WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A Baby Room (S-97) for crying or hungry babies is available in the sanctuary basement. The space has been set apart for parents who may need to change or feed their baby during worship. A changing table and rocking chairs are available; the worship service is online.

Stewardship Announcement: So that you and the church family can plan for coming year, please submit your 2027 estimate of giving. Pledge cards and envelopes can be found in the Friendship pads and/ or at the Welcome Center. Thank you to all who have submitted Pledges for 2027

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting today: after 9:00 a.m. worship, in the Sanctuary, to hear and act on the recommendation from Session on the acquisition of the NorthStar Center of Hope property on Sunnyside Dr. I

Bring an Ornament in Memory of a Loved One to Help Decorate the Memory Tree: You may drop off ornaments at the Church Office reception. Just look for the blue bin. We'll be adding ornaments to the tree throughout the season. The tree will be in the Adult Reception Hall.

Today is our Thornwell Home Special Offering: Your benevolence provides safe, nurturing environments for educating, equipping, and supporting children and families. Thank you for your generosity in 2025, totalling $7,336.50.

***Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoeboxes:** Pick up a shoebox at the OCC tables. Fill it with gifts for a boy or a girl (due back to Eastminster by Next Sunday, November 22nd). Drop off boxes at the CLC, Medway, and Thompson Hall entrances and in the Narthex.

***2026 Poinsettia Memorials and Honoraria:** The Flower Guild is accepting memorials and honoraria to help decorate the Sanctuary and other areas of the church with live wreaths, greenery, and poinsettias for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Submit your dedication wording through the online form by Monday, December 7.

Kingdom Kids and Club 345: meet tonight at 5 p.m. Parents, we appreciate extra hands on Sunday nights. If you can volunteer, please contact Mrs. Stefanie (shammond@eastminsterpres.org).

***Join us for WE@EPC Meals in Thompson Hall:** Visit Upcoming Events to view the 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- There is no household cap.

***Be a Bible Doer on Third Wednesdays at the Oliver's:** Join us This Wednesday, November 18th from 7 to 8 a.m. All are welcome, and coffee and laughter abound. Join us! Enjoy fellowship while making pasta salad for our friends at Transitions.

***Transitions Third Thursday is November 19th:** Sign up to serve lunch or dinner at Transitions. Donations of pasta salad, bananas, and pound cakes are greatly appreciated and due to the EPC Staff Kitchen by 3 p.m.

***The Women's Shelter Souper is Thursday, November 19th, f**rom 5-7 p.m. in Thompson Hall. Stop in for a bowl of Chick-fil-A soup. The Souper is sponsored by MSB and Membership & Outreach Ministries. A minimum donation of $10/bowl, please.

***Bahamas Adult Mission Trip is January 16-23, 2027:** Experience serving in the Abacos! Help rebuild for those impacted by Hurricane Dorian. Come and see what God is doing in the Bahamas.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given by an Eastminster family

Pledge Status Report as of November 9, 2026

Thank you to those who have pledged. If you have not yet done so, please give us an estimate of your giving to support Christ's workthrough Eastminster in 2027.

179	*Pledges increased*
70	*Pledges with no change*
15	*Pledges decreased*
41	*New Pledges*

For a total of 305 pledges totaling $3,504,192

168 pledges were made for 2026 but not yet for 2027

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

UNISON READING: Ruth 1:16-17

16 But Ruth said,
"Do not press me to leave you,
to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people
and your God my God.
17 Where you die, I will die,
and there will I be buried.
May the Lord do thus to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"

SERMON NOTES

Deacons: clay sharpe and stacy strong
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

EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN

COME AND SEE... JOURNEY WITH JESUS

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 15, 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 worshiping 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. Bradley D. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key

Leader: Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

People: Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received,

Leader: so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ.

All: To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Let us worship God!

from 1 Peter 4:8-11

†***HYMN OF ADORATION** #687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE

***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

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name, and let it begin in this time of silent confession….

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

Congregation: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Thou, O Lord Lisa Ireland

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

You'll See My Kingdom Cynthia Gray

Within these walls we gather to sing and praise you, Lord. With grateful hearts we give you thanks for the blessings you afford. We feel your loving presence as we gaze upon each face, and we thank you for this house of peace and grace. Within these walls you speak to us through Word and bread and wine. With humble hearts we recognize your truth, your love divine. But as a tender father whose love has been outpoured, you gently bid us leave to pass beyond the doors. Beyond the doors you'll see my kingdom in the faces of the poor, in the eyes of those who suffer, in the lost, confused and scorned. Take the gifts I have given. Bring the love which hope restores. And pass them on to those beyond the doors. Into your holy church you've called us each by name, but we cannot remain. For as a tender father whose love has been outpoured, you gently bid us leave to pass beyond the doors.

***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** Clay Sharpe

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Ruth 1:16-17 Page 230

Scripture Focus: John 8:31-36 Page 95

Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

"Pass the Plate"

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #647**

Give Thanks GIVE THANKS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #80**

You Shall Go Out With Joy THE TREES OF THE FIELD

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands; **, the trees of the field will clap their hands; the trees of the field will clap their hands ** while you go out with joy.

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.

November 22, 2026

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith