

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 Baccalaureate Sunday:** when we celebrate and recognize EPC’s 2025 High School graduates during the 11:15 am worship service in the Sanctuary.

**EPW Circles One and Three will not meet tomorrow:** Our next Circles Meeting will be on October 13, at 10 am, in Thompson Hall.

**Bible Doers Will “Do” on Wednesday, May 14, at Becky Airheart’s House:** (7 - 8 am). Friendly faces and coffee will be waiting for you! Let’s serve together. We prepare donations for Transitions Third Thursdays. Email Becky with any questions ([bairheart@gmail.com](mailto:bairheart@gmail.com)).

**Transitions Third Thursday Service Opportunities May 15:** Meet us at Transitions at 11:30 am to serve lunch. You can sign up for lunch service on the Transitions AM Upcoming Event on our website. We continue to support Third Thursday dinners by providing food donations (pasta salad, pound cakes, and bananas) by 3 pm (Staff Kitchen), or serving dinner at 5 pm at Transitions. You can sign up to volunteer for either AM or PM meal support via Upcoming Events.

**May 18 is Communion Sunday:** If you or you know of a member who would like to receive In-Home Communion, please contact Kelly McGrady in the Church Office at ext. 123.

**May 18 is our Youth Ministry End of the Year Party:** Look for details from Emily Higgins via the ENews. Pastor Rob Schoonover will also begin his tenure as Associate Pastor for Senior High Youth and Younger Adults on Sunday, May 18.

**Join us Memorial Day Weekend for Breakfast and Blended Worship- Sunday, May 25:** Intergenerational Breakfast will be at 9 am in Thompson Hall (no Sunday School) followed by one blended worship service at 10:15 am in the Sanctuary. Enjoy fellowship and worship with us on May 25.

**Volunteers and Donations for Camp Impact 2025 June 1-6:** Camp Impact is a Camp Cole-directed weeklong camp experience for children ages 6-12 who are experiencing or have previously experienced homelessness, are from no to low-income families, or are in the foster care system. We are collecting 100 new beach towels and individually wrapped snacks for campers, preparing meals for counselors and staff, and more. There will be collection bins outside of Eastminster’s main reception area. Visit our website’s Upcoming Events to learn more details and see the Camp Impact Wish List. Donations will be accepted through Friday, May 23. Please contact Kristy Stoneburner ([kstoneburner@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:kstoneburner@eastminsterpres.org)).

**Join a Small Group this Summer/Fall:** EPC's Small Groups Ministry offers a variety of Small Groups (Women's, Men's, Couples and Mixed) for men and women from 20s to 90s. Each Small Group gathers weekly to study scripture, pray, and discuss how scripture impacts lives. Small Groups also serve together in the community. To find out more or join a Small Group, fill out the Small Groups Interest form in the ENews, or contact Caroline Bennett at 803-256-1654 (ext.124), or [cbennett@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:cbennett@eastminsterpres.org).

**Vacation Bible School (VBS) is June 23-26, 2025 (9 am - 12 pm):** Rising 4K through rising 4th graders (\$20) and rising 5th and 6th graders (\$30) will learn how to “Live It Out” and love like Jesus. Register your child or volunteer via the registration form under Upcoming Events on the website.

**Save the Dates for Children’s Music Camp 2025-July 15-17:** Rising 5K through rising 6th graders are invited to attend. We will enjoy music and singing, arts and crafts, devotion time, snacks, and recreation. Join us from 9 am until 12 pm for three fun days of learning and expressing God’s love through music. Sign up today under Upcoming Events on our website. We welcome parents to volunteer. If you would like to help in July, please contact Stefanie Hammond at [shammond@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:shammond@eastminsterpres.org).

**Flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God by Kathy and Jack Wolfe in memory of their mothers, Charlotte Cassels and Marie Wolfe. **Flowers in the narthex** are given in celebration of the baptism of Margaret Helen McLean (Mae) and in love and gratitude to the generations that have gone before who have prayed that Mae would become one of God’s own and that she would live to glorify Him in word and deed.

Unison Reading: Psalm 1:1-6

1 Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked  
or take the path that sinners tread  
or sit in the seat of scoffers,  
2 but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.  
3 They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.  
4 The wicked are not so  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,  
6 for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Congratulations to our 2025 High School Graduates	
Nicholas Beitz	Collins Lee
Walker Bell	Charles Leighton
Barron Cruea	Avery McDaniel
Emerson Curnias	Holland McDaniel
Taylor Darby	Wright McDaniel
Bennett Daves	Sellers McGee
Emma Davis	Palmer Mood, IV
Maddyn Elliott	Cal Peterson
Kennedy George	Harris Rivers
Adelaide Helmboldt	Wilson Smith
Caroline Hendricks	James Stone
Elizabeth Hinson	Grayson Thornton
Henry Hudson	Sims Tighe
Annie James	Kate Wehman
Adger Johnson	Kate Weston
Evin Cate Johnson	Will Willard, V
Eloise Laird	

**DEACONS:** ADAM HEGLER AND KRIS WHITESIDE  
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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 11, 2025  
9:00 AND 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD  
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

[www.eastminsterpres.org](http://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**  
*Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* George F. Handel

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**  
Leader: We gather this Sabbath day to worship the Lord our God,  
People: who loved us before we were born;  
Leader: who knows us even better than we know ourselves;  
People: whose presence never leaves us and whose love never ceases.  
All: This is our God. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!

**\*HYMN OF ADORATION #610**  
*Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADER’S HYMN

**\*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** Margaret Helen McLean *(9:00 am)*  
Graves Kenneth Potter *(11:15 am)*

**BAPTISMAL HYMN #482**  
*Baptized in Water* BUNESSAN

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**  
Even with the joyful songs of Easter still lingering in the air, we are prone to lose the spirit of the resurrection. Rather than growing in gratitude, we cultivate criticism. Rather than fostering joy, we fuel negativity. Forgive us, Lo Lord. Give us introspection and insight. Give us humility as well as a hunger for You and for the life You offer in Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers in the 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 #518**  
*Your Only Son* LAMB OF GOD  
1. Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.  
Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.  
3. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. Refrain

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER** Rev. Emily Mooneyhan  
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**  
*I Know That My Redeemer Lives* Dan Forrest

**\*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** Adam Hegler

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**  
Unison Reading: Psalm 1:1-6 Page 463  
Scripture Focus: Proverbs 2:1-10 Page 552

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.  
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AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith  
“Wisdom: A Rare Treasure”

**BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES** *(11:15 only)*  
Leader: Gracious God, we pray that these, Your children, may clearly know Your will and achieve the height and depth of spiritual wisdom and understanding.  
People: May they lead lives worthy of You, Lord, continuously pleasing You by doing every good work and growing in the true knowledge that comes from being close to You.  
Leader: Strengthen them with Your infinite power, according to Your glorious might.  
People: In order that they will develop endurance and patience, traveling the road that lies ahead of them with joy and giving thanks to You in all things.  
All: Amen. (adapted from Colossians 1:9-12)

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #371**  
*Lift High the Cross* CRUCIFER

**\*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 face, and until we meet again, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**  
*Processional on “Crucifer”* Donald Busarow

**\*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 group, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

**DURING THIS MORNING’S WORSHIP:**  
Margaret Helen McLean, daughter of Patrick and Olivia McLean, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 9:00 am service. Laura Twitty will offer the baptismal prayer.

Graves Kenneth Potter, son of Bryce and Perri Potter, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 11:15 am service. Maternal grandfather Scott Shockley will offer the baptismal prayer.

**May 18, 2025**  
Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith