

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* For details and to register for EPC programs and events, visit Upcoming Events (www.eastminsterpres.org).

***The Bible Makes Sense Combined Adult Sunday School through next Sunday:** Dr. Douglass Key’s three-week study is for all adults at 10 a.m. in Thompson Hall, and will prepare us for Fall faith formation related to our new theme, “Come and See: Journey with Jesus.”

***Blessing of the Backpacks Peace Service is today at 4 p.m.** (Thompson Hall) EPC Students and families are invited for a short celebratory worship service with blessings for the school year. School supplies will be collected as our offering. Don’t forget to bring your backpacks!

***Eastminster Missions Night is this Wednesday, August 19th** (Thompson Hall) “Come and See: The Mission Table.” Hear from Eastminster’s Missions leaders/volunteers and community partners. Learn ways to serve all year. Dinner is free (5:30 - 6:45 p.m.). Childcare is available for nursery-3rd grade. Please RSVP.

Return to Serve- Mission Trips: Western NC (Oct.29-Nov.1) and Adult Bahamas Trip (Jan.16-23). We’ll continue to repair hurricane damage for friends in both communities! Space is limited. Sign up now.

***Bradley Lunch Buddies Volunteers Needed:** two Tuesdays a month from 12:30-1:15 p.m. at Bradley Elementary School. We’ll pair you with a fourth grader for lunch, followed by around 30 minutes of reading with your buddy. Sign up by August 31st by contacting John McArthur (803) 629-8566. Our tentative kickoff is Tuesday, September 15th.

***Congregational Meal Next Sunday in the Gym after 11:15 a.m. worship:** Plan to join us to catch up with friends after the Summer break: MENU: BBQ Pork, Brisket, Mac&Cheese, Fried Okra, Succotash, Hush Puppies, and Desserts. Join us!

Kingdom Kids and Club 345 Kickoff next Sunday, August 23rd from 5-6:30 p.m. See emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details and sign-up forms, or visit the Children’s Ministry page on our website.

***Cancer Care Support Meeting is August 26th at 6 p.m.** (Room E-351) for those affected by cancer. If you are seeking a safe place to share with others who may be experiencing something similar, you should join us. Cancer Care is led by Rev. Emily Mooneyhan. No need to sign up, just join us if you can.

***Taiwanese Pastor Visit with Rev. Dr. John McCall is August 29th-30th:** Sign up to bring a side and join us for “Cultural Night” at EPC. We’ll enjoy fellowship and a potluck dinner. Dr. McCall will be preaching on Sunday, August 30th, on “The Uniqueness of Jesus.”

***Small Group Facilitators’ Meeting and Kickoff Dinner are coming up.** August 26th is the Facilitators’ event. The Small Groups Kickoff Dinner is September 9th with Rev. Amos Disasa. Both begin at 5:15 p.m. in Thompson Hall with dinner and fellowship. The meal is complimentary on August 26th. Please RSVP for both evenings.

***Sundays@5 Adult Bible Study on the Gospel of John** starts on September 13th in the Gray Music Room. Our study, led by Dr. Douglass Key, will cover the first 11 chapters of John, starting with an invitation to “Come and See.” You can now register.

***WE@EPC Church-wide Book Study-*Jesus Changes Everything* by Stanley Hauerwas:** begins September 16th (6 p.m.) in the Adult Reception Hall. Dr. Douglass Key will lead our study as we discern what God wants and hopes for us, as well as what is required of us on the journey.

***WE@EPC Adult Study, *The Gift of Empathy*, by Joel Bretscher and Kenneth Haugk** begins on September 16th (6 p.m. parlor) with Rev. Emily Mooneyhan and EPC Stephen Ministers- Apply empathy in everyday life. We’ll share and learn through informal discussions. Sign up to reserve a book and join us.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ross Holcombe by his family.

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

UNISON READING: Psalm 66:5-7

⁵ Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

⁶ He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
There we rejoiced in him,

⁷ who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: JOSH LIVINGSTON AND DANA WILSON

HEAD USHERS: DON HELMS(9:00 AM) BILL COGGINS (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. Emily Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor	Rev. Robert Schoonover, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry	Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Louis Shirer, Organist	Dr. Augie Gil, Director of Worship & Arts
Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin	Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth
Blythe Lewis, Sr. Communications Officer	Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center	Christy Rippy, Treasurer
James Cassidy, A/V Director	Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2026

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP
Jesus in the Morning TRADITIONAL

†***HYMN OF ADORATION #705**
You Are Holy YOU ARE HOLY

***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. Dr. Carol J. Byrd
Loving Lord, in your great love, you come to us again and again so that we might see you. You reach out through the wonder and majesty of creation, but we are too busy to stop and see. You reach out in your provision of every resource needed for life, but we are too blinded by the thought of “more” to see and be grateful. You have come in the flesh, living, teaching, suffering and even dying for us, yet we are slow to truly see you and slower still to follow. Forgive us, O Master. Hear our prayers in this silence and open our eyes that we might truly see....

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 #442
Just As I Am WOODWORTH
Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER Rev. Rob Schoonover
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
The Call Z. Randall Stroope
Come, my way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath: Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as Killeth death. Come my light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast: Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a strength, as makes us guest. Come my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move: Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as Joys in love. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Hear: Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life.
George Herbert (1593-1633)

***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** George Kennedy

SCRIPTURE LESSONS
Unison Reading: Psalm 66:5-7 Page 500
Scripture Focus: John 1:29-31, 35-39a, 43-46 Page 86

Pastor: The Word of the LORD!
Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith
The Uniqueness of Jesus #2 of 5: “It’s Him, It’s Him, Come and See!”

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #463**
How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

***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.

August 23, 2026
Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith
Matthew 3:13-4:11
The Uniqueness of Jesus #3 of 5: “Would You Make that Trade”