Eastminster Messenger

Our Interim Pastor

This past Sunday Alanna sang *"This Joyful Eastertide."* It is a true celebration of what Jesus did, that also reminds us that Easter is a season, not only a single day observance. In the church calendar we will have celebrated 7 Sundays of Easter by the time we reach Pentecost. Furthermore, Each Sunday has historically and traditionally been considered a sort of "little Easter." This means each Sunday we remember the resurrection of Christ, and the promise of what Jesus' resurrection means for us. Even during the season of Lent when we try to focus more on penitence and going without, when we consider the humanity and suffering of Christ, the Sundays "don't count." Lent is defined as the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter *not including Sundays.* Many people who observe the spiritual discipline of giving something up for Lent allow themselves to enjoy that thing they have given up on Sunday, to celebrate the Resurrection.

As we continue to go through Eastertide, or the season of Easter, I hope you take some moments to consider the joy of the season, the celebratory nature of resurrection. We often focus on the struggle, the difficulties of life, the hardships. It is easy to be consumed with these types of thoughts. Here are some points I invite you to ponder:

-Where do I find feelings of joy and celebration? Do I recognize these as gifts of God's grace?
-What are real ways we can celebrate the resurrection?
-What does new life (resurrection) mean in the face of daily struggles and challenges?
-When I feel I have received bad news, where can I look for the promise of resurrection?

When I was much younger, I noticed a change in one of my family member's prayers in the midst of an Easter season. He would conclude each prayer with a version of the phrase "we pray in the name of our risen Lord..." As a person listening to those prayers at meal times, travel times, and other prayer occasions it served as a life-giving reminder.

I hope you find ways to enjoy the gift of God's power of life over death.

Happy Easter!
JT

Church Safety

Remember that while restrictions and guidelines for COVID-19 vary from county to state, to CDC and so forth, Eastminster guidelines have not changed. **Remember to mask up, practice social distancing and wash hands!** If and when our church policies are changed, we will certainly notify you.

WITH DEEPEST sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Norm Fischer who passed away. His service will be held at Alexander in Newburgh on Saturday, April 17, with visitation from 11-1, service at 1 p.m.

New Music

This next Sunday we will be using some new music from our hymnal in place of the *"Gloria Patri"*. Following the Assurance of Pardon we will sing *"Celtic Alleluia"* as a way to celebrate receiving the grace of Jesus Christ. If you have a hymnal and want to look at the song ahead of time, it is hymn number 736. We will practice the song during the announcements Sunday, and be ready for singing it later in the service.

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

Please pray for the following:

Rose Kuhn; Julie Summit; Jen Lanham; Mike Barnett; Pat Manis; Tid Turner; Jane Williams Gene Tyring; Mike Crecelius; Doris Grabhorn.

If you have a prayer request or wish to be removed from the list, please contact Leslie Webb at epcprayers@gmail.com or call the church office.

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5501 Washington Avenue
Evansville, IN 47715

RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

Eastminster Staff

Mike Cantrell - Handyman

Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager

Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assist.

Alanna Keenan - Director of Music

Anslee LaChance - Nursery Worker

Marian LaChance - Housekeeper

Rachel Luttrull - Organist

JT Silence - Pastor

Church Communication Lines

Phone#: 476-3355/Fax: 476-8755

Web: eastminsterchurch.com

Email: epc@epcevv.com

Sound Engineer: Ron Harper

Social Media Admin: Tony McClees
tmcclees@illinois.edu

Prayer Chain Captain: Leslie Webb or at
epcprayers@gmail.com