

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Officer Nominations for the Class of 2028 are due this Wednesday, March 26: Visit our website's Upcoming Events to make your nominations.

The Flower Guild invites You to Dedicate Easter Lilies for Easter Morning: Pick up a form at the Welcome Center, or make your dedication and pay online. Dedications (\$25) are due to Julie McDaniel by April 9.

Sundays@5 Witness at the Cross Lenten Book Study Continues Tonight: led by Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH). Our study is Amy-Jill Levine's book, Witness at the Cross and you are invited to experience the events of Good Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die.

Sundays@5 Lectio Divina Study Tonight and Next Sunday: 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.

NED's Women's Revelation Bible Study Continues Tonight at 5 p.m. (E-353): Led by guest teacher Emily Craig, who led the Community Bible Study in Georgetown, SC, where over 300 attend or stream the study. Join us!

ECAMP Meets Tonight at 5 p.m.: Singers in 4K through fifth grade are welcome! Visit our website's Upcoming Events to volunteer on Sunday nights. Drop-off and pick-up (6:30 p.m.) in the Sanctuary. We have a devotional, rehearsal, and dinner (\$3.00). Please see emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details.

The WE@EPC Meal on Wednesday at 5:15 p.m., in Thompson Hall: MENU- Adults: Beef Petite Medallions with Grilled Onions & Mushrooms, Hash Brown Casserole, and Vegetable Medley- (Kids: Same as Adults). Our last WE@EPC meal is on April 9.

"Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes," Adult Book Study Starts This Tuesday, March 25 (12 -1 p.m.): Bring your lunch and meet us in the Adult Reception Hall (3/25, 4/1 & 4/8) for a study that teaches us how to see Jesus through a different lens. Linda Long will lead us. No need to purchase the book, and no homework. This is an EPW-sponsored study, but all are welcome!

Parents Save the Date for SWAG (Saved With God's Amazing Grace) April 6: Rising First (currently 5K) through current Fifth Graders are invited to a SWAG Skate Party at Three Fountains Skate Rink in West Columbia. We'll be there from 5:15 - 7:15 p.m. Parents, we need chaperones, so let Croskeys know if you can stay to help (croyall@eastminsterpres.org).

Adult Mission Trip Opportunities in Western North Carolina (April 4-6 & April 6-12): There is still some room on the April 6-12 trip. Visit Upcoming Events to sign up. The cost per person has been reduced to \$25/day. We will help with much-needed repairs at a mobile home community.

Holy Week is April 13-20, 2025: Palm Sunday is April 13, Maundy Thursday Worship on April 17 (7 p.m.), Good Friday Worship on April 18 (7 p.m.), and Easter Sunday on April 20- four worship services (6:30 a.m. Sunrise in the Courtyard, 8:45 a.m. Sanctuary, and 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary and Thompson Hall).

Children of All Ages up to Fifth Grade are Invited to an "Egg Scramble" on April 13: Meet us on the Field across Trenholm Road at 4 p.m. We'll enjoy fellowship, crafts, inflatables, snacks, and hunting for 2,500 eggs!

Lightly Seasoned Spring Social is April 24, at the Hudgens' from 7. until 9 p.m.: Our new Lightly Seasoned Chairs Lauri Moore (laurimoore8@gmail.com) and Jennifer Rayfield (jenray2001@gmail.com) invite members of our social group (ages 40 - 65) to host a future Lightly Seasoned gathering. If you can host, please reach out via email to Lauri or Jennifer. Thank you, ladies, for co-chairing.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given in loving memory and thanksgiving for the life to Melissa Blair Boyd "Missy" by her family, Austin, Barbara. Scott, and Mary Boyd.

UNISON READING: Luke 18:35-43

³⁵As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹"What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." ⁴²Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." ⁴³Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: ADAM HEGLER AND CHAD ABRAMSON
HEAD USHER: BERRY MATTOX (9:00 AM) AND WILSON MCDONAL (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, Sr. Communications Officer
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
James Cassidy, A/V 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



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 23, 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

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee, BWV 647 Johann S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are like the people around Jesus who are hungry for meaning, wisdom, and grace.

People: **Let us enter God's presence with awe and gratitude.**

Leader: We are like the people around Jesus who judge others and pride ourselves in being "right."

People: **Let us enter God's presence with contrite and humble hearts.**

Leader: We are like the people around Jesus who are hungry for healing and hope for ourselves, and for the world.

People: **Let us enter God's presence hungry to worship, grow and give thanks!**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #629

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee ST. AGNES

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

*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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall (9:00 am)
Ann Stratton Townsend

BAPTISMAL HYMN #188

Jesus Loves Me! JESUS LOVES ME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

Dear Gracious God, we confess that we have allowed the worries of this world to drive us away from your vision for our lives. We confess that there is strife and sin all around us, and also within us. We confess that we have taken our focus off you, that we have not allowed your Word to work in our lives, yet we continue to cry out to you in time of trouble and need. Forgive us, O God, and hear our prayers in this silence...

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 #718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be; take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd

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

Jesus Said to the Blind Man Vulpius-Eggebracht
Luke 18:41-43

*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

Paul Trippe

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Luke Luke 18:35-43 Page 77
Scripture Focus: Luke 19:1-10 Page 77

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. Bradley D. Smith

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Vision Testing”

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy RESTORATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #443 verse 2

There is a Redeemer GREEN

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

POSTLUDE

Chromatic Fugue in D Johann Pachelbel

*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.

DURING THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP:

Ann Stratton Townsend, daughter of Anna and Evans Townsend, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 9:00 am service. Maternal grandfather Paul Eaddy will offer the baptismal prayer.

March 30, 2025

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

Luke 20⁹-19

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Outsmarting God”