

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* For details and to register for EPC programs and events, visit [Upcoming Events \(www.eastminsterpres.org\)](http://Upcoming Events (www.eastminsterpres.org)).

Today is Communion Sunday: If you know of a member who would like to receive Home Communion in the future, please contact Kelly McGrady, admin for Congregational Care and Concern, in the Church Office at (803) 256-1654 (ext. 123).

***Explore the History of the Reformation in Scotland on October 8-22, 2026:** We'll be led by Dr. Carol Byrd and EPC member, Jane Brissette. New information has been added to the Upcoming Event for travelers and those interested in learning more. May 31st is the deadline for registration and full payment (42 travelers).

Next Sunday is Baccalaureate Sunday: We will recognize our graduating high school seniors during traditional worship at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. Graduates and their families are also invited to breakfast that morning at 10 a.m. in the CLC (Gym

Mother's Day Special Offering is also on May 10th: Thank you for your benevolence each May to support destitute residents of Presbyterian Communities in need of financial assistance, having outlived their savings. Many residents of these communities are retired pastors.

***The Next CLC Blood Drive is Thursday, May 14, from 1 until 5 p.m.:** Give the gift of life by donating blood. Our goal for May is 30 donors. The Blood Mobile will be in the CLC lot, and you can sign up now.

***May 17th EPC Youth Parent Vision Night in Thompson Hall (TH) from 5 - 6 p.m.:** Hear updates from Pastor Rob and Emily Higgins on youth programming and the heart behind youth ministry, as well as the ways we will walk alongside EPC Youth on their faith journeys.

***Mindfulness Monday is on May 18th at 5 p.m.:** Join us in the parlor to pray for our church family and practice other mindful techniques. You don't need to sign up, and all are welcome.

Bible Doers will "Do" on May 20th from 7-8 a.m. at the Oliver's: before taking a short break in June and July. Join us in fellowship and service as we prepare pasta salad for Transitions Third Thursday. Coffee is flowing, and all are welcome.

***Transitions Third Thursday is May 21st:** with two opportunities to serve a meal-lunch and dinner. Donations of pasta salad, bananas & pound cakes for the evening meal are due to the Church Office Staff Kitchen by 3 p.m. on Third Thursdays.

Join us on Memorial Day Sunday, May 24th: Enjoy an intergenerational breakfast at 9 a.m., followed by one blended worship service in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. (No Sunday School).

***Seniors Tour of Landsford Canal State Park is Tuesday, May 26th:** Seniors, join us for a tour of Catawba, SC, during peak bloom season for the rocky shoals spider lily, followed by lunch at The Wagon Wheel. Admission is \$3.75. Please bring cash. We'll travel together by bus, departing by 9:30 a.m. and returning by 2:30 p.m. Note: There is a half-mile walk to and from the trail to see the lilies.

Our Summer Worship Schedule begins on Sunday, May 31st: (through August 2nd) with a combined Adult Summer Sunday School Class in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH) at 9 a.m. followed by two worship services, Jubilee Contemporary Worship in Thompson Hall at 10 a.m., and Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:15 a.m.

***VBS 2026 June 15th-18th (9-Noon) Volunteers Needed:** Parents, if you can help, please sign up when you register your child(ren). If you are a grandparent and wish to help, please contact Pastor Croskeys at croyall@eastminsterpres.org.

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

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 10:15-18

¹⁵ yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. ¹⁶ Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. ¹⁷ For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸ who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: KATHLEEN MUTHIG AND AUSTIN RHODES
HEAD USHER: RYAN BARNES (9:00) SCOT SEIGLER (11:15)

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Louis Shirer, Organist
Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth
Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor
Rev. Rob Schoonover, Associate Pastor
Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin.
Dr. Augie Gil, Director of Worship and Arts
Blythe Lewis, Senior Communications Officer
Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
Alex Rogers, Plant Operations Director



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 3, 2026

9:00 AND 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

www.eastminsterpres.org

For detailed information and to register for the above programs and events, visit our website: <https://eastminsterpres.org/>, scroll to "Upcoming Events."

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Ad Amore

Lee R. Kessleman

That goodness infinite and ineffable Which is above there, runneth unto love, As to a lucid body comes the sunbeam

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key (9:00 am)

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall (11:15 am)

Leader: By God's grace in Jesus Christ, you are a chosen race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people.

People For once we were not a people at all, but now we are God's people!

Leader: Come, people of God! Let us sing the praises of the One who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light!

People: Let us offer sacrifices acceptable to the Lord our God.

All: Let's worship God together.

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

*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

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall

The 3K—5K children may come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Rob Schoonover (9:00 am)

Dr. Key (11:15 am)

Gracious God, we lift our voices in praise to declare our allegiance to you, and yet -like Peter- we turn away when the pressure mounts. You call us to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you. But justice gives way to convenience, mercy is minimized by apathy, and pride invades our hearts. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that the cross is your act of grace and love. Your death spares us the condemnation we deserve. Help us confess our sin in this silence, that we might both gratefully receive your forgiveness, and share it with others....

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 til the work on earth is done.

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

In Remembrance

Sydney Fulcher, oboe

Beryl Red

*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

Kathleen Muthig

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Deuteronomy 10:15-18

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Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

“Like Peanut Butter and Jelly”

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND. **CHILDREN MAY BRING THEIR OFFERING AT THIS TIME.

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED.

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AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HYMN OF PREPARATION #516

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

- 1. For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.**
- 2. By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to heaven above us, Hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

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 MEDITATION

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #507

Come to the Table of Grace

TABLE OF GRACE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #306

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

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?

Join us for the First Step Class, which began last Sunday. At First Step, you'll find that there are many ways to use your spiritual gifts through the ministries at EPC. Contact Katie Barthel (kbarthel@eastminsterpres.org).

May 10, 2026

Rev. Rob Schoonover