

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Notes on today's worship leaders: Rev. Amos Disasa was a member at EPC from age three to 16; he interned here in the summer of 2004, was director of missions 2006-07, and served as associate pastor from 2007-2010. Rev. Dr. Mark Durrett served as associate pastor from 2003-2006 and 2012-2019; Rev. Dr. Lynn Grandsire served as associate pastor 2011-2022. Rev. W. Croskeys Royall started here as Director of Children's Ministry in 20025, and was ordained as associate pastor in 2021. Rev. Dr. Ben Sloan was a member of EPC from his birth until he was ordained at this first church in 1985 and is serving currently as parish associate. Rev. Dr. Brad Smith was a member of EPC from 1985-1989, served as parish associate 2002-2007, and was installed as senior pastor in 2009.

They've Arrived! EPC's newly released, full-color commemorative books are now available for pickup and purchase (\$25) before and after today's Worship services in the Sunshine Room, Medway Lot entrance, and in the breezeway. Written by 52 members, *His Story. Our Story: Celebrating 75 Years of Ministry* features over 100 pages of recollections beautifully displayed and illustrated in this hardback keepsake book.

Worship Discovery for Second Graders: Children will learn about the elements and order of worship. Next class is February 5 (10 am), in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH): 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, and 3/26.

ECAMP (Eastminster's Children's Afternoon Music Program) Tonight: Children should be dropped off at 5 pm and picked up promptly at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. A light dinner will be served. Contact Fredna Lee to learn more- (flee@eastminsterpres.org).

WE@EPC this Wednesday, February 1: WE@EPC begins with dinner in Thompson Hall at 5 pm followed by classes and programs. Please RSVP for 2023. MENU: Panko Chicken Breasts, Green Beans and Buttered Potatoes.

Care Ministry's Next Divorce Care Gathering is February 5: Meet in Room 357 (Education Building) at 5 pm for a time of discussion and support led by Dr. Ben Sloan.

Ash Wednesday is February 22: Join us for the WE@EPC meal in Thompson Hall before worship in the Sanctuary at 7 pm. You can RSVP for dinner under Upcoming Events at www.eastminsterpres.org.

Are you interested in learning more about the church? Attend our four-week First Step Class Sunday mornings at 10 am (February 26 - March 26). Classes are led by our ministers and staff, where they discuss who we are, ways to get involved, and all Eastminster has to offer. Those who are interested can meet with the Session and join the church (April 2).

Want to strengthen mind, body and soul? The Fifth Annual CORE Retreat plans are underway for March 3-4 in the CLC. Opening night will feature live music, a delicious and healthy dinner, and Speaker Tracy Woodward's (*Covered in Cotton*) inspirational story. Rev. Jeff Smith, former pastor at EPC, speaks Saturday morning followed by breakout sessions on healthy cooking, fitness, backyard organic gardening, overcoming anxiety, gut and heart health, and more. Registration opens soon! Questions: cbennett@eastminsterpres.org.

Eastminster has a hearing loop on the floor level of the Sanctuary for hearing aid users: If you do not have hearing aids but would like an assistive listening device, pick-up an FM Hearing Assisted System at our Welcome Center.

Pastoral Care After Hours: To reach a pastor even when the church offices are closed, please call (803) 256-1654 for directions on how to reach the on-call pastor.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God by an Eastminster family.

Unison Reading: Deuteronomy 6:10-12

¹⁰When the Lord your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—a land with fine, large cities that you did not build, ¹¹houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant—and when you have eaten your fill, ¹²take care that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

SERMON NOTES

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 Christina Siokos (csiokos@eastminsterpres.org or 256-1654 x123) 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.

DEACONS: CHARLIE MIMMS AND LEIGH POUND
HEAD USHER: RUSS PURDY (9:00 AM) THOMAS RHODES (11:15 AM)
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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

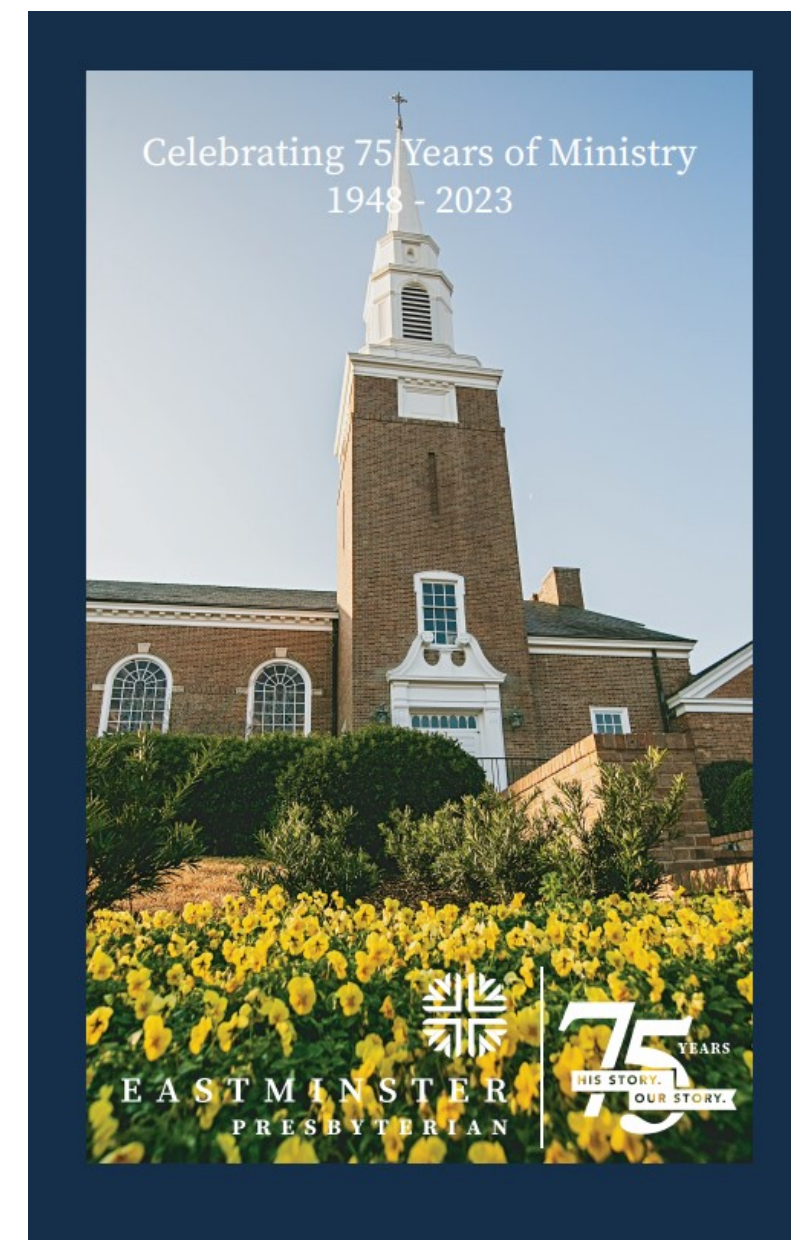
STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor	Rev. Nicholas P. Demuynck, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Interim Parish Associate	Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate	Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer	Josh Evanovich, Organist
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications	Bill Collins, Business Manager
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth	Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Emmet Hough, Dir. of Christian Life Center	Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
Alex Rogers, Director of Plant Operations	



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 29, 2023
9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

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.

All Eastminster worship services and activities are mask optional, with masks available at the Welcome Center if you'd like one.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: **Let us celebrate God's goodness and grace throughout the ages.**

Leader: Almighty God, who built your church upon the rock of faith in Jesus Christ, we praise you for this day and this occasion.

People: **Let us celebrate 75 years of God's goodness and grace in and through Eastminster.**

All: **God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power as we worship this very hour.**

†*HYMN OF PRAISE (Please see Insert)

God of Grace

*PRAYER OF ADORATION Rev. Dr. A. Lynn Grandsire (9 am)
Rev. Dr. Mark E. Durrett (11:15 am)

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*unison*) Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyne (9 am)
Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key (11:15 am)

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 Dr. Smith (9 am)
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall (11:15 am)

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Durrett (9 am)

Dr. Grandsire (11:15 am)

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that as we come into the presence of Christ we are unprepared in heart and mind. We are slow to see you in those who are different from us. We fail to receive one another as sisters and brothers. Yet we come trusting in you. O Holy Spirit. awaken in us the freshness of new life. Forgive us, O Lord, when we allow ourselves to be divided in self-interest rather than united in faithful service to Jesus the Christ. Please hear our silent confessions...

SILENT CONFESSION

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 #688

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth; through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan (9 am)

Dr. Smith (11:15 am)

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

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Arr. John Ness Beck

Congregation, please join in singing when directed.

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore. Lift up your heart, Lift up voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

*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

Charlie Mimms

*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.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Deuteronomy 6:10-12

Scripture Focus: John 1:9-15, 16

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Instead of Grace”

Rev. Amos J. Disasa

CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE SERMON

The Yearning

C. Courtney

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow. There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow. There is a yearning, a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation. There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned to bring to us salvation. Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within in our hearts, the yearning. There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing. There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Susan Boersma

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

*CHARGE

*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



*A TIME FOR GREETING AND FELLOWSHIP

We welcome The Palmetto Brass to our worship service this morning

February 5, 2023

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith