

MAY YOUR HOME AND HEART BE A SANCTUARY

In Christ's name we gather in homes in Columbia and beyond to worship God. This day we set our homes apart for Christian worship. As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we prepare for worship.

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

PRELUDE

Cindy Burn, piano

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Robert and Amy Simmons, and Robert

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: The hour or the day of the Messiah's coming is known only by the Father.
People: **Be aware; for the Messiah will surely come again.**
Leader: Keep alert; For the Lord is near and shall return in an instant.
People: **Keep awake; for the Son of Man shall come in clouds with great power and glory.**
All: **Come let us be ready for the dawning of a new day where Christ shall reign!**

*HYMN OF ADORATION #104

O Lord, How Shall We Meet You?

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

1. Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast, to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.
2. Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me; your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty. O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace in love, all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.
3. You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill, to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still. In patient expectation we live for that great day when your renewed creation your glory shall display.

PRAYER OF ADORATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON #137

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

1. He came down that we may have love; hallelujah forever more.
2. He came down that we many have light; hallelujah forever more.
3. He came down that we may have peace; hallelujah forever more.
4. He came down that we may have joy; hallelujah forever more.

*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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE AND TIME OF OFFERING

During this time you are encouraged to extend the hand of Christ by texting “The peace of Christ be with you,” “The Lord be with you,” or another brief greeting to 3-4 people, Eastminster members or beyond.

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 “2020 General Fund” and follow prompts.
4. Give by texting 18035909901, type “give” and hit send. You will be sent a link to give.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ellery Ruth Bryant

BAPTISMAL HYMN #115

Away In a Manger

MUELLER

1. **Away in a manger; no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**
2. **The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**
3. **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lynn A. Grandsire

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Psalm 80:1-3

Scripture Focus: Mark 13:24-27

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Our Radiant God"

Rev. Brian J. Marsh

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story. Refrain: O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.
2. He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. Refrain: O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace, and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place. All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. Refrain: O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #192

Shine, Jesus, Shine (refrain only)

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.

POSTLUDE

Trio Sonata 1

Brahms

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.

DURING THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Ellery Ruth Bryant, daughter of Lyndey and Peyton Bryant, will receive the sacrament of baptism. Elder Steve Bryant will give the baptismal prayer.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

Contact Rev. Brian Marsh (bmarsh@eastminsterpres.org or 256-1654 x164) 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.

December 6, 2020

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Year Dedication Sunday plus 4 weeks pledges	360
Last Year Dedication Sunday plus 4 weeks pledges	363

First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2020

PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLEDGE CARD. You may drop it by the church office, or mail it to the church. If you need another pledge card, contact Kelly Fernet at ext. 127. You may also pledge online under the CONTRIBUTE tab (top right), or via the Quick Link. Questions about tithing options at EPC, contact Christy Rippy (Treasurer) at crippy@eastminsterpres.org.

WELCOME TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY! You must make a reservation via Quick Links each time. The maximum for safe seating is 100 in our sanctuary, and while you are here, you are required to wear a mask and practice safe-distancing. Ushers/greeters will be available to assist you.

WELCOME BETHANY DIXON, EPC'S NEW DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY. She comes to us most recently from the Episcopal Church of our Savior in Jacksonville, Florida. She grew up in Macon, Georgia, and Easton, Maryland, the daughter of a Presbyterian pastor. Her faith, energy, maturity, and enthusiasm for middle schoolers will be a tremendous addition to our youth ministry.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS ARE AVAILABLE VIA QUICK LINKS & AT THE CHURCH OFFICE. Contact Sarah Beasley (ext. 122) if you need a booklet mailed to you.

MALL TO MANGER CHALLENGE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE. Pick up cards/envelopes and write a check to EPC with "M2M" in the memo line. This year, your donations will go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance COVID-19 Relief.

CIRCLE OF GIVING AND ST. LAWRENCE PLACE: This year we will combine the Homeless No More gift drive for the children at St. Lawrence Place and the Family Shelter with the Circle of Giving drive which also serves families in shelters. Children will receive age appropriate gifts and families will receive baskets of household supplies. Please go to eastminsterpres.org to see the page of options from which to choose. The gifts are to be delivered to the Reception area by Dec. 11. We hope you'll participate with your children, Sunday School class, small groups or individually.

TO-GO DINNER MENUS FOR THIS WEEK - (NEW) Meal pick-up is from 5:15-6:00 pm beginning this Tuesday, Dec. 1st. The costs are \$3 per child (0-8), \$6 per adult (9+) with a \$25 family cap. You must register through the EPC website's Quick Links by noon on Tues./Thurs.

Tues., Dec. 1: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Cream Corn, Green Beans & Rolls

Thurs., Dec. 3: Chicken Piccata, Garlic Butter Pasta, Steamed Asparagus, Fried Portabello Mushrooms & Rolls

ALL EASTMINSTER WOMEN ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL JOY GIFT TEA. On Monday, Dec. 14, drop by the Breezeway and Courtyard (between the Sanctuary and Thompson Hall) between 11:30 am and 1 pm. Please wear your mask and come to enjoy a time of fellowship with all women of the church. We will be collecting for the Annual Joy Gift and Women's Shelter Christmas shopping.

THE FLOWER GUILD IS ACCEPTING MEMORIALS and Honoraria to decorate the Sanctuary with live greenery and poinsettias for Christmas. Forms are located in the reception areas around the church campus. Enclose a check for \$25 made out to Eastminster Flower Guild for each listing. Return forms by Dec. 8 to the attention of Julie McDaniel.

THE CLC HAS REOPENED! Temporary hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. Members will need to sign up for 40-minute time slots to use the facilities each week via Quick Links. If you have questions, please contact Emmet Hough, Director of the CLC, at 256-1654 (ext. 159).

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given in love and thanksgiving for the lives of Henry and Susan DaVega and in memory of Ellen DaVega by their family, Susan Gibbins, Anita Rownd and Michael DaVega.