

## Advent Activities

**Circle of Giving/St. Lawrence Place Christmas Project**— We will once again collect gifts for the families of Family Shelter and St. Lawrence Place. Bring your donations by Dec. 4. Contacts are Liz Agee and Julie McCue

**December 11**, Lessons and Carols Service in Jubilee, 11:15 am, Thompson Hall

**December 11**, Longest Night Peace Service, 4-5 pm in the Adult Reception Hall

**December 15, Third Thursday Meal at Transitions:** 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

**December 18, A Service of Lesson and Carols:** 9 and 11:15 am Traditional Services

**December 18, Living Nativity:** 5, 6 and 7 pm.

**December 24, Christmas Eve Services in the Sanctuary:**

5 pm - Children's Service

7 pm - Family Candlelight Service

9 pm - Candlelight Communion Service

**December 25, Christmas Day:**

One worship service at 10:00 am;

Transitions Christmas meal at 11:30 am.

**January 1**, One service in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am; No Sunday School.

## THE KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Today is a day of multiple celebrations. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther penned *Ninety-five Theses*, and nailed them to the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, Germany, thus signaling the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Secondly, we offer our pledges today to support Christ's work through this church in the coming year.

Celebrating God's work throughout history and through previous generations, today is also Eastminster's Kirkin' o' the Tartans service. As we worship, may the sounds of the bagpipe and drums remind you how God's Spirit works through history, reaching from Jesus Christ to the first disciples to John Calvin in Switzerland, and from Calvin to John Knox in Scotland to our ancestors to us. Similarly, may the tartans remind us, not only of the Scottish families that asked God's blessing centuries ago, but also of our opportunity to live for God in ways that may impact our own families and communities for generations yet to come.

The Kirkin' in its present form was first held in Washington's New York Ave. Presbyterian Church in 1941, led by Dr. Peter Marshall, a Scot, who was Chaplain of the U.S. Senate and a pastor.

Kirk is the Scottish word for church, and the tartans represent specific Scottish clans, families, regions, and regiments. Perhaps no symbol is more associated with Scotland and the Scottish tradition than the colorful Highland dress.

The tartan is an old tradition, with many references to it in early Scottish literature. The ancient tartan was described as "chequered" or "striped." The pattern and length of tartan is made of one "sett" repeated over and over again until the desired length is reached. For many centuries, tartans formed part of the everyday dress of the Highland people, and it was there that its use continued and developed, until it became recognized as a symbol of clan kinship.

John Knox, the Scottish Reformer, studied under John Calvin, the father of Presbyterianism, in Geneva, Switzerland, in the 1500s. Upon returning to Scotland, he wrote the first Book of Church Order and established the first Presbyterian churches. The church spread to Ireland, and it was immigrants from Scotland and Ireland who brought the Presbyterian Church to America. The Scots Confession was the first Reformed confession in the English language. It has been called the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism.

The Scottish Parliament, at the conclusion of a civil war, invited John Knox and five colleagues to prepare a confession of faith for the church and the nation. During the Middle Ages and through the Reformation, Bibles were rare among common people. The Bible of the Kirk (church) was a treasured possession. The value of the sacred scriptures and the danger of theft led to the establishment of a special lay office within the Kirk known as "the Beadle." The Beadle begins the worship service by carrying the Bible ceremoniously into the sanctuary. The Beadle removes the Bible from the Kirk for safekeeping following the service.

The bagpipe is a musical instrument now regarded as the national instrument of Scotland. Each clan had its own bagpiper, and its fame was based to some extent on the bagpiper's ability. Crimond, the bagpiper of the clan McLeod, wrote a tune to the Twenty-Third Psalm still used today.





EASTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
Columbia, South Carolina

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS  
October 30, 2022  
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

*God Calls Us to Gather and Worship*

NEWS OF THE KIRK

BELL PEAL

Please enter to worship in a spirit of reverence.

PROCESSION OF THE TARTANS

*Highland Cathedral*

Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

ORDER OF PROCESSION

The Beadle, Clerk of Session, Sara Lynn Curtis  
Pipes and Drums, Christian Markle and Russell Davis  
The Reverend Doctor Bradley D. Smith  
The Reverend Doctor J. Ben Sloan  
The Reverend Doctor Douglass D. Key

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Proverbs 8

Leader: 'And now, my children, listen to me:

**People:** happy are those who keep my ways.

Leader: Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it.

