

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

Processional

Robert P. Stewart

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

from Jeremiah 15:19

Leader: Therefore thus says the Lord:

People: “If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me.

Leader: If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth.”

All: Let us return to the Lord, our God; let us worship God with our whole heart.***HYMN OF ADORATION #611***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flowers before thee opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays; stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began. Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife. Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Rev. Brian J. Marsh

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS***STATEMENT OF FAITH** *(Unison)*

(from 1 Corinthians 15)

This is the good news which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day, and that He appeared to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. He is our Lord and our God. 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISMNathaniel Luke Cooper *(11:15 am)***BAPTISMAL HYMN #486** *(verses 1 & 4)**Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

KINGDOM

The 3K—5K children may be dismissed for Children's Church.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Forgive us, O God, transform us by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may live as forgiven and forgiving people. Hear now our silent prayers...

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

Gathered in God's Name (vs 3)

Michael Burkhardt

Gathered in God's name 'round the peace of the Lord, in the presence of Christ, in the name of love. Gathered from near and far, gathered in this holy place, gathered as strangers and friends, gathered and gifted by grace. Gathered in God's name 'round the living Word. Gathered as one fam'ly in the name of love, in the name of love, in the name of love.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

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 TIME OF OFFERING

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 by the pulpit in the front of the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

You Are My God and King

Tom Fettke

O Lord, You are my God and King, And I will ever praise You, I will magnify Your name. O Lord, You are my God and King, And I will ever love You, I will ever bless Your name. I will extol You every day, and evermore Your praise proclaim. I'll tell of Your splendor, tell of your beauty, tell of your steadfast love.

OFFICER'S PRAYER

John Derham

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Jeremiah 1:10; 24:1-3

Scripture Focus: Jeremiah 24:4-10

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“Return, Rejoice & Respond”

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #441**

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

1. **Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God’s love. Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above. Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**
2. **All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring. I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing: Jesus Christ how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

***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 Member Involvement Coordinator Christina Siokos (256-1654 x123 or csiokos@eastminsterpres.org) 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.

DURING THIS MORNING’S WORSHIP SERVICE

Nathaniel Luke Cooper, son of Josh and Jennifer Cooper, will receive the sacrament of baptism during this morning’s 11:15 am worship service. Darla Helms will give the baptismal prayer.

August 29, 2021

Dr. Bradley D. Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM EPC'S COVID-19 MEDICAL ADVISORY TEAM: Please wear your masks while indoors at Eastminster. Visit Quick Links to watch the “Physician Session COVID Comments” video and to read a letter from Sara Lynn Curtis, Clerk of the Session. Forget your mask? Visit the Welcome Center. Thank you for your cooperation as we exercise extreme caution in the name of safety for our church family.

TODAY WE RETURN TO OUR REGULAR WORSHIP HOURS. We will have three worship services (9 am in the Sanctuary, 11:15 am in the Sanctuary & Jubilee in Thompson Hall). Sunday School is at 10 am. Stop by one of our Welcome Centers for information on fall Sunday & Wednesday PM classes, WE@EPC menus and more.

LOOKING FOR A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS? OPEN HOUSE TODAY AT 10 AM in the Adult Reception Hall. Stop by and hear about our Adult Sunday School classes. Dr. Douglass Key and Laura Long (Membership Outreach) will be available to answer questions.

TODAY IS PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY. Drop a jar off at one of the Harvest Hope bins around campus. Your donations help fight hunger in The Midlands.

JOIN US SEPT. 5 FOR AN INTERGENERATIONAL BRUNCH AT 10 AM in the Courtyard. We will not have Sunday School.

H.A.L.T. ADDICTION AWARENESS DINNER IS SEPT. 8 IN THE GYM, with Michael Hedgecock (Ed.S Psychology). Many have battled addiction, anxiety, depression and PTSD, all possibly during COVID isolation. (RSVP via Quick Links.) You can also learn more about mental and emotional well-being from area professionals this fall as the conversations continue. (WE@EPC beginning Sept 22.)

CELEBRATION SUNDAY IS SEPT. 12! Join us for “Rally Day” as Sunday School classes kickoff and worship is followed by a congregational meal in the gym, where we will recognize 9 exemplary first responders. Don't forget Cookies for First Responders is also that day. Email Jennifer Seigler at jbseigler@gmail.com to bake, take, or bake and take cookies! Drop off cookies in the CLC lobby.

Eastminster Children's Afternoon Music Program: "Jesus and Me" (JAM) is for 4K-1st grade in the Sanctuary; Treblemakers (previously Jr. Choir), for 2nd-5th grades, will meet in the adult choir room (Sanctuary basement). Register soon via Quick Links.

MS & HS YOUTH GROUPS KICK OFF SEPT. 12 (5-6 PM) in the CLC. Look for emails from Nick and Bethany with fall details. We end with a meal in TH from 6-6:30.

SUNDAYS@5 BOOK STUDY LED BY DR. DOUGLASS KEY begins Sept. 12 with *Growing With: Every Parent's Guide to Helping Teenagers and Young Adults Thrive in Their Faith, Family, and Future*. Written by the same research team that brought us *Sticky Faith* (the Fuller Youth Institute), this is an excellent exploration of how we raise healthy, happy, faithful young people. Contact Janice Blair with questions at jblair@eastminsterpres.org.

SMALL GROUPS PROVIDE TRUE CONNECTION! The Small Groups Kickoff Dinner is Wednesday, Sept. 15, 5:15-7 pm, in Thompson Hall. This event is open to all current Small Group members, as well as those interested in joining a new group. To RSVP to the Kickoff Dinner, visit eastminsterpres.org and click on Quick Links.

THE ALPHA COURSE IS BACK, BEGINNING SEPT. 22! This is a 9-week series with a weekend retreat. This course is for seekers, new believers, and those looking for answers to many of life's questions. Join Pastor Brian Marsh and Laura Long through Nov 17, 5:30-7:30 PM (dinner and childcare). All meals and materials—\$50. Registration will soon be available via Quick Links.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the Glory of God by an Eastminster family.