

## WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

**Sundays@5 Vanishing Grace Class Meets Tonight:** led by Dr. Douglass Key. Our study is Philip Yancey's book, "Vanishing Grace." Learn about the power of grace and its impact on our lives and the world around us. It's not too late to join our class.

**ECAMP Meets Tonight at 5 pm:** Singers in 4K through fifth grade are welcome! Visit our website's Upcoming Events to register your singer and volunteer on Sunday nights. Drop-off and pick-up (6:30 p.m.) in the Sanctuary. We have a devotional, rehearsal, and dinner. Please see emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details.

**WE@EPC Meals on February 19, at 5:15 pm, in Thompson Hall:** You may now RSVP for multiple meals via the new URL on our website. MENU- Adults: Baked Salmon or Chicken, Lemon Roasted Potatoes & Vegetable Medley- Kids: Chicken Tenders, French Fries & Celery with Ranch. You must RSVP each Wednesday so Regina and staff prepare enough food for everyone.

**Serve at Transitions on February 20:** Meet at Transitions at 11:30 am to serve lunch. Becky Airheart leads the lunch service opportunity ([bairheart@gmail.com](mailto:bairheart@gmail.com)). You can also support Third Thursday dinners by providing food donations (pasta salad, pound cake, and bananas) by 3 p.m. (Staff Kitchen), packaging food at 3:45 pm, or serving dinner at 5 pm at Transitions. Alison McGowan continues to lead the dinner service opportunities ([alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com)). Email Becky or Alison to learn more.

**Men's Oyster Roast is February 20:** We will meet at the Causey's from 7 until 9 pm. The cost is \$25. Plan to join us for fellowship, good food, and a message this Thursday.

**The Peace Service is February 23 at 4 pm in the Adult Reception Hall:** Join us for contemplative prayer and to hear a message about "Sabbath Rest." The Peace Service is a communion service led by Congregational Care.

**March Out Missions Day is Saturday, March 1 (9 am to 12 pm).** Opportunities here at EPC include packing 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger and making hygiene kits (younger kids and parents). You can also serve in our community. Please register. We need about 150 people again this year. If you can't be here on March 1, you may place an order via Amazon to help our friends at Transitions.

**Adult Mission Trip Opportunities to Western North Carolina (April 4-6 & April 6-12):** sign-ups are now available on our website. Just scroll down on the homepage to Upcoming Events. We will help with underpinning at a mobile home community and more. You can serve for a weekend April 4 - 6, or longer, April 6 - 12.

**Parents and Youth (13 and older) Chiapas, Mexico Mission Trip (July 27 - August 2).** Youth must be accompanied by a parent. We are returning to Chiapas to visit our missionary friends and to continue helping with repairs after Hurricane Dorian. We will also help lead VBS for the children as well as see some beautiful sights. Spaces are limited so sign up soon.

**Sign-up Links for Youth Mission (Marsh Harbor, Bahamas) and Conference (Montreat) Trips** are available via Youth ENews and our website's Upcoming Events. Contact Emily Higgins ([ehiggins@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:ehiggins@eastminsterpres.org)) with questions.

**Interested in Membership at Eastminster?** Join us for the First Step Class on March 2. We'll meet each Sunday in March at 10 am, in Room E-259 (Education Building). At First Step, you'll find that there are many ways to use your spiritual gifts through the ministries at EPC. Questions? Contact Lib Foster ([lfoster@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:lfoster@eastminsterpres.org)).

**Ash Wednesday is March 5:** Join us for the WE@EPC meal at 5:45 pm (later than usual). After dinner, we'll gather in the Sanctuary for worship at 7 pm.

**The Flowers in the Sanctuary** are given to honor our Valentines, Susan and Frances, by Bill and Tommy Coggins.

**UNISON READING:** Proverbs 15:1-4

**A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge,  
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.  
The eyes of the LORD are in every place,  
keeping watch on the evil and the good.  
A gentle tongue is a tree of life,  
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.**

### SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN



**DEACONS:** LISA NEWMAN AND LUCY SCOVILLE  
HEAD USHER: DON HELMS (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  
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  
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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

9:00 AND 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD  
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

[www.eastminsterpres.org](http://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

*Cortège et Litanie, Op. 19, No. 2*

Marcel Dupré

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are bombarded with words, information and opinions, O God,

People: **but help us bridle our tongues and yearn for wisdom, your wisdom, Lord.**

Leader: We gather this morning to humble ourselves before you, O Master, to worship you.

People: **We seek you, O Counselor, we seek your self-control, your wisdom, and your light.**

All: **Touch us and transform us, O Holy Spirit, tame our tempers and our tongues, that we would praise you!**

### †\*HYMN OF ADORATION #12

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

### \*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 may come to the front and bring their offering.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Everett Ford Lea Law (11:15 am)

### BAPTISMAL HYMN #475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan (9:00 am)

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key (11:15 am)

**Gracious God, thank you, that despite our tempers and tongues, you show us so great mercy. We confess that too often we use our tongues to hurt, disregard and demean people created in your image. Whether verbally or online, whether in private or in ways public, we hurt family members, colleagues, and strangers you call us to love. Forgive us. Bridle our tongues, O God, that we might lift up and not tear down, that we might draw people to you and not repel them. And hear us now as we lift our silent confessions...**

### 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 #443

*There Is a Redeemer*

GREEN

**There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.**

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Key

**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

*Pilgrim's Hymn*

Stephen Paulus

Even before we call on Your name to Ask You, O God, when we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer; Unceasing love, O unceasing love, Surpassing all we know. Glory to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Spirit. Even with darkness sealing us in, We breathe Your name, And through all the days that follow so fast, We trust in You; Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, Beyond all mortal dream. Both now and for ever, And unto ages and ages. Amen.

Michael Dennis Brown

### \*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.**

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

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY IS PROHIBITED IN ALL WORSHIP SERVICES  
AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### \*OFFICER'S PRAYER

Emma Bryson

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Proverbs 15:1-4

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Scripture Focus: James 1:26-27, 3:1-12

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

“Hold Your Tongue!”

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION #804

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

MARION

### \*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

*Carillon*

Louis Vierne

### \*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 which begins March 2, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.*

### DURING THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP:

Everett Ford Lea Law, son of Hannah Lea and Seth Law, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 11:15 am service. John Arnold will offer the baptismal prayer.

### February 23, 2025

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith