

**GATHERING MUSIC** 

**VIDEO ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

THE PEOPLE ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Matt, Kelty, Karson and Hudson Riddle

\*OPENING SONG—All are invited to sing Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Andrews/Sooter/Prichard/C. Wesley

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Brad Smith

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*SONG OF PRAISE—All are invited to sing

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Redmon/Weaver

(After the song, 3K—5K children may be dismissed to Children's Church)

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS** 

Unison Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 Scripture Focus: Matthew 24:36-44

**SERMON** Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

"This Hour"

\*WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, PASTORAL PRAYER, AND LORD'S PRAYER

**TIME OF OFFERING**Officer's Prayer: Matt Riddle

**SONG OF OFFERING**—All are invited to listen and reflect

Peace Be Still Fieldes/Holt/Dorst

\*SONG OF RESPONSE—All are invited to sing

Shine, Jesus, Shine Graham Kendrick

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## \*WE RESPOND TO THE BENEDICTION

May the Road Rise to Meet You

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.

## **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.

(Please see reverse for Announcements)

<sup>\*</sup>Those who are able, please stand.

Announcements

## WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

**Thank you to all who have submitted 2026 Pledge Commitments:** Pledge cards are available at our Welcome Centers. You may either fill out a pledge card and drop it in the offering plate or by the Church Office to the attendtion of Christy Rippy (EPC Treasurer), or make your pledge online via our website. Go to <a href="https://www.eastminsterpres.org">www.eastminsterpres.org</a> and click on the PLEDGE button.

**Bring an Ornament in Honor of a Loved One to Help Decorate the Memory Tree:** This special memorial tree is moving to the Adult Reception Hall this Advent. You may drop off ornaments at the Church Office reception. Just look for the blue bin. We'll be adding ornaments to the tree throughout the season.

**MSB's November Food Drive:** The game has changed! We are now ONE team with ONE goal to help our neighbors in need by donating food and funds for Harvest Hope. Our goal is 5,000 lbs of food for Harvest Hope. There is a list of preferred food donations under the Upcoming Event, and monetary donations can also be made via the REGISTER HERE button. Fight Hunger...Feed Hope. Let's GO!!!

**MSB's Homeless No More Collection:** Thank you to all who shopped Amazon for adults. A generous member has donated the balance of the presents for adults. Stocking stuffers can be dropped off at EPC and are due tomorrow.

**Give the Gift of Life this Thursday, December 4th, at the CLC:** The Blood Connection mobile unit will be in the CLC parking lot between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sign up via Upcoming Events on our website.

**Poinsettia Dedications (\$25.00) may be made through Monday, December 8th:** Form at the Welcome Center or fill out the online form with the wording you would like to have printed in the bulletins. Checks should be made out to Eastminster with "Poinsettia Memorials and Honoraria" in the memo line. Please return hard copies with checks to Julie McDaniel in the Church Office.

**EPW's Holiday Social is Saturday, December 13, at the Bullard's house from 2 to 4 p.m.:** Save the date and plan to join us. All Eastminster ladies are invited. There will be shuttles from the upper Medway lot beginning at 2 p.m. Donations for the Columbia Women's Shelter can be made by scanning the QR Code or by visiting the Upcoming Event on our website. It is a lovely time each December for fellowship and giving.

**Join us for Lessons and Carols on December 14th during Traditional Worship (9 & 11:15 a.m.):** This year's theme is "Love Has Come." Favorite Advent hymns and carols will be led by our Chancel Choir and an orchestra. Each year, Lessons and Carols is a fun and joyful way to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

The Living Nativity is on December 14th at 5, 6, and 7 p.m. on the front lawn: Members of all ages enjoy this rendition of the Christmas Story with livestock and wise men.

Carols and Keyboards is on Thursday, December 18th, at 7 p.m., in the Sanctuary: Join us for dinner before the concert in Thompson Hall at 5:45. Enjoy festive music accompanied by two pianos, an organ, handbells, and the familiar voices of the Eastminster Chancel Choir. RSVP for dinner on our website.

The Longest Night Worship Service is on Sunday, December 21st, at 4 p.m., in the Sanctuary: Understanding that the holidays can be especially difficult for those who are grieving, this service of Hope and Light provides comfort and is open to our community. Invite a friend who may benefit and join us.

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship at Eastminster:** Please join us and note that the times have changed for our Christmas Eve services. **The Children's Service is at 3 p.m.** The Family Candlelight Service is at 5 p.m., and the Candlelight Communion Service is at 7 p.m. We will have one carol service on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Dress casually, and plan to sing Christmas

favorites.

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**Deacons serving in Worship today:** Matt Riddle and Simmons Purdy



<u>Pledge Status Report as of November 23, 2025</u> Thank you to those who have pledged. If you have not yet done so, please give us an estimate of your giving to support Christ's work through Eastminster in 2026.

228 Pledges Increased

89 Pledges With No Change

20 Pledges Decreased

43 New Pledges

For a total of 380 pledges totaling \$4,176,263

111 pledges were made for 2025, but not yet for 2026