

MORNING WORSHIP

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

The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Mutual Blessing:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

+*Opening Hymn: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Psalter Hymnal 253

*Opening Prayer:

Leader: Our Father, you are in heaven, high and lifted up,
higher than our highest thoughts.

Holy is your name; beside you there is no other!

You are God, and you alone!

**People: Receive us into your kingdom—the coming kingdom
—the kingdom of your anointed Son, Jesus,
whose name we bear. Receive us, for we come to you
in his name—we pray in him and with him.**

**For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

*Greeting of God and God's People

*Song of Praise: *Meekness and Majesty* Sing! A New Creation 109
(Little Stars are dismissed during the last verse and exit under the south balcony.)

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Call to Confession:

Leader: In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;
our God rises to show you compassion.
For the Lord is the God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

Prayer of Confession:

Leader: God blesses those who are gentle and lowly,
for the whole earth will be their inheritance.

**People: But we have valued toughness over gentleness.
We have too often chosen to be concerned
with ourselves rather than with our brothers and
sisters and neighbors. Like the prodigal son,
we want to satisfy ourselves rather than our Father.**

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: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger
and abounding in steadfast love.
Our God does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's steadfast love toward those
who fear the Lord; as far as the east is from the west,
so far are our transgressions removed from us.

Sung Response: *Our Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth* Psalter Hymnal 208

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Leader: Lord God, you have declared that your kingdom
is among us. Open our eyes to see it,
our ears to hear it, our hearts to hold it,
our hands to serve it. This we pray in Jesus' name.

People: Amen.

Psalm Lesson: Psalm 37:1-11 page 443

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lessons: Matthew 5:1-12; Luke 8:40-48 pages 785, 841

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Blessed Are The Meek*

Prayer of Application

*Hymn of Response: *My God, How Wonderful You Are* Psalter Hymnal 499

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

Prayer of the People

Announcements

Offerings of our Gifts to God:

First Offering is for the General Fund and all Envelopes.

Second Offering is for Baxter Community Center.

*Closing Hymn: *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* Psalter Hymnal 601

*Blessing

*Doxology: *Your Will Be Done* Sing! A New Creation 198

*Call to Service:

Leader: Go out as Christ's disciples: active in your obedience,
humble in your habits, modest in your words,
just in your actions, and merciful in your deeds
while you wait patiently and trust in your faithful God.

**People: Blessed are we when we are meek
for we will inherit the earth. Amen.**

*Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Thea Leunk, preaching

Seminarian Mike Ribbens, liturgist

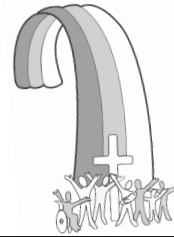
Carol Peters, organist

Marla Koetje, reader

Cynthia Slagter, prayer

Lisa Walhout, pianist

Marsha & Jim Shade, guitarists



**Eastern Avenue
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

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

July 9, 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 four-years-old – 5th grade are available on the Worship Table in the Fellowship Room.