

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For detailed information and to register for the below programs and events, visit our website: <https://eastminsterpres.org/>.

Eastminster Remembers: In order to best inform the congregation upon the death of this life of a church member, an "Eastminster Remembers" email is sent to the entire congregation as soon as the church office has been informed. The member's passing will also be announced during all worship services the following Sunday, and a Sympathy Slide will be posted on screens around campus. When the church office learns of the death of an immediate family member of a church member, a sympathy slide will be posted. If someone you love has joined the church triumphant, let the church know so that we can pray with you and come alongside in love and care.

Today is Peanut Butter Sunday: Thank you for your donations each fourth Sunday to Harvest Hope. You will find peanut butter bins in our campus reception areas.

The Peace Service is Today at 4 pm in the Adult Reception Hall: Join us for contemplative prayer and to hear a message about "Sabbath Rest." The Peace Service is a communion service led by Congregational Care.

Sundays@5 Vanishing Grace Class Meets Tonight: led by Dr. Douglass Key. Our study is Philip Yancey's book, "Vanishing Grace." Learn about the power of grace and its impact on our lives and the world around us. It's not too late to join our class.

ECAMP Meets Tonight at 5 pm: Singers in 4K through fifth grade are welcome! Visit our website's Upcoming Events to register your singer and volunteer on Sunday nights. Drop-off and pick-up (6:30 pm) in the Sanctuary. We have a devotional, rehearsal, and dinner. Please see emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details.

WE@EPC Meals on February 26, at 5:15 pm, in Thompson Hall: You may now RSVP for multiple meals via the new URL on our website. MENU- Adults: BBQ Boneless Pork Ribs, Dirty Rice, Roasted Root Vegetables- (Kids: Same as adults). You must RSVP each Wednesday so Regina and her staff can prepare enough food for everyone.

March Out Missions Day is Saturday, March 1 (9 am to 12 pm): Opportunities at EPC include packing 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger and making hygiene kits (younger kids and parents). You can also serve in our community. Please register. We need about 150 people again this year. If you can't be here on March 1, you may place an order via Amazon to help our friends at Transitions.

March 2 is Communion Sunday.

Interested in Membership at Eastminster? Join us for the First Step Class on March 2. We'll meet each Sunday in March at 10 am, in Room E-259 (Education Building). At First Step, you'll find that there are many ways to use your spiritual gifts through the ministries at EPC. Questions? Contact Lib Foster (lfoster@eastminsterpres.org).

Ash Wednesday is March 5: Join us for the WE@EPC meal at 5:45 pm (later than usual). After dinner, we'll gather in the Sanctuary for worship at 7 pm.

Adult Mission Trip Opportunities to Western North Carolina (April 4-6 & April 6-12): sign-ups are now available on our website. Just scroll down on the homepage to Upcoming Events. We will help with underpinning at a mobile home community and more. You can serve for a weekend April 4-6, or a week, April 6 - 12.

Parents and Youth (13 and older) Chiapas, Mexico Mission Trip (July 27 - August 2). Youth must be accompanied by a parent. We are returning to Chiapas to visit our missionary friends and to continue helping with repairs after Hurricane Dorian. We will also help lead VBS for the children as well as see some beautiful sights. Spaces are limited so sign up soon.

Sign-up Links for Youth Mission (Marsh Harbor, Bahamas) and Conference (Montreat) Trips are available via Youth ENews and our website's Upcoming Events. Contact Emily Higgins (chiggins@eastminsterpres.org) with questions.

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

UNISON READING: Proverbs 15:1-4

**A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.
The eyes of the LORD are in every place,
keeping watch on the evil and the good.
A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.**

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: GEORGE HUTTON AND AUSTIN RHODES
HEAD USHER: BERRY MATTOX (9:00 AM) AND 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
Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Parish Associate
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Louis Shirer, Organist
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin.
Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth
Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Alex Rogers, Plant Operations Director

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 23, 2025
9:00 AND 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

www.eastminsterpres.org

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

PRELUDE

Chromborne sur la Taille

Louis Couperin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

People: **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and God will exalt you.**

Leader: O Lord, help us through our worship to draw closer to you.

People: **Help us to be humble and to seek your way.**

All: **Touch us, transform us, O Lord, as we bow before you in worship!**

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #846

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

*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 may come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

Gracious God, we want to have our cake and eat it, too: we want to be a friend of the world and still be your friend. Yet, Jesus teaches us: “No one can serve two masters.” Forgive us. Give us strength to seek your kingdom first, and humility to think of our own comfort less. Forgive us when we put our wants before others' needs, and forgive us when we seek to please others more than we seek to please you. Help us seek your face, O God, in this time of silent prayer...

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 #443

There Is a Redeemer

GREEN

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

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 ANTHEM

Is Any Afflicted, Let Him Pray

William Billings

Is any afflicted, Let him pray. Is any of you merry, let him sing psalms, singing and making merrily in your hearts to the Lord. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and songs of joy and praise.

James 5:13 & Colossians 3:16

*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

Paul Trippe

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: James 4:1-4

Page 216

Scripture Focus: James 4:5-10

Page 217

Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“Conflicts, Cravings, and the Way of Christ”

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #728

Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door

SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'

*CHARGE AND 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

Fugue sur la Trompette

Louis Couperin

*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 the church office at 803-256-1654 to learn more and find out about our next First Step class which begins March 2, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

March 2, 2025

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

*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