

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** for Sunday, April 6, at the conclusion of the 9 am service, for the purpose of hearing from and acting on recommendations regarding the call of an associate Pastor for Senior High Youth and Younger Adults.

The Flower Guild invites You to **Dedicate Easter Lilies for Easter Morning**: Pick up a form at the Welcome Center, or make your dedication and pay online. Dedications (\$25) are due to Julie McDaniel by this Wednesday, April 9.

SWAG (Saved With Amazing Grace) is Tonight: Rising first (currently 5K) through current fifth graders are invited to a SWAG Skate Party at Three Fountains Skate Rink in West Columbia. Drop off is at 5:15 p.m. Pick up is at 7:15 p.m. Parents, we need chaperones, so let Croskeys know if you can stay and help (croyall@eastminsterpres.org).

Our last **WE@EPC Meal is this Wednesday, April 9, at 5:15 pm, in Thompson Hall**: MENU- Adults: Swedish Meatballs over Egg Noodles, Peas, Pearl Onions & Mushrooms, Roasted Zucchini, Squash & Peppers - (Kids: Swedish Meatballs, Noodles & Peas). Join us! WE@EPC Classes also conclude on April 9.

EPW Easter Centerpiece Arrangement Workshop is this Thursday, April 10: Ladies, there are still spots left for you to sign up! Talented artisans from Dolce Vita Farms and Purple Tuteur will guide us as we create beautiful arrangements from 6:30-7:30 pm, in Thompson Hall. Sign up under Upcoming Events.

Children of All Ages up to Fifth Grade are Invited to an “Egg Scramble” on April 13: Meet us on the Field across Trenholm at 4 pm. We’ll enjoy fellowship, crafts, inflatables, snacks, and hunting for 2,500 eggs!

Circles One and Three Meet on Monday, April 14: at 10 am in Thompson Hall. Join us for fellowship and a time of study. Circles One and Three meet on the second Monday of the month. All EPC women are invited to join us.

Bible Doers Will “Do” on Wednesday, April 16, at the Olivers’: 6 - 7 am, walk and fellowship, 7 - 8 am, prepare and pray over pasta salad for Transitions. Stop by any time. Friendly faces and coffee will be waiting for you! Text Beth at 803-622-5384 with any questions.

Transitions Third Thursday Service Opportunities April 17: Meet us at Transitions at 11:30 am to serve lunch, or provide food donations (pasta salad, pound cake, and bananas) by 3 pm for dinner (Staff Kitchen). You may package food at 3:45 pm, or serve dinner at 5 pm both at Transitions. Sign up to volunteer for either AM or PM meal support via Upcoming Events.

Holy Week is April 13-20, 2025: Palm Sunday is April 13, Maundy Thursday Worship on April 17 (7 p.m.), Good Friday Worship on April 18 (7 p.m.), and Easter Sunday on April 20- four worship services (6:30 a.m. Sunrise in the Courtyard, 8:45 a.m. Sanctuary, and 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary and Thompson Hall). Courtyard Fellowship is at 9:45 a.m. Join us!

Lightly Seasoned Spring Social is April 24, at the Hudgens’ from 7:00 until 9:00 pm: Anyone in their 50s - 70s is welcome to join us! RSVP and sign up to bring a dessert or appetizer on our website. To host a future Lightly Seasoned Social, email Lauri Moore (laurimoore8@gmail.com), or Jennifer Rayfield (jenray2001@gmail.com) our Lightly Seasoned Co-chairs.

Confirmation Sunday is April 27: EPC’s 2025 Confirmands will be recognized during 11:15 a.m. Sanctuary worship. They will have the Officer’s Exam on April 13, during the Sunday School hour.

Join us for a Community Concert on April 27 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary: to benefit The Cooperative Ministry. Eastminster’s Chancel Choir, The Sandlapper Singers, She Sings, and a chamber orchestra will collaborate for an inspiring evening of music for members and community.

Flowers in the sanctuary and narthex are given in celebration off the wedding of Lauren Catherine Ragsdale and James Madison Dye III, and in loving memory of Fran Dye.

UNISON READING: Luke 22:24-27, 31-34

²⁴A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵But he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. ...

