) Exodus 14: 19-31

ANTHEM “Praise!” Alec Rowley

Sanctuary Choir

NEW TESTAMENT READING (*Pew Bible*, page 20) Matthew 18: 21-35

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*HYMN (*LUYH*) 150 “He Is Lord”

SERMON “Surrounded, Saved and Seventy Seven” Sherry Holloman`

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY “Delight in God” Richard Blake
Melody Davis