

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Today is Communion Sunday: If you or a member you know would like to receive in-home communion in the future, please contact Kelly McGrady, 803-256-1654 ext. 123.

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, March 9, in the Sanctuary at the conclusion of the 9 am worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the 2025 Officer Nominating Committee: Judy Holmes (Chair), John Hart (Vice Chair) Kathleen Muthig (D), Parks Bunch (D), Katie Bullard (PW), Robin Gorman, Ryan Barnes, Brian Ford, Julie McCue, and Bobby Whiteside.

Interested in Membership at Eastminster? You can still join us for the First Step Class. Our first meeting was today and we'll continue to meet each Sunday in March at 10 am, in Room E-357 (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).

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 pm) in the Sanctuary. We have a devotional, rehearsal, and dinner. Please see emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details.

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 WE@EPC Meal on Ash Wednesday is at 5:45 pm, in Thompson Hall: MENU- Adults: Spinach and Mushroom Quiche with Bacon and Sausage, Hash Browns & French Toast- (Kids: Eggs, Bacon & Hash Browns). You must RSVP each Wednesday by noon so Regina and her staff can prepare enough food.

Sundays@5 Witness at the Cross Lenten Book Study Begins March 9: led by Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH). Our study is Amy-Jill Levine's book, "Witness at the Cross: A Beginners Guide to Holy Friday." During Lent, you are invited to experience the events of Good Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die. You may register and purchase your book via Upcoming Events on our website.

Sundays@5 Lectio Divina Study Begins March 9: Led by Rev. Emily Mooneyhan in Room 256 of the Christian Education Building. Join us for "Divine Reading" where we'll read Scripture slowly and meditatively open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit, to offer solace and peace in today's world.

Circles One and Three Meet on March 10: All ladies of Eastminster are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and study in Thompson Hall at 10 am.

The Next EPW Prayer Breakfast is March 13, in Thompson Hall: Join us at 8:30 am for breakfast and a devotion. Rev. Emily Mooneyhan will lead our time together. Please RSVP by March 10. The cost is \$6.

Adult Mission Trip Opportunities in Western North Carolina (April 4-6 & April 6-12): sign-ups are now available on our website. We will help with underpinning at a mobile home community and more.

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 Trips including Montreat: are available via Youth ENews and our website's Upcoming Events. Contact Emily Higgins (ehiggins@eastminsterpres.org) with questions.

EPW Honorary Life Member Nominations Forms are available online: and are being accepted through March 21, 2025. These memberships are given in recognition of faithful service in some area of the church's work. Historically, moderators, leaders, teachers, officers, pastors, missionaries, and staff have received this award.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Elise Scoville McCutchen by George McCutchen.

UNISON READING: Psalm 23 (KJV)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: ZACK HUDSON AND NATE HENDERSON
HEAD USHER: RYAN BARNES (9:00 AM) AND SCOT SEIGLER (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
Blythe Lewis, Senior Communications Officer
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
James Cassidy, A/V Director
Alex Rogers, Plant Operations 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



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

MARCH 2, 2025

9:00 AND 11:15 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

Fanfare for Organ

Ronald Arnatt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on James 5:13-16)

Leader: Are any among you suffering?

People: **They should pray.**

Leader: Are any cheerful?

People: **They should sing songs of praise.**

Leader: Are any sick or need forgiveness?

People: **Pray for each other that they may be healed.**

All: **We come to worship the Living Lord who has mercy, joy, and healing.**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #314

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

*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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan (9:00 am)

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

Patient and Merciful God, we confess we have not been patient with you, with others, or with ourselves. We have too often valued our own comfort above the value of waiting on you. We confess we too easily give up, when we do not get our way- or when our way is hard. Yet we remember your cross- and how you persevered for us. We are so weak. We confess our need for your strength. We are so foolishly proud. We confess our need for your help. Forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Give us grace to pass that mercy- that you show to us- to others. As you welcomed back the Prodigal- welcome us back again. Then we will tell others of your love.

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.

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

Do Not Be Afraid

Philip Stopford

Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name, you are mine.

When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you; you will never sink beneath the waves.

When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames. When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side. When you dwell in the exile of a stranger, remember you are precious in my sight. You are mine, O my child, I am your

Father, and I love you with a perfect love.

Gerard Markland

*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

Zack Hudson

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Psalm 23

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Scripture Focus: James 5:7-11, 19-20

Page 217

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. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

“Staying on the Way Home”

HYMN OF PREPARATION #516

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Table of the Lord

The Sursum Corda

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto The Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

*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

Postlude in C

Henry Smart

*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.

March 9, 2025

Scripture Focus: Luke 15:1-32

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Good News for Sinners”

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith