

**WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

Limited copies of Rev. Dr. Olin Whitener’s Book, *My Father’s Gloves and Other Memories of a Well-worn Shepherd*, are available at reception areas around campus. The books are free, but you are asked to make a donation to Catch the Vision International. All donations will go to a scholarship fund in Dr. Whitener’s name. To put your name on a list for bulk orders if all copies are gone, email Julie McDaniel at [jmcdaniel@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:jmcdaniel@eastminsterpres.org).

\*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).

Today is **Baccalaureate Sunday**: We will recognize our graduating high school seniors during traditional worship at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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

**EPW Circles One and Three Meet Tomorrow**: at 10 a.m. in Thompson Hall: All EPC ladies are invited to join us for fellowship and study.

\*The Next CLC Blood Drive is this Thursday, May 14, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.: Our goal for May is 30 donors. The Blood Mobile will be in the CLC lot. 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 during their faith development journeys.

\*Healthy Cooking with Sandy Spann on Tuesday, May 19th, at 5:30 p.m., in CLC Room 265: Don’t miss our next cooking demonstration (and tasting) at the CLC. We’ll learn how to make a delicious chicken and orzo quinoa dish. There is room for only twenty and fills up quickly, so sign up today.

Bible Doers will “Do” on May 20th from 7-8 a.m. at the Oliver’s: Join us in fellowship and service as we prepare pasta salad for Transitions Third Thursday. Coffee is flowing, and all are welcome.

“Make a Joyful Noise” Adult Choir Meets May 21st at 6 p.m.: in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH). Ages 16+ are invited for an hour of low-pressure music making and community building. Come one, come all!

\*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 9:00 a.m., followed by one blended worship service in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. (No Sunday School, or Jubilee Contemporary Worship Service in Thompson Hall on the 24th).

\*Seniors Tour of Landsford Canal State Park is Tuesday, May 26th: Seniors, join us for a tour of Catawba, SC, 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: with a combined Adult Sunday School 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.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Kathy and Jack Wolfe in memory of their mothers, Charlotte Cassels and Marie Wolfe.

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

**UNISON READING: Romans 8:12-17**

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— <sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

**SERMON NOTES**

**Congratulations to our 2026 High School Graduates**

Henry Anders	Baye Lewis
Carter Atkins	Tinnin Lewis
Jane Broughton Babcock	Hazle Ligon
Laura Boggs	Emma Lumpkin
Hollis Craven	Anna Claire McCain
Nicholson Deese	Henry Morris
Wade Douroux, Jr.	Lydia Morton
Max Elliott	Jay Nelson
John Florence, III	Sarah Lil Philips
Anna Grace Getz	Anne Porter
Eden Hall	Emily Sitton
Bruce Harper, Jr.	Zach Swan
Cate Horger	Isabel Van Horn
Mac Kitchens	Jackson Waite
Wyatt Kosciusko	

**DEACONS:** LISA NEWMAN AND CHARLOTTE CASTLES  
**HEAD USHER:** JEFF MUTHIG (9:00 AM) AND MIKE GORMAN (11:15 AM)

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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  
Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin.  
Blythe Lewis, Sr. Communications Officer  
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center  
James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Robert Schoonover, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate  
Dr. Augie Gil, Director of Worship & Arts  
Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth  
Katie Herndon, Day School Director  
Christy Rippy, Treasurer  
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian



**EASTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN**



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY, 2026  
9:00 AND 11:15 AM**

**3200 TRENHOLM ROAD  
COLUMBIA, SC 29204**

803-256-1654

[www.eastminsterpres.org](http://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

*Processional*

William Mathias

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

Leader: We are not bound by fear.

People: For we have received a Spirit of adoption.

Leader: We are children of God.

People: And heirs with Christ

All: Let us worship the One who calls us and holds us fast.

### †\*HYMN OF ADORATION #408

*There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

### \*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.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Oliver Earley Ballew *(9:00 am)*

Holden Jack Lowe *(11:15 am)*

## BAPTISMAL HYMN #188

*Jesus Loves Me!*

JESUS LOVES ME

### \*\*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

**Merciful God, You have called us your children and given us your Spirit, yet we live as though we belong to fear. We set our minds on lesser things, cling to what cannot give life, and turn from your leading. Forgive us, we pray, and in the silence, set our minds on freedom and peace. Remind us that we are your beloved children, and we ask that you work in us and through us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## 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.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd *(9 am)*, Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith *(11:15 am)*

**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

*Will the Circle Be Unbroken*

J. David Moore

### \*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

Emma Bryson

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

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Scripture Focus: Romans 8:18-27

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

## SERMON

“Same Old Song”

Rev. Rob Schoonover

\*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

## BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES *(11:15 only)*

Leader: Gracious God, we pray that these, Your children, may clearly know Your will and achieve the height and depth of spiritual wisdom and understanding.

People: **May they lead lives worthy of You, Lord, continuously pleasing You by doing every good work and growing in the true knowledge that comes from being close to You.**

Leader: Strengthen them with Your infinite power, according to Your glorious might.

People: **In order that they will develop endurance and patience, traveling the road that lies ahead of them with joy and giving thanks to You in all things.**

All: Amen. (adapted from Colossians 1:9-12)

### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION #634

*To God Be the Glory*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

### \*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

*March*

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

### \*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 Katie Barthel at [kbarthel@eastminsterpres.org](mailto:kbarthel@eastminsterpres.org) or 803-256-1654 to learn more and find out about our next First Step group, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

### DURING THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP:

Oliver Earley Ballew, son of Elizabeth and Cliff Ballew, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 9 am service. Leigh Pound will offer the baptismal prayer.

Holden Jack Lowe, son of Kelly and Matt Low, will receive the sacrament of baptism at the 11:15 am service. Jay Hudson will offer the baptismal prayer.

### May 17, 2026

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan