

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Register for “The Vine” Women’s Retreat by Tomorrow: Enjoy fellowship and study at The Cove with Dr. Angela Ford-Nelson February 2-5. Visit our website’s Upcoming Events to register.

Socks in a Box Meets Undies for Sundays: Learning Differences Ministry is collecting socks and underwear at designated spaces now through January 8. Contact Andrea Ferree (afferree@eastminsterpres.org) or Alyssa Good (alyssagood@live.com) with questions.

Cradle Roll Sunday is January 8 at 9 am Traditional Worship: Join us as we celebrate new life in our congregation. Parents and infants will be part of a processional before worship. If you have questions, contact Croskeys Royall (croyall@eastminsterpres.org).

Two New Young Adult Sunday School Classes Begin January 8 at 10 am: For individuals between the ages of 22 and 35, Eastminster has a place for you- Young Adult Ministry. Young Adults will meet on the second floor of the Christian Life Center in rooms 269 and 271. The Young Adult ministry will study the Journey Through the Bible starting with the gospel of Matthew.

Officer Installation (Class of 2025) is January 8 at 11:15 am Traditional Worship: Elders and Deacons will officially begin their three-year terms.

Sundays@5 Journey Through The Bible kicks off January 8: Join Dr. Douglass Key on Sunday nights as we continue the journey starting with the book of Matthew. You will find the daily readings on our website under “Resources.”

Transitions Third Thursday is January 19: Donations of pasta salad, pound cakes and bananas are due to the Church Office (staff kitchen) by 4 pm. Contact Alison McGowan to help alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com.

Communion Sunday is January 22, 2023.

The next Lightly Seasoned Social is January 26: Meet at the Agees’ house for fellowship and light refreshments. You will be able to sign up via Upcoming Events on our website soon. Contact Christina Siokos with questions (csiokos@eastminsterpres.org).

Eastminster’s 75th Anniversary Celebratory Weekend is January 28-29, 2023: We will join in fellowship to celebrate 75 years of ministry on Saturday evening at the 75th Anniversary Gala followed by worship on Sunday where we’ll welcome back Rev. Amos Disasa, Dr. Mark Durrett, and Dr. Lynn Grandsire, who will be assisting in worship that day. If you haven’t sent in your RSVP for the Gala, please RSVP by January 13. You can RSVP via the emailed invitation, the newsletter, at the Welcome Centers, or on our website.

Mark your calendars for The CORE Retreat, March 3-4, 2023: Join us for mind, body, and soul revitalization in the Christian Life Center. Guest speakers and teachers will be part of our curriculum again this March. More information to come. If you have questions about CORE, contact Caroline Bennett (cbennett@eastminsterpres.org)

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the wedding of Cameron Parker and Baylee Cline, by David and Elizabeth Parker

Unison Reading: Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: MIRIAM COVAR AND RYAN BARNES
HEAD USHER: JOSH ARD (9:00 AM) RANDY LIGGITT (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. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Interim Parish Associate
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth
Emmet Hough, Dir. of Christian Life Center
Alex Rogers, Director of Plant Operations

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Josh Evanovich, Organist
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 1, 2023
10:00 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.

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

Leader: Praise the Lord! All of creation praises the Lord.

People: **All the peoples of the earth praise the Lord!**

Leader: The name of the Lord is exalted!

People: **The glory of the Lord is above all.**

Leader: The Lord has given us salvation.

All: **Praise the Lord for he is faithful to his people!**

†*HYMN OF PRAISE #152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*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. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

Gracious and Holy God, we often long for your presents instead of your presence. We get caught up in what you will do for us and provide for us, rather than how we can be with you, or how we can share you with others. We are more aware of loss than gain. By your Spirit focus our attention on you, and your presence. In this silence open our hearts to you...

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 PARDEON #744

Arise, Your Light Is Come

FESTAL SONG

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

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.

ANTHEM

*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 Barr

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: **Isaiah 60:1-3**

Scripture Focus: Matthew 2:1-12

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

*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.

SERMON

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyck

“Epiphany”

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #150

As With Gladness Men of Old

DIX

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #150

As With Gladness Men of Old (verse 4)

DIX

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way; and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where they need star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

POSTLUDE

*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 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 on-going ministries.

January 8, 2023

Dr. Bradley D. Smith

Cradle Roll (9:00 am) and Officer Installation (11:15 am)