

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For detailed information and to register for the below programs and events, visit our website: <https://eastminsterpres.org/>.

Today is Peanut Butter Sunday. Your donations each fourth Sunday help fight hunger in The Midlands. Harvest Hope bins can be found in reception areas around campus.

Make Plans to Attend the Christian Life Center's Fitness Open House Tonight:

From 5-6:30 pm. Meet our personal trainers and fitness instructors of NEW classes! Choose three sample classes, try fitness equipment, and taste healthy bites. Free event, childcare included. RSVP online (Upcoming Events).

Labor Day Weekend Fellowship and Worship on September 1: Join us for Traditional Worship at 9 am in the Sanctuary, followed by an Intergenerational Brunch at 10 am in the Christian Life Center Gym. Jubilee Contemporary Worship is at 11:15 am in Thompson Hall.

Register Today for EPC's Small Groups Kickoff Dinner, September 5: Join us from 5:15 - 7 pm with featured speaker, Dr. Steve Eason, author of *Making Disciples, Making Leaders*. RSVP online. Email cbennett@eastminsterpres.org to join a new Small Group.

Rev. Dr. John McCall and Taiwanese Pastors Visit on September 7-8: We'll enjoy a potluck dinner on Saturday evening. RSVP under Upcoming Events and sign up to bring a dish. Dr. McCall will preach on Sunday, followed by a congregational meal in the CLC Gym following worship.

Sundays@5 Adult Evening Class, Led by Dr. Douglass Key, Begins September 8: as part of our church-wide Fall study on Rick Lawrence's book, *Editing Jesus: Confronting the Distorted Faith of the American Church*. Join us in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH). A repeat class will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am in Room E-357 beginning September 10.

ECAMP (Eastminster Children's Afternoon Music Program) Starts September 8: (5- 6:30 pm) for children ages K4-fifth grade. Drop-off in the Sanctuary at 5 pm for Bible Study, songs, musical activities and dinner. Don't forget to register your singer(s) and volunteer to help out.

Servant Leadership Awards Dinner is September 11: at 5:15 pm in Thompson Hall. Join us as we honor and celebrate first responders in the Midlands. RSVP via Upcoming Events on our website.

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday is September 15: It is also National Back to Church Sunday! Looking for a way to spread the love and strength of your faith? Know someone who is looking for a church home and would benefit from all that Eastminster has to offer? Invite them to worship on September 15.

EPW's Fall Gathering is September 17: Don't miss the chance to celebrate the fall season and connect with amazing women! Join the Eastminster Presbyterian Women for their Fall Gathering on September 17, from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, in Thompson Hall. Please RSVP via our website's Upcoming Events.

Shepherd's Center Tour on September 18: Looking for a chance to explore, learn, and connect with other seniors? Join us for a special tour of the Shepherd's Center of Columbia on Wednesday, September 18, at 11 am. RSVP to Laura Long (llong@eastminsterpres.org).

WE@EPC Classes Begin September 18: Bible 101 Class for anyone who wants to learn the basics of scripture. Led by Dr. Brad Smith and Dr. Ben Sloan, it will use *The Bible from Scratch* to get an overview of the Old and New Testaments. **Practical Tools for Raising Faithful Kids** is a six-week conversation for parents, led by Dr. Douglass Key. Join us for dinner in Thompson Hall before class. We'll meet in Room 357 (Education Building).

2024 Advent Retreat in Montreat December 6-8: with guest speaker Rev. Rachel Smith Fitch is a retreat for all ages! Early Bird Registration ends September 3, and November 3 is the final day to register.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of Leland and LeVonne McCoy and Tom and Heather Dobson by Cynthia and Stephen Dobson.

UNISON READING: John 15:4-7

⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: JOHN SHUFORD AND SUSAN RATTEREE
HEAD USHER: BERRY MATTOX (9:00) AND WILSON MCDONALD (11:15)

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Parish Associate
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Louis Shirer, Organist
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Rev. 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
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 25, 2024

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

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Ron Schmoltze

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: What shall we render to the Lord for all the Lord's bounty to us?

People: **We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

People: **Happy are they who find refuge in God.**

All: **This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #412

God Reveal Your Presence

ARNSBERG

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall

*THE APOSTLES' CREED *(Unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our LORD; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**GLORIA PATRI *(Please send the children forward.)*

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.

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

The 3K—5K children come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have wandered from your holy ways. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Lord, as we prepare to receive the Lord's supper, hear our confessions in this time of silent prayer...

SILENT PRAYER

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 #437

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy

WAYFARING STRANGER

You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

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

O Taste and See

Ralph Vaughn Williams

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blest is the man that trusteth in him.

Psalm 34: 8

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

John Shuford

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: **John 15:4-7**

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Scripture Focus: John 6:56-69

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“Taste and See that the Lord is Good”

HYMN OF PREPARATION #497

Bread of Life from Heaven

ARGENTINE SANTO/BREAK NOW THE BREAD

*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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Table of the Lord

The Sursum Corda

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto The Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #792

There Is a Balm in Gilead

BALM IN GILEAD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION

May the Road Rise to Meet You

Lee Turner

May the road rise to meet you; may the wind be at your back; may the sun shine warmly on your face; may the rain fall softly on your field and until we meet again, until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

*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 scan the QR code or 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.

September 1, 2024

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd