

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Today, 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.

Prayer Cards are available in our Welcome Centers and online: To add a name to our Prayer List, contact Kelly McGrady (kmcgrady@eastminsterpres.org).

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.

We Welcome Musicians Olivia Norton (flute) and Madison Constantine (oboe).

Sundays@5 Witness at the Cross Lenten Book Study Begins Tonight: 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 Tonight: 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.

Women's Revelation Bible Study Begins Tonight at 5 pm (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 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.

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

The WE@EPC Meal is at 5:15 pm, in Thompson Hall: MENU- Adults: Taco Bowl with Ground Beef, Cilantro Rice, Pinto Beans w/Borracho Seasoning, Lettuce & Tomatoes - (Kids: Nachos and Pinto Beans). You must RSVP each Wednesday by noon so Regina and her staff can prepare enough food.

EPW's Prayer Breakfast is this Thursday, 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. The cost per person has been reduced to \$25/day. We will help with much needed repairs 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.

Flowers in the sanctuary are dedicated to the Glory of our perfect God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen Fisher, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wayne Foster, Mr. and Mrs. John Wayne Hopkins and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Allen Wiggins.

UNISON READING: Luke 15:1-7

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: GEOFF REABOLD (9 AM), KATHLEEN MUTHIG (11:15 AM) AND MATT RIDDLE
HEAD USHER: JEFF MUTHIG (9:00 AM) AND MIKE GORMAN (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



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 9, 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

A Lenten Prelude

Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

From Matthew 11:28 & "Come Thou Fount"

Leader: During this season of Lent, hear the words of Jesus: "Come unto me you who are weary and heavy laden."

People: **But we are prone to wander, prone to leave the God we love.**

Leader: Let thy goodness like a fetter, bind our wand'ring hearts to thee.

People: **Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**

All: **Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune our hearts to sing Thy grace!**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETILETON

*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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Stanley Alexander Richards (11:15 am)

BAPTISMAL HYMN #487

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

God of great patience and of prodigal mercy, forgive us our folly.

Unsettle us in our complacency this Lenten season. Awaken us from our spiritual slumber. Stir our souls so that we turn from self-preservation to selfless service, and from self-interest to our Savior's interest. Forgive us our waywardness and our willfulness in this time of silent confession, so that we would follow Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life...

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.

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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Mack Wilberg

Psalm 23, Paraphrase by Isaac Watts (1674-1740)

*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

Tiffany Beitz

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Luke 15:1-7

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Scripture Focus: Luke 15:8-32

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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. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

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

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

*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

We Thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, BWV623

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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:

Stanley Alexander Richards, son of Laura and Alex Richards, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 11:15 am service. Kathleen Muthig will offer the baptismal prayer.

March 16, 2025

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

Luke 16:19-31

“The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Do We Need the Dead to Tell Us?”