

# MORNING WORSHIP

July 2, 2006 ~ 9:30 A.M.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

\*Those who are able are asked to stand +Latecomers will be seated

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Welcome

Mutual Blessing:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

\*Opening Hymn: *Amid the Thronging Worshipers* . . . Psalter Hymnal 239

\*Opening Prayer (in unison):

**All-powerful God, your only Son came to earth in the form of a slave and is now enthroned at your right hand, where he rules in glory. As he reigns as King in our hearts, may we rejoice in his peace, glory in his justice, and live in his love. For with you and the Holy Spirit he rules now and forever. Amen.**

\*Greeting of God and God's People

\*Hymn of Praise: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* . . . Psalter Hymnal 568  
(Little Stars are dismissed during the last verse and exit under the south balcony.)

## WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Call to Confession:

Leader: John testifies that he saw a new heaven and a new earth, a new city coming down from heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Let us adorn ourselves for our holy Bridegroom by confessing our sins before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession:

Leader: God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**People: But we have not mourned over our sins; instead we have insulated ourselves from those around us, from their pain, needs, loneliness, and suffering. We have hardened ourselves so that we are unaware that our own lives cause grief to the Lord.**

Leader: Lord, please show us your mercy.

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: John also testifies that he heard a loud voice from the throne which proclaimed that God will dwell with us and be with us. God will wipe every tear from our eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for all these things will have passed away. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sung Response: *Eternal Spirit, God of Truth* . . . Psalter Hymnal 422

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Leader: Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture may your Word be heard.

**People: In the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11 . . . . . page 581

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lessons: Matthew 5:1-12; Luke 7:11-17 . . . . . pages 785, 839

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Blessed Are Those Who Mourn*

Prayer of Application

\*Hymn of Response: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

Psalter Hymnal 194

**WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING**

Prayer of the People concluded with the Lord's Prayer (unison):

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
For yours is the kingdom  
and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Announcements

Offerings of our Gifts to God:

First Offering is for the General Fund and all Envelopes.

Second Offering is for Christian Education.

\*Closing Hymn: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

Sing! A New Creation 284:1-3

\*Blessing

\*Doxology: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* Sing! A New Creation 284:4

\*Call to Service:

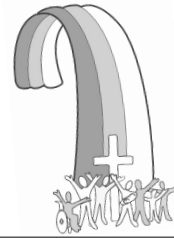
Leader: Go forth in the world to comfort those who mourn,  
to speak tenderly to those who weep, and to announce  
God's coming kingdom to those who live in grief.

**People: Blessed are we when we mourn  
for we will be comforted. Amen.**

\*Postlude

**LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Rev. Thea Leunk, preaching  
Seminarian Mike Ribbens, liturgist  
Mary Rusticus, organist  
Marla Ehlers, reader  
Phil Holtrop, prayer



**Eastern Avenue  
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

514 Eastern Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-454-4888 www.eacrc.org

July 2, 2006

Welcome! We are glad you are here! We at Eastern Avenue seek to be a redeemed and redeeming community in the core city of Grand Rapids. To that end, we offer education and service opportunities for all ages. We especially seek to minister to and with the youth of our neighborhood and of our church and have several programs which help us do that. If you would like to know more about the ministries of Eastern Avenue, please contact Fred Sterenberg—church administrator, one of the ushers, or note your interest on the welcome pad.

During the offering, please print your name and address on the welcome pad so we can get to know you. Also, we invite you to join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Room following this morning's service.

Hearing assistance receivers and large print Bibles are available in the back of the sanctuary and large print bulletins are in racks at the entrances to the sanctuary.

Our nurseries for infants is available in the northwest corner of the Fellowship Room next to the kitchen.

Little Lambs (for children two-years-old by Dec. 1, 2005) and toddlers will combine for July 2 and July 9. Parents bring children downstairs to Room 17 prior to worship and meet their children downstairs after the service.

Little Stars is available for children three-years-old (by Dec. 1, 2005). Little Stars meets downstairs in Room 19 after the children are dismissed from worship. Parents meet their children downstairs after the service.

Worship materials for worshipers 4 years old – 5<sup>th</sup> grade are available on the Worship Table in the Fellowship Room.