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. To pledge online, visit www.eastminsterpres.org, and click the blue PLEDGE button at the top right. Thank you to all who have submitted Pledges for 2027.

***Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoeboxes are due Today:** If you forgot to bring your shoebox to church, or still want to fill a box, please bring your shoebox back to EPC's Medway reception desk by tomorrow at 1 p.m., OR visit the Upcoming Event and fill a box online, also by tomorrow at 1 p.m.

The Seniors' Thanksgiving Luncheon is today (CLC- Game Room): following 11:15 a.m. worship. Bring your covered dish and join us for a time of fellowship as we break bread together in gratitude.

All MSB (Missions, Service & Benevolence) Service Opportunities: can now be found on our website's homepage (www.eastminsterpres.org). You will see "Mission Opportunities" midway down the page. This is a great way to give back with your Small Group, Sunday School Class, family, or friends. Contact Laura Long with questions about holiday service at EPC (llong@eastminsterpres.org).

Join us for Care Ministry's Advent "Creative Connection": on December 3rd, 10th, and 17th. Make Christmas cards for our homebound members and enjoy Christmas carols, coffee, and sweet treats as we create! All are welcome.

***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.

***Carols and Keyboards Dinner and Concert is on December 7th:** Join us for dinner in Thompson Hall at 5:45 p.m. Menu: Chicken Scallopini, Cheese Tortellini, Roasted Asparagus, Roll, Cranberry, Feta, Pear Arugula Salad, Carrot Cake, and Red Velvet Cake. We'll move to the sanctuary for the concert at 7 p.m. to enjoy Christmas music featuring four pianos, an organ, and handbells, as well as the beautiful voices of our Chancel Choir.

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

***The EPW Vine Retreat is January 29th-31st, 2027, at The Cove:** All Presbyterian women are invited for a weekend of fellowship and faith formation. Our speaker is Rev. Julie Bailey (Columbia Seminary). Contact Janice Blair (jblair@eastminster.com) with any questions, and make your plans to attend!

***The Seniors' Holiday Tour of the Governor's Mansion i**s Thursday, December 10th: Join us for this festive occasion. We will have an up-close opportunity to enjoy the beautiful decorations and holiday charm of a historic Columbia landmark. We'll meet at Eastminster and depart by bus at 9:45 a.m. We'll return by 11:45 a.m. (tour only). Please RSVP.

***Transitions Service Opportunities and Donations on December 17th and December 25th: Next month, there are even more ways to s**erve, donate, and share with our friends at Transitions. In addition to the regular Third Thursday outreach, we will serve lunch and dinner on Christmas Day for 450 neighbors at Transitions and the Rapid Center. Donations are more festive as well. Please sign up to donate or serve.

Cornucopia in theTrenholm Road Entrance is given in love and thanksgiving for the lives of Henry and Susan DaVega and in memory of Ellen DaVega and Anita Rownd by their family, Susan Gibbins and Michael DaVega. **Flowers in the sanctuary** are given by an Eastminster 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: John 9:18-23

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

SERMON NOTES

Pledge Status Report as of November 16, 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.

195	*Pledges increased*
85	*Pledges with no change*
20	*Pledges decreased*
48	*New Pledges*

For a total of 348 pledges totaling $3,890,348
132 pledges were made for 2026 but not yet for 2027

Deacons: kris whiteside and katie alice walker
Head Ushers: berry mattox (9:00 am) wilson mcdonald (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

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 22, 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

Crown Him With Many Crowns arr. Dawson Hull

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Emily Mooneyhan *(9:00 am)*
Mary Robinson *(11:15 am)*

Leader: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

People: To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

Leader: Let us keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

All: Let us worship the Lord our God who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, to him be honor and eternal dominion.

(From Revelation 1 and 1 Timothy 6)

†***HYMN OF ADORATION**#2

Come Thou, Almighty King ITALIAN HYMN

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (From Westminster Confession 8.1, 8.5)

"It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his Church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world... "The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience, and sacrifice of himself, which he, through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, has fully satisfied the justice of his Father; and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father has given unto him."

****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** Mary Robinson

The 3K—5K children may come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Emily Mooneyhan *(9:00 am)*
Mary Robinson *(11:15 am)*

Sovereign God, we confess that although we willingly say that "Jesus is King," we often fail to bow our knees before him. Instead, we grant our allegiances to principalities, powers, and personal preferences. In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us the humility to bow before you, the Ruler of all life and of all nations, so that we may be faithful servants of your Son, Jesus, who is the King of kings and Lord of lords…..(silent prayer). Amen

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Through the crucified body and blood of Christ the King, we have been given a pardon from God. "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14)

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. Dr. Douglass D. Key

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

Rejoice, the Lord Is King Charles Wesley

(Congregation, please join in when directed)

***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** Katie Alice Walker

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Scripture Focus: John 9:1-17 Page 96
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Scripture Focus: John 9:24-41 Page 97

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

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

"Blinded by Certitude, Given Sight by The Savior"

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #643**

Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

***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 29, 2026
Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith
First Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:39-56