

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* For details and to register for EPC programs and events, visit [Upcoming Events](http://Upcoming%20Events) (www.eastminsterpres.org).

The Session has called the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation for today:** immediately following the 10:15 am service to vote on the Officer Nominating Committee report for the Election of Deacons (Lyndey Bryant, Chachere Freeman, Linda Gillespie, Sazy Johnson, Jordan Kay, John Sloan, Heather Stallworth, Charles Stuart, Sara Weathers and Kristin Williamson) and Elders (Martha Casto, Bobby Curtis, Robbie Foster, Kim Leighton, Andy Lowrey, Betsy McDonald, Bryant McGowan, Hampton Oliver, David Parker and Kelley Woody) for the Class of 2029, and pastors' Terms of Call, and any other items.

July Prayer Cards are Available in EPC Welcome Centers: If you know of a member or friend of Eastminster who needs to be added to our prayer list, please contact Kelly McGrady (kmcgrady@eastminsterpres.org).

Prayers for our Middle Schoolers and Adult Leaders traveling to Charlotte today: to serve with Cross Missions at Myers Park Presbyterian. The group returns to Columbia this Friday, July 17th.

Volunteer for Footcare Ministry on Tuesdays this Summer: Our next meeting is at Christ Central Resource and Solution Center (2018 Main St.) from 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. this Tuesday, July 14th. You can sign up via the Missions Ministry tab on our website. If you have questions, contact Lib Foster (libfoster64@gmail.com).

***This Thursday is Transitions Third Thursday:** Serve either lunch or dinner to our friends at Transitions. Donations of pound cakes, pasta salad, bananas and bottled water are appreciated and due to EPC's Staff Kitchen by 3 p.m.

E2 Interns are preaching next Sunday, July 19th: Michael Balthazor, Walker Bell, and Nicholas Beitz will share with us about what they have learned and where they have seen God at work this Summer.

Next Sunday is Communion Sunday: If you know of a member who would like to receive In-Home Communion, please contact Kelly McGrady (kmcgrady@eastminsterpres.org).

Kingdom Kids Splash Party is Thursday, July 23rd: Rising 4K through rising second graders and families are invited to Gills Creek Splash Pad at 4:30 p.m. for popsicles and water fun. Contact Stefanie Hammond with questions (shammond@eastminsterpres.org). No need to RSVP. Please join us!

Baby Room (S-97) is available for crying or hungry babies. Located near the Choir Room in the sanctuary basement, the Baby Room has been set apart for parents who may need to change or feed their baby during worship. Changing tables, glider rocking chairs, a privacy screen, and live-streaming of the worship service are available in this room.

***Combined Adult Summer Sunday School through August 2nd:** Join Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH) at 9 a.m. for a book study on C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. If you miss a class, you can watch the recording via the website. Visit www.eastminsterpres.org and go to the RESOURCES tab at the top. Select "Adult Summer Sunday School Video" and you can scroll to the class you missed.

***Adult VBS with Dr. Martha Moore-Keish is on Sunday and Monday, August 2-3:** EPC welcomes Dr. Moore-Keish, J. B. Green Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary, as our guest speaker. She will be teaching on "Confessing Christian Faith in Our Present Moment." Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in Thompson Hall before the program each night from 6-7 p.m. Adult VBS is funded by the Dr. Joe Donaho Teaching Church Endowment Fund.

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

UNISON READING: 1 Peter 2:9-12

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: DAVID ELLISON AND LEE TUPPER
HEAD USHER: JEFF MUTHIG

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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



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2026

10:15 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall

Leader: For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord,

People: And ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Leader: For God, who said, “let light shine out of darkness,” made his light to shine in our hearts,

People: To give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Leader: But we have this treasure in jars of clay,

People: To show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

2 Corinthians: 4

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICEA

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8-9

****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. Bradley D. Smith

God of healing, God of wholeness, we bring our brokenness, our sinfulness, our fears and despair, and lay them at your feet. God of healing, God of wholeness, we hold out our hearts and hands, minds and souls to feel your touch, and know the peace that only you can bring. God of healing, God of wholeness, in this precious moment in your presence and power, grant us faith and confidence that here broken lives are made whole. Hear us now, Lord, as we pray our silent confession unto you...

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 #469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Lord, Make Me an Instrument

Jonathan Willcocks

*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

Anne Kleitches

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: 1 Peter 2:9-12

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Scripture Focus: 1 John 4:7-19

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

*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

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd

“A Life of Excellence”

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*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

*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 Katie Barthel at 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.

July 19, 2026

Eastminster Experience Interns: