

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER

Join us for Sundays@5 Tonight: Journey Through the Bible, our church-wide study, is being led by Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall. You may register via “Upcoming Events” (www.eastminsterpres.org).

ECAMP (EPC Children’s Afternoon Music Program) is tonight (5 pm - 6 pm): Visit www.eastminsterpres.org “Upcoming Events” to sign your child up and to volunteer to help.

Sunday and Wednesday Night Fellowship and Bible Study for Youth: Join us tonight in the CLC for Middle School Youth Group from 5 pm - 6:30 pm (MS 3rd floor Multipurpose Room - HS Gym). On Wednesdays, MS & HS meet in the CLC for dinner followed by boys and girls break-out study sessions (7 pm - 8:30 pm). See GroupMe texts from Bethany & Nick for more details.

HS Youth will Fellowship at Beltline Lanes Tonight! Join Pastor Nick and our great advisors for dinner and bowling. Meet us there (2154 S. Beltline Blvd) at 5 pm. Bring money for dinner. Bowling fees are covered. See GroupMe texts from Nick for more information.

Confirmation Class of 2023 Parents’ Meeting on September 25 (10 am- CLC - Arts & Crafts Room) Parents of ninth graders (or older) are invited to meet with Pastor Nick Demuyne during the Sunday School hour for information on this year’s Confirmation schedule, what will be expected as far as attendance, and key dates for your calendar. Confirmation kick-off for students is October 2nd.

EPW’s Fall Gathering is this Tuesday at 11:30 am in Thompson Hall: This event kicks off EPW for the fall semester. Regina’s menu (\$7): Chicken Salad Stuffed Tomato, Grapes, Cheese Straws, and Pumpkin Mousse Parfait! We are excited to welcome guest speaker Rev. Rachel Smith Fitch, daughter of Pastor Brad and Nancy. She will lead the first lesson in our Horizon’s Bible Study and will share some of her story. Register on the website & join us!

Be a Bradley Lunch Buddy: We still need a few more volunteers! Meet us at Bradley Elementary on Tuesdays (12:10 pm - 1 pm). You will be paired with the same student each meeting. The dates for 2022 are 9/20, 10/4, 10/18, 11/1, 11/15 & 12/13. Contact Rebekah Gaston to help (rgaston@eastminsterpres.org).

WE@EPC Dinners and Classes on Wednesdays (5 pm - 7:15 pm): Register for meals on our website (www.eastminsterpres.org). Payments (cash or check) will be collected at the door. **MENU:** *Greek Chicken, Rice, Peas, Pearl Onions and Mushrooms, Buttered Carrots, and Rolls.* After dinner, join Dr. Douglass Key (6 pm - 7:15 pm) in the Adult Reception Hall, for a Journey Through the Bible. Register for the class under Upcoming Events on our website.

Sign up for EPC’s Youth Basketball League on EPC’s Website: Visit www.eastminsterpres.org “Upcoming Events” to sign up your second through twelfth grader. If you have questions, contact Emmet Hough, Director of the CLC, at ehough@eastminsterpres.org.

MSB’s “Bible Doers” Are “Doing” on Wednesdays: Meet us at the Oliver’s (3401 Heatherwood Road 29205) anytime between 6 am and 8 am for ‘Bible Doin.’ Come dressed for work or ready to workout. There is something for all of us to “do.” You can serve each Wednesday or any Wednesday, and coffee will always be available. Contact Beth (803) 622-5384 or Hampton Oliver (803) 513-1412 to learn more or sign up.

Interested in Learning More about Membership at Eastminster? Take the First Step Class beginning September 25th in the Adult Reception Hall of the Education Building. Contact Christina Siokos (csiokos@eastminsterpres.org) for more information.

Initial Deposit for “The Vine” Annual Women’s Retreat is due September 30: Sign up now for "The Vine," Feb 3rd-5th of 2023, with repeat speaker Rev. Dr. Angela Ford-Nelson! Location is once again at The Cove. Register on our website and join us!

October 2nd is World Communion Sunday. To honor the missionaries that EPC supports in 15 different countries, flags of those nations will be on display in the Sanctuary, Narthex, and in Thompson Hall from September 18th through October 16th. In celebration of World Communion on October 2nd, EPC’s Chancel Choir will be joined by the AC Flora High School Singers under the direction of Ms. Chelse Lawson during traditional worship.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by an Eastminster family.

Unison Reading: Genesis 21:1-7

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. ²Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶Now Sarah said, “God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.” ⁷And she said, “Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: DOLORES LONG AND PAT MUELLER
HEAD USHER: DON HELMS (9:00AM) BILL COGGINS (11:15 AM)

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyne, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Christy Rippey, Treasurer

Rev. Brian J. Marsh, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
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



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

9:00 AND 11:15 A.M.

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

www.eastminsterpres.org

AS YOU ENTER THE SANCTUARY

In Christ's name we welcome you to the Sanctuary at Eastminster. This is a place set apart for Christian worship. As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Please **silence all electronic devices** and **do not take flash photos** during the service.

*“God is in His Holy temple,
let all the earth keep silence before Him.”*

****All Eastminster worship services and activities are mask optional. This decision, made by the Session, relates to all Eastminster programs and events. In the event you would like a mask, they are available at the Welcome Center.**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINUTE FOR MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As the LORD appeared to Abraham and Sarah long ago, so the LORD reveals himself today.

People: As Abraham and Sarah felt old and barren, so we sometimes feel weary and worn out, barren, today.

Leader: But our God is the giver of new life, of new possibilities, even today.

People: The LORD gives new life, not only once, but again and again.

All: With gratitude and praise, let us lift our hearts and voices, let us worship God!

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #35

Praise Ye Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DE HERREN

*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 come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

In sovereign love, You O God created the world good, and make every-one equally in Your image. You make us male and female, of every race and nation, to live as one community. But we rebel, hiding from You, our Creator. Ignoring your commandments, we violate your image in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve your condemnation, yet in Your goodness and mercy You reach to us. Forgive us, O God, as we confess our sins in silence...

Adapted from The Brief Statement of Faith

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 #415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power. I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms. In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 MUSIC

I Will Bless the Lord

Victor Johnson
Psalm 34

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

Pat Mueller

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND. **CHILDREN MAY BRING THEIR OFFERING AT THIS TIME.

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED

THE FLOOR LEVEL OF THE SANCTUARY HAS A HEARING LOOP FOR HEARING AID USERS
FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY IS PROHIBITED IN ALL WORSHIP SERVICES

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Genesis 21:1-7

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Scripture Focus: Genesis 18:1-15

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Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“From Disbelief to Diapers”

Rev. Dr Bradley D. Smith

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #51

To Abraham and Sarah

LLANFYLLN

*CHARGE

*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

*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.

September 25, 2022

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

Genesis 39:1-23

“Keeping Faith Even When”