

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Eastminster to Celebrate 75 Years in Ministry and Mission: Eastminster's 75th Anniversary Celebrations will last throughout 2023, but it all begins the weekend of January 28, 2023. On January 28 from 5 pm-8 pm, at the Central Energy Building, individuals 21-years-old and older are invited to Eastminster's 75th Anniversary Gala. Weren't able to RSVP by January 13? That's ok, and we want you to join us in the celebration! Contact Laura Long, llong@eastminsterpres.org, to RSVP for the Gala. Then, on January 29, everyone is invited to a special celebratory worship service at 9am or 11:15 am with guest pastors- Rev. Amos Disasa, who will be preaching, and Dr. Mark Durrett and Dr. Lynn Grandsire, who will be participating in the service. In lieu of Sunday School, there will be a Birthday Celebration at 10 am in the Christian Life Center Gym.

Pre-Order *His Story. Our Story, Celebrating 75 Years of Ministry*: A limited supply of the newest volume of Eastminster's story is now available for pre-order (\$25). Pre-purchased books can be picked up at the 75th Anniversary Gala on Saturday or at Eastminster through the month of February. To pre-order your book, visit the homepage banner www.eastminsterpres.org

Worship Discovery for Second Graders Begins Today: Children will learn about the elements and order of worship, so they can better understand and participate in worship. Worship Discovery will meet during Sunday School (10 am) in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH): 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, and 3/26.

Two New Young Adult Sunday School Classes have begun: For individuals between the ages of 22 and 35, Eastminster has a place for you- Young Adult Ministry. Young Adults meet on the second floor of the Christian Life Center in rooms 269 and 271 at 10 am for fellowship and study of Journey Through the Bible.

Sundays@5 Journey Through The Bible: Join Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH) tonight and continue the Journey through Matthew. You will find the daily readings on the website: eastminsterpres.org/resources/journey-through-the-bible/

SWAG Superbowl of Caring Football Fun is tonight (5 pm-6:30 pm): First through fifth graders should meet in Thompson Hall for pizza (\$3). After dinner, there will be an inflatable field goal challenge in the Gym! Wear your favorite team's colors, tennis shoes, and bring two canned goods for Harvest Hope.

ECAMP for younger singers only tonight (5 pm-6:30 pm): Children (4K and 5K) will rehearse from 5 pm-6 pm in the Sanctuary. A light dinner will be served in the basement at 6 pm. Children should be picked up promptly at 6:30 pm. Contact Fredna Lee to learn more (flee@eastminsterpres.org).

WE@EPC this Wednesday, January 25: WE@EPC begins with dinner in Thompson Hall at 5 pm. From Music rehearsals, to Small Groups, Journey Through the Bible, and youth activities, there is something for everyone. Please RSVP for 2023. MENU: Beef Stroganoff w/Egg Noodles, Vegetable Blend and Fried Green Beans.

Lightly Seasoned Social is this Thursday, January 26: Join Eastminster friends for fellowship and refreshments at the Agees' house. Whether you are an empty nester, have kids in college, are a new grandparent, or just want to reconnect with Eastminster friends, plan to join Lightly Seasoned. Visit the website's Upcoming Events to RSVP and sign up to bring an appetizer.

Mark your calendars for The CORE Retreat, March 3-4, 2023: Come and replenish your mind, body, and soul as special guests talk with and teach us about healthy living and share soul-satisfying and life-giving messages. If you have questions about CORE, contact Caroline Bennett (cbennett@eastminsterpres.org)

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Abb Jeffcoat, Jr.

Unison Reading: Matthew 5:33-37

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: TERESA SHELTON AND THOMAS RHODES
HEAD USHER: BERRY MATTOX (9:00 AM) WILSON MCDONALD (11:15 AM)
¹ © PUBLIC DOMAIN CCLI LICENSE NO. 1892950

MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Interim Parish Associate
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth
Emmet Hough, Dir. of Christian Life Center

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Josh Evanovich, Organist
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian

Alex Rogers, Director of Plant Operations

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 22, 2023
9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

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.

All Eastminster worship services and activities are mask optional, with masks available at the Welcome Center if you'd like one.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands.

People: Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

Leader: Give the Lord glory and honor.

All: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; awesome is he, beyond all gods.

†*HYMN OF PRAISE #667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

*THE NICENE CREED *(unison)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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

Loving Lord, One of the hardest things you ask is for us to love our enemies. Forgive us for often not only not trying to love, but also for mindlessly feeding the hatred within us. Help us turn away from sources that fuel divisiveness and anger so that we can turn back to you. Lord of incredible mercy, thank you for showing us what loving enemies looks like, even to the point that you willingly gave your life on the cross. Touched by your love, let us silently confess our shortcomings...

SILENT CONFESSION

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 #688

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth; through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.

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

This Little Light of Mine

Traditional spiritual

Moses Hogan

*OFFICER'S PRAYER

Thomas Rhodes

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Matthew 5:33-37

Page 5

Scripture Focus: Matthew 5:43-48

Page 5

Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“What Was He Thinking?”

HYMN OF PREPARATION #498

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

BEACH SPRING

*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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Table of the Lord

The Sursum Corda

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto The Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

COMMUNION ANTHEM

O Taste and See

R. Vaughan Williams

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is; blest is the man that trusteth in him.

Psalms 34:8

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #314

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #314 REFRAIN ONLY

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

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 ongoing ministries.

January 29, 2023

Rev. Amos J. Disasa

John 1:9-15, 16