

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Congregational Meeting Today after Traditional Worship: The purpose of this meeting is twofold: to act on the recommendations made by the Officer Nominating Committee for the Class of 2026 and on the terms of call for pastoral staff.

“Reclaiming Revelation,” Adult Sunday School Class: This week, Dr. Brad Smith is leading the Sunday morning class in the Adult Reception Hall at 9 am as well as the repeat session on Wednesday, July 12 (ARH, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm, no childcare). To access Reclaiming Revelation resources including video recordings, visit <https://eastminsterpres.org/resources/reclaiming-revelation-adult-summer-study/>

Seniors’ Covered Dish Luncheon is today after the Congregational Meeting: Come to the CLC (Rooms 271-273) for the luncheon. Thank you Peggy Batten for hosting this month.

Eastminster’s Refugee Family Seeks Housing: If you know of a four bedroom, three bathroom rental or mobile home in the 29204 zip code, please contact Lucy Scoville at lucyscoville@att.net or (803) 295-8709.

Transitions Third Thursday is July 20: Donations of bananas, pasta salad, and pound cakes are due to the Church Office (Staff Kitchen) by 4 pm. Servers meet at Transitions by 5 pm. Contact Alison McGowan to help out: (alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com).

Next Sunday is Peanut Butter Sunday: This month, your donations will go to North Star Center for Hope. North Star is a neighboring non-profit and small food pantry that partners with Harvest Hope to help feed the hungry in our community. Thank you for your peanut butter donations each fourth Sunday.

Next Sunday is Communion Sunday.

Gather with your Church Family on July 30: There will be an Intergenerational Breakfast in the Christian Life Center (Gym) at 9 am.

Picnic and Vespers at Lake Murray on July 30: Join us from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Moore’s in Chapin. Bring your picnic basket. We will enjoy fellowship and food, followed by informal worship, led by Dr. Ben Sloan (6:45 pm), and more fun afterwards. Travel by car or boat.

Family Promise Week is August 6-12: Family Promise assists families who are experiencing homelessness. Your help is needed to provide a meal or Walmart gift cards for these families. Sign up to provide a meal or Walmart gift card by visiting: <https://eastminsterpres.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/bc3e2bd6-4737-45dc-ae47-984ea5d403e1>. Gift cards should be dropped off at the church to Kelly McGrady by August 4, and if you plan to prepare a meal, Jennifer Lott and Beth Brownlee will be in touch with you soon.

Only 3 Spots Left- Adult Fall Mission Trip: From November 11-18, you can head to Marsh Harbour, Bahamas to continue rebuilding the foundations of houses affected by Hurricane Dorian in 2019. Register here: <https://eastminsterpres.org/events/mission-trip-marsh-island-bahamas/>.

Mark Your Calendars for the Advent Retreat Dec 1-3: This December, we return to the Montreat Conference Center for this special weekend for all ages. Save the dates, and be on the lookout for the opening of registration in early fall!

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Edwina White Carns by her family. Edwina’s memorial service will be here on Tuesday, July 18, at 11 am.

Unison Reading: 2 Kings 7:1-11

But Elisha said, “Hear the word of the LORD: thus says the LORD, Tomorrow about this time a measure of choice meal shall be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.” ²Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, “Even if the LORD were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?” But he said, “You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from it.”

³Now there were four leprous men outside the city gate, who said to one another, “Why should we sit here until we die? ⁴If we say, ‘Let us enter the city,’ the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; but if we sit here, we shall also die. Therefore, let us desert to the Aramean camp; if they spare our lives, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.” ⁵So they arose at twilight to go to the Aramean camp; but when they came to the edge of the Aramean camp, there was no one there at all. ⁶For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariots, and of horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, “The king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to fight against us.” ⁷So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their tents, their horses, and their donkeys leaving the camp just as it was, and fled for their lives. ⁸When these leprous men had come to the edge of the camp, they went into a tent, ate and drank, carried off silver, gold, and clothing, and went and hid them. Then they came back, entered another tent, carried off things from it, and went and hid them. ⁹Then they said to one another, “What we are doing is wrong. This is a day of good news; if we are silent and wait until the morning light, we will be found guilty; therefore let us go and tell the king’s household.” ¹⁰So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, “We went to the Aramean camp, but there was no one to be seen or heard there, nothing but the horses tied, the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were.” ¹¹Then the gatekeepers called out and proclaimed it to the king’s household.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: TERESA SHELTON AND KIM ANDREWS
HEAD USHER: BERRY MATTOX
CCLI LICENSE NO. 1892950 ONELICENSE.NET # 735640-A

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
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Lucinda Shields, Interim Organist
Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth
Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Christy Rippey, Treasurer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 16, 2023
10:30 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

Offertoire

Louis Raffy

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 55

Leader: For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;

People: **the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

Leader: For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

All: **So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #263

All Hail the Power of Jesus's Name

CORONATION

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

*THE APOSTLES' CREED *(Unison)*

Sam Seigler, E2 Intern

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

God of hope, you have shown us the way of hope, the way of life and joy. Forgive us when we act as if such hope is not important, or is only for us. It is your grace that has helped us. Forgive us when we do not point to you or seek to only glorify ourselves. Light of the world, keep us from hiding the light you have given us, as if there is only darkness. Inspire us to let our light shine in the darkness.

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 #485

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love. Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above. Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

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

The Meditations of My Heart

Elaine Hagenberg

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord. O Lord, my Rock, O Lord my strength, O Lord my God and Redeemer.

Based on Psalm 19:14

*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

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: 2 Kings 7:1-11

Scripture Focus: Romans 8:1-11

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“I Came in Here to Do Something...?”

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #22

God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lift Up Your Songs of Praise

C. Saint-Saëns

*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.

July 23, 2023

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck

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

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED

THE FLOOR LEVEL OF THE SANCTUARY HAS A HEARING LOOP FOR HEARING AID USERS