

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

All Eastminster Facilities will be closed tomorrow, Labor Day. No programs tonight.

Baby Room (S-97) available for crying or hungry babies. Located 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.

September Prayer Cards are available in Welcome Centers and online: To add someone to our prayer list, contact Kelly McGrady in the church office.

September is “Socks in a Box Month”- ACCESS and MSB are teaming up again this Fall to collect new black or white socks (crew or footies) for men and women. Donations will go to Footcare Ministry, Oliver Gospel Mission, and Transitions. Find a Socks in a Box bin in our reception areas.

*Interested in joining a Small Group this September? The Small Group Kickoff Dinner is September 9th with Rev. Amos Disasa. Please register.

*“Brick Builders” PM Co-ed Lego Club starts this Thursday, September 10th, at the CLC: for kids ages eight through sixteen. We’ll meet for ten Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. on the third floor. There will be snacks! Lego donations are appreciated, with collection bins in the lobby. There is no cost to participate, but you need to register.

*Sundays@5 Adult Bible Study on the Gospel of John begins next Sunday in the Gray Music Room. Our study, led by Dr. Douglass Key, will cover the first eleven chapters of John, starting with an invitation to “Come and See.”

Next Sunday is Emergency Procedures Awareness Sunday: with a Fire Drill during the Sunday School hour (10 a.m.). Infants - Eighth Graders will evacuate. Ninth graders and older should remain in their classrooms.

*Join us for WE@EPC Meals in Thompson Hall beginning Wednesday, September 16th. Visit Upcoming Events to view the Fall Menu and RSVP by noon on Wednesdays. Pay online or at the door (cash or check). Pricing: ages 0-8: \$4, ages 9 and older: \$8- No household cap.

*WE@EPC Church-wide Book Study-Jesus Changes Everything by Stanley Hauerwas: begins September 16th (6 p.m.). Dr. Douglass Key will lead us as we discern what God wants for us, as well as what is required of us. Books are available free to EPC families (one per family). Contact Janice Blair to pick up a copy (jblair@eastminsterpres.org).

*WE@EPC Adult Study, The Gift of Empathy, by Joel Bretscher and Kenneth Haugk begins September 16th (6 p.m. Parlor) with Rev. Emily Mooneyhan and EPC Stephen Ministers- Apply empathy in everyday life. Books available at sign-up but not required.

“Joyful Noise” gathers on September 24th, in the Adult Reception Hall at 5:45 p.m.: Enjoy an hour of fellowship and singing. We’ll practice familiar hymns! All voices are welcome.

*The First Step Class begins September 27th. Looking for a church home? Join us in the Adult Reception Hall during the Sunday School hour (10 a.m.) to meet our pastoral staff and learn more about EPC ministries and find your place. First Step meets through Sunday, October 25th, when those wishing to join our church family will do so at the 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship Service. Contact Katie Barthel (kbarthel@eastminsterpres.org) with questions.

*EPW’s Fall Gathering is Tuesday, September 29th, in Thompson Hall at 11:30 a.m. All EPC ladies are invited to reconnect and to hear plans for the program year over a delicious lunch. Our Keynote Speaker is author Cathy Rigg, also a PW! Please RSVP by September 16th.

*Return to Serve- Western North Carolina Oct. 29-Nov. 1, and Bahamas Jan. 16-23 Adult Trips: repairing homes and buildings after Hurricane damage. Sign-Ups are live on the website.

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

UNISON READING: John 2:13-16

¹³ The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!”

SERMON NOTES

DEACONS: JOSH LIVINGSTON AND PARKER SIZEMORE
HEAD USHERS: RYAN BARNES(9:00 AM) SCOT SEIGLER (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



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 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 Rev. Rob Schoonover

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalms 134
Leader: Everyone who serves God come and offer thanks.
People: **Thank you God for your love to me**
Leader: Everyone who has gathered in this place, lift your hands and praise God
People: **Thank you God for your love in this place**
Leader: All who serve in this place, who serve our God, come and shout praises.
People: **Thank you God for your love that we can share**
Leader: Praise the name of our God who is kind and good.
All: **Thank you God for your love endures forever.**

†***HYMN OF ADORATION**
Here I Am to Worship Tim Hughes

***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.)
All glory be to Christ our king, All glory be to Christ. His rule and reign we’ll ever sing, all glory be to Christ.

****TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** Rev. Dr. Brad Smith
The 3K—5K children may come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Emily Mooneyhan
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name...

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
My Jesus Wilson/Pardo/West

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.

SONG OF OFFERING
Holy Forever Tomlin/Wickham/B. Johnson/J. Johnson/Ingram

***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God for all that He has done, praise Him for He has overcome. The grave is beaten love has won. Praise God our Savior Christ the Son

***OFFICER’S PRAYER** Drew Richardson

SCRIPTURE LESSONS
Unison Reading: John 2:13-16 Page 87
Scripture Focus: John 2:1-11 Page 87
Pastor: The Word of the LORD!
Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Rev. Croskeys Royall
The Uniqueness of Jesus #5 of 5: “From Celebration to Confrontation”

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**
The Blessing Brown/Carnes/Job/Furtick

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION**
The Blessing Brown/Carnes/Job/Furtick

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.

September 13, 2026
Rev. Rob Schoonover
Matthew 3:13-4:11
Is that Call for Me?: “Free to Follow”