³¹“Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, ³²but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” ³³And he said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!” ³⁴Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

SERMON NOTES

TODAY AT THE 9:00 AM SERVICE WE RECOGNIZE OUR SECOND GRADERS who completed Worship Discovery: Harlan Carter, Margaret Causey, Laura McCants Colpini, Nathaniel Luke Cooper, Sebastian Covar, Layton Dover, McLain Patton Earhardt, Graham Griffith Earhardt, Charlie Goode, Wilson Banks Henderson, *Mary Wesley Hobbs, Mary Margaret Hull, Hamp Iseman, Frances Johnson, Frances Keenan, Mary Russell Livingston, McKinley Livingston, *Marsh Lovelace, Cole Lumpkin, Salley Rama, William Razor, Benjamin Scott, *Maggie Slater, *Adeline Smith, Tommy Stoddard, Henry Walden, Davis Wray (*indicates perfect attendance).

DEACONS: LUCY SCOVILLE AND ZACK HUDSON
HEAD USHER: RYAN BARNES (9:00 AM) AND BILL COGGINS(11:15 AM)

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Parish Associate
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Louis Shirer, Organist
Blythe Lewis, Sr. Communications Officer
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin.
Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth
Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Christy Rippy, Treasurer



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

APRIL 6, 2025

9:00 AND 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

www.eastminsterpres.org

Welcome to Eastminster Presbyterian Church!

In Christ's name, we welcome you to Eastminster. We hope that you will feel the love and peace of Christ as you worship with us. Please take this time to silence the world and focus your heart and mind on worshipping our living God.

“So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory.” Romans 15:7

PRELUDE

O Man, Lament Your Great Sin, BWV 622

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

from Michael W. Smith song

Leader: O God, you are our God, and we will ever praise you.

People: **We will seek you in the morning, and learn to walk in your ways.**

Leader: And step by step you'll lead us,

People: **And we will follow you all of our days.**

All: **O God, you are our God, and we will ever praise you!**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #829

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:15 am)

*STATEMENT OF FAITH (Unison)

(from 1 Corinthians 15)

This is the good news which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day, and that He appeared to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

**GLORIA PATRI (the children may be excused)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF WORSHIP DISCOVERY BIBLES (9:00 am)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

Gracious God, we confess that we put all kinds of things ahead of following you. Help us silently name those things in our lives that are out of order....(silence).

Loving Lord, we confess that we are quick to condemn others. Open us up to the stories of others and to the ways you are working in the world beyond our understanding....(silence).

Christ our Savior, we confess that we are prone to literally or spiritually fall asleep on you. Forgive us, O Master, and awaken us afresh to who you are, all you have done, and all you are doing...(silence).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

Congregation: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON #718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be; take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

If you or someone you know is in need of special prayer today or if you would like to speak personally with a pastor about making a first-time commitment to Christ or growing in the Christian faith and discipleship, a pastor is on hand to speak with you following the worship service today by the pulpit in the front of the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

And Can It Be

Dan Forrest

And can it be? Amazing Love, how can it be? And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me who caused His pain? For me who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be That thou my God, shouldst die for me? He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. No condemnation bow I dread; Jesus and all in Him is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And claim the crown through Christ my own. Amazing love, how can it be That Thou my God shouldst die for me? Charles Wesley (1738)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFICER'S PRAYER

Jeff Thordahl

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND. **CHILDREN MAY BRING THEIR OFFERING AT THIS TIME.

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED.

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AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Luke 22:24-27. 31-34

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Scripture Focus: Luke 22:39-46

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Are You Sleeping”

*HYMN OF DEDICATION # 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (following the 9 am service)

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #443 verse 2 (11:15 am only)

There is a Redeemer

GREEN

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

POSTLUDE

Christ, Who Makes Us Blessed, BWV 620

J.S. Bach

*A TIME FOR GREETING AND FELLOWSHIP



WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER

We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate this Lord's Day with us, and we hope that in a real and meaningful way you will sense God's presence, power, and purpose among us. If you would like for us to connect with you, please leave your contact information in the Friendship Pad when it is passed.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

Contact the church office at 803-256-1654 to learn more and find out about our next First Step class, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

Luke 23:13-23

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Peter Denied Him. Would We?”