

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

All Eastminster Facilities Will Be Closed Tomorrow for Memorial Day.

Take the Time & Talent Survey: Prayerfully consider where you would like to serve in 2022 and 2023 at Eastminster. Complete the survey, which can be found on our website or in our Welcome Centers, by June 26th. Contact Kelly Fernet if you have any questions, kfernet@eastminsterpres.org.

Summer Music Camp for Rising 5K to 5th Grade! The dates are July 18-20 (evenings). Registration is open via our church website (www.eastminsterpres.org) under “Upcoming Events.”

Register for Youth Summer Mission Trips and Retreats: There are three different weeks scheduled for High School Youth and two weeks for Middle School Youth. The Middle School trips: Praying Pelicans Mission Trip (July 23-29) has plenty of spots available, and Massanetta Springs (June 23-29) also has some room. Join us in fellowship and service this summer. Register via our website (www.eastminsterpres.org) under “Upcoming Events” by May 31st.

Summer Hours Begin Next Sunday, June 5th: Join us on Sunday mornings this summer! Sunday School will be at 9 am followed by Jubilee contemporary worship (Thompson Hall) at 10:15 am and traditional worship (Sanctuary) at 10:30 am.

Prayer Cards will be available on June 5th: Stop by the Welcome Center to pick one up, or visit our website (www.eastminsterpres.org) under “Ministries/Care” to download a copy. Contact Sarah Beasley (sbeasley@eastminsterpres.org) to add a loved one to Eastminster’s prayer list.

The PEACE Service is June 12 at 4 pm in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH): Join us as we gather quietly in prayer before God. Invite a friend who may be grieving. This is a Communion Service led by Dr. Lynn Grandsire on the second Sunday of every even month.

VBS is June 27th - 30th: Many volunteers are needed as we plan to be in-person at full capacity. Contact Croskeys to help out Monday - Thursday morning that week. If you can only volunteer one or two days, that still helps!

Save the Dates for Adult VBS August 14 & 15, 2022: Rev. Dr. Stan Saunders, Professor Emeritus (New Testament) from Columbia Theological Seminary, will preach on August 14th and lead a second session on Monday evening. Contact Janice Blair (jblair@eastminsterpres.org) for more information.

Eastminster Website has been revamped: An overarching theme in the Dreaming and Discerning Report was enhancing the role of technology in our church. A specific action was to offer a revamped website. We are excited to say the revamped website is live. To learn how to navigate the website, read the Website FAQs in the E-News each week.

Time and Talents QR Code



Unison Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: LEIGH POUND, CHARLIE MIMS, THOMAS RHODES AND ELIZABETH CROUCH

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Brian J. Marsh, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Christy Rippy, Treasurer

Rev. Dr. Lynn A. Grandsire, Associate Pastor
Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Josh Evanovich, Organist
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
Emmet Hough, Dir. of Christian Life Center
Alex Rogers, Director of Plant Operations

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 29, 2022

10:15 A.M.

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

www.eastminsterpres.org

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Thank you, Lord Jesus, that You cast the seed of new life upon all people, even us.

People: **Mindful that we can be like a hardened or weedy path, help us open our hearts O God.**

Leader: Shake us from our slumber, O Master, that we would turn to and follow You.

People: **Drawn together by You, O Spirit, touch and transform us that together we would bear witness to the One who is the way, the truth and the life.**

All: **Change us Lord Jesus, change us one and all!**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #375

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

1. **Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God? REFRAIN: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river, gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.**
2. **On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray, we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. REFRAIN**
3. **Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down, grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. REFRAIN**
4. **Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease; soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. REFRAIN**

*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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Lynn A. Grandsire

O Lord our God, we need You. Again this week the shadows of darkness have covered us, even as screams of darkness have reared their ugly head. In both cases it is darkness. You create and give life. We tolerate and enable life's destruction in both the unborn and the born. Forgive us, O Master, and help us turn from the culture of death to You and to Your ways, and let it begin even in this time of silent confession...

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!**

PASSING OF THE HOPE

Examples - "I'm grateful you're in the world" or "I'm grateful you're in my life."

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyck

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you. Your peace, You give me in time of the storm. You are the source of my strength, You are the strength of my life, I lift my hands in total praise to you. Amen

TIME OF OFFERING

Officer's Prayer: Clay Robinson

To respond to God's grace by participating in God's work through Eastminster, use one of the following options:

1. Mail contributions to: EPC, 3200 Trenholm Road, Columbia, SC 29204.
2. To set up recurring gifts, register on the members' portal at <https://members.eastminsterpres.org> then follow prompts for giving.
3. One time gifts: Go to our webpage at <https://eastminsterpres.org/> contribute and select "2021 General Fund" and follow prompts.
4. Give by texting 18035909901, type "give" and hit send. You will be sent a link to give.

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 at the bottom of the stage.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

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Scripture Focus: Luke 8:1-8, 11-15

Page 62

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Are We Too Hardened for Seed to Grow?" Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #292

Shine, Jesus, Shine

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

1. **Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me; shine on me. REFRAIN: Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

*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

2. **Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance; by the blood I may enter your brightness. Search me; try me; consume all my darkness. Shine on me; shine on me. REFRAIN**
3. **As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness; ever changing from glory to glory; mirrored here may our lives tell your story. Shine on me; shine on me. REFRAIN**

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #192 *(refrain only)*

Shine, Jesus, Shine

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

Shine, Jesus Shine; fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit blaze; set our hearts on fire. Flow, river flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.



*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 Christina Siokos (csiokos@eastminsterpres.org or 256-1654 x123) to learn more and find out about our next First Step class, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our on-going ministries.

June 5, 2022

Rev. Dr. Lynn A. Grandsire