

Welcome to Eastern Parkway  
United Methodist Church  
March 3, 2019  
10:00 a.m.

*\*You are invited to stand if it is right for you.*

Welcome

Announcements

Prelude

Mission Statement

**We are a faith community striving to be, to nurture, and to send forth disciples of Jesus Christ.**

Centering

Parker J. Palmer

*If we want to support each other's inner lives, we must remember a simple truth: the human soul does not want to be fixed, it wants simply to be seen and heard. If we want to see and hear a person's soul, there is another truth we must remember: the soul is like a wild animal – tough, resilient, and yet shy. When we go crashing through the woods shouting for it to come out so we can help it, the soul will stay in hiding. But if we are willing to sit quietly and wait for a while, the soul may show itself.*

\*Hymn

*Welcome*

Mark Miller

Invitation to Worship

Leader: Here in this place, God offers us food,

**People: so we take and eat.**

Leader: Here in this place, our neighbors are hungry,

**People: so we share the bread and the cup.**

Leader: Here in this place, the table extends

**People: beyond our friends,**

Leader: beyond those who agree with us,

**People: beyond these walls,**

Leader: beyond the borders,

**People: and around the world.**

Leader: Let us taste and see that our God is good.

**All: Let us worship God with joy.**

Prayer: **God of surprises, you call us from the narrowness of our traditions to new ways of being church, from the captivities of our culture to creative witness for justice, from the smallness of our horizons to the bigness of your vision. Clear the way in us, your people, that we might call others to freedom and renewed faith. Let the Jesus teachings call us from privilege and protocol to partnership and pilgrimage, from isolation and insularity to inclusive community. Gracious God, call us from fear to faithfulness, from a desire to control to deeper trust, from the refusal to love to a readiness to risk. Clear the way in us, your people, that we might all know the beauty and power of your will and live the love of the gospel. Amen.**

Prayer: Silent Prayer

Hear us now as we join in prayer saying, **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#384

Words of Invitation

Offertory

\*Doxology

#94

\*Prayer of Dedication

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-3a

Time with Young People

Young People's Collection

Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer

\*Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together* #618

New Testament Lesson Matthew 22:37-39

Message *Do No Harm*

An Invitation to All

Holy Communion

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God.

**People: It is proper and good for us always and everywhere to give you thanks, our God.**

Pastor: Jesus gathered with his disciples and broke bread. He broke the bread and said, “take, eat, this my body.” Jesus took the wine and said, “take, drink, this is my blood. Do this often in remembrance of me. Gracious God send now your spirit to fill this bread and wine that we eat and drink to become more like Jesus.

**All: We will eat and drink the bread and wine to nourish our bodies as we travel the path of Christian discipleship. Amen.**

Sharing the Elements

\*Hymn *Benediction* *Insert*  
The Rockers

\*Benediction

Postlude

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Please join us for a time of fellowship today in the Narthex following worship.

Large print bulletins, hearing assist devices, and children’s coloring pages are available. Please ask an usher.

**Staff**

Betsy Lehmann Music Director  
Joe White Custodian  
Jenny Chapman Administrative Assistant  
Mark Ledbetter Pastor

# *Eastern Parkway United Methodist Church*



**A warm welcome to each worshipper today. We celebrate you and offer you our friendship and love. *We are a congregation of people who seek to grow spiritually, to become more like Christ in His compassion and acceptance of everyone while growing more aware of what it really means to be Christians today.***

***As a Reconciling Congregation, EPUMC affirms the sacred worth of persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities and welcomes them into full participation in the fellowship, membership, ministries, and leadership of the congregation.***

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Office Hours: Mon–Thu, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.