**People:** For whoever finds wisdom finds life and obtains favor from the Lord.'

All: Let us worship God!

HYMN OF ADORATION #15

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

LAST WAS ERFREUEN

PRAYER OF ADORATION

REV. DR. J. BEN SLOAN







## WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Today is Dedication Sunday with Kirkin Processionals.** After prayerful consideration, we will dedicate our financial pledges during all worship services this morning, symbolizing our commitments to Christ’s ministry through Eastminster for 2023. Thank you to those who are participating in our processionals before both traditional services.

**The Fall Festival is this afternoon from 3 pm - 5 pm on the Field:** We are partnering with our neighbors at Trenholm Road UMC for this family-friendly event. Enjoy trunk or treating, pumpkin carving, a dunking booth, inflatables, crafts, cake walks, free gourmet coffee, and free Pelican's Snoballs. Also, costumes are encouraged as there will be a costume parade. See you on the Field from 3pm - 5pm! ***Journey Through the Bible will still meet, but regular Sunday night programming will resume on November 6th.***

**The Vine Women’s Retreat:** Ladies- sign up now for the women’s retreat, "The Vine," with Rev. Dr. Angela Ford-Nelson as the featured guest preacher and teacher. The retreat is February 3-5, 2023 at The Cove. ***The initial deposit is due tomorrow, and the full balance is due by January 2, 2023.***

**Pickleball is Moving to Mondays Beginning Tomorrow:** Join us at the CLC between 8:30 am and 11 am for Pickleball, a sport for all that is gaining national popularity! Contact Emmet Hough, Dir. of the CLC, for details at [ehough@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:ehough@eastminsterpres.org).

**She Sings Concert, “Songs of Faith, Hope, and Love,” is Tuesday, November 1st:** Join us at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary for a special performance by this community choral group. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated and will benefit Sistercare; our Mission, Service, & Benevolence Ministry will match funds donated.

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry Meets Wednesday, November 2nd (10 am - 11:15 am):** Join us in the CLC (Room 265) as we knit for members who may be ill or in need of comfort.

**WE@EPC Dinners on Wednesdays (5 pm - 7:15 pm):** Register for meals on our website (<https://eastminsterpres.org/ministries/fellowship/rsvp/>). Payment (cash or check) will be collected at the door. **November 2nd MENU:** *Fried Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Fried Okra, Green Beans, and Rolls.*

**Sign up to Serve at the Potato Drop This Saturday, November 5th:** Join us for an intergenerational day of service that will benefit families in need. At the Potato Drop, you will bag potatoes and get them ready for local food pantries to give to families in our community who are in need. Sign up under “Upcoming Events” on our website.

**Next Sunday is All Saints Sunday, Communion Sunday, and Falcon Sunday (11:15 am Jubilee):** Each Fall we recognize members and friends of Eastminster who have joined the Church Triumphant over the last year (all services). It is also a Communion Service. We’ll also honor the AC Flora Football Team and staff during Jubilee in Thompson Hall.

**Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Are Here:** Pick up a shoebox in the Narthex, Adult Reception Hall, or lobbies of the Education Building and CLC; fill your shoebox with gifts for a girl or boy. Please return shoeboxes to the Narthex by November 20th. Include a check for \$10/box made out to Samaritan’s Purse. Our goal is to fill 300 boxes! Contact Beth Oliver to help ([betholiver2@yahoo.com](mailto:betholiver2@yahoo.com)).

**Transitions Third Thursday is November 17th:** Donations of pound cakes, pasta salad and bananas need to be delivered to the Church Staff Kitchen by 4 pm. Servers should meet at Transitions at 5 pm. Please contact Alison McGowan ([alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com)) to help. Volunteers will also serve a meal on Christmas Day.

**Women’s Shelter Chick-fil-A Souper is Thursday, November 17th, from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm:** Join us in Thompson Hall for a bowl of chicken noodle soup, or grab a bowl (or two) to go! Your donations (minimum of \$5/bowl) will benefit Columbia’s Women's Shelter. This annual event is always open to the public, so bring a neighbor.

**Flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles H. Dickerson by his family, Sissy, Kim, John, Charles, Sanders, and Will.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Scots Confession, 1560)

**We confess and acknowledge one God alone,  
to whom we must cleave, whom alone we must serve,  
whom alone we must worship, and in whom we put our trust.  
Who is one in substance and yet distinct in three persons,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.  
By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible,  
to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled  
and guided by His inscrutable providence,  
for such end as His eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed,  
and to the manifestation of His own glory.**

## \*\*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.**

## A TIME WITH THE WEE KIRK

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**If we are to speak truth in these moments, Almighty God, we must admit that we are  
not folk filled with wisdom, in our words or in our actions. We freely choose to hold  
grudges, not to speak grace to those who hurt us. We freely choose to get into arguments  
with others, rather than find paths of peace. We freely choose to pour out bitterness to  
those around us to drink, rather than cool cups of love.**

**Forgive us, Merciful God, and make our hearts and minds wise in the ways of service  
and devotion to you. May the grace which was in Jesus fill us with grace. May the hope  
which was in Jesus fill us with hope. May the life which was in Jesus fill us with life. As  
Jesus was your heart to us, may we be your heart to those around us. This we pray, even  
as we offer our lives to you in silence.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE #801

*The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want*

CRIMOND

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

REV. DR. DOUGLASS D. 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.**

## God's Word Is Proclaimed

# ANTHEM

*Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Refuge*

Ralph Vaughan Williams, English composer (1872-1958)

On the 150th anniversary of R Vaughan William's birth

*Published in 1921, this text is a combination of Psalm 90, and the hymn O God Our Help In Ages Past,*

*which is a paraphrase of Psalm 90 created by Sir Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

UNISON READING:

## 1 Timothy 6:17-19

<sup>17</sup>As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS:

1 Kings 3:16-28

<sup>16</sup>Later, two women who were prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. <sup>17</sup>The one woman said, "Please, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house; and I gave birth while she was in the house. <sup>18</sup>Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. We were together; there was no one else with us in the house, only the two of us were in the house. <sup>19</sup>Then this woman's son died in the night, because she lay on him. <sup>20</sup>She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your servant slept. She laid him at her breast, and laid her dead son at my breast. <sup>21</sup>When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, I saw that he was dead; but when I looked at him closely in the morning, clearly it was not the son I had borne." <sup>22</sup>But the other woman said, "No, the living son is mine, and the dead son is yours." The first said, "No, the dead son is yours, and the living son is mine." So they argued before the king. <sup>23</sup>Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son that is alive, and your son is dead'; while the other says, 'Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.'" <sup>24</sup>So the king said, "Bring me a sword," and they brought a sword before the king. <sup>25</sup>The king said, "Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one, and half to the other." <sup>26</sup>But the woman whose son was alive said to the king — because compassion for her son burned within her — "Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly do not kill him!" The other said, "It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it." <sup>27</sup>Then the king responded: "Give the first woman the living boy; do not kill him. She is his mother." <sup>28</sup>All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered; and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him, to execute justice.

## SERMON

REV. DR. BRADLEY D. SMITH

## “GRATITUDE, GREED AND GENEROSITY”

*We Respond In Gratitude, Joy, and Service*

## HYMN OF DEDICATION #649

## Amazing Grace

## AMAZING GRACE

When an usher releases your pew, everyone is asked to come forward, bringing your offering and/or commitment cards and placing them in the baskets. Everyone should return to their pews using the side aisles. Those who are not able to come forward may raise their hand and ushers will gladly assist you. For your convenience extra commitment cards are in the Friendship Registers. If you are a visitor or otherwise do not have a pledge card to bring forward, we ask everyone to please come forward and we invite you to respond to God's saving grace by committing yourself afresh as you walk forward. Everyone doing this will also permit an unimpeded flow along the pews. Thank you.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Michael Strong (9:00 am)

Thomas Rhodes (11:15 am)

## PRESENTATION OF THE TARTANS

Sir, representing the clans of Scots through whom God worked to plant seeds of faith in this great land, we present these tartans as symbols of families from every tongue and nation before Almighty God and request you to ask God's blessings on all those who bear witness to Jesus Christ.

## THE BLESSING (UNISON)

As brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we raise these tartans before God in grateful appreciation of God's redemptive work in the lives of those faithful witnesses in generations gone by, and on God's servants of every land and of every tongue, that we may together praise His Holy Name. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## BAGPIPE RECESSIONAL