



EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BUILDING TOGETHER THE BODY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 4:1-16

May 4, 2025

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SERVICE

~ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ~

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

A 15th Century Easter Chorale

Jonathan B. Hall

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PRAYER

Deedra Rich

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**We stand in body or in spirit. Bold text is spoken in unison.*)

Zoey Sweeny

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all the generations. (Psalm 90:1)

You, O Lord, have been a dwelling place for us and our children.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:2)

You, O Lord, have been with us for these fifty-eight years!

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. (Psalm 46:1)

You, O Lord, have been our refuge and our strength!

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. (Psalm 46:7, 11)

You, O Lord, are the eternal One and we have trusted you.

Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for God's compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22, 23)

You, O Lord, have been our faithful One!

Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

(Matthew 16:18)

You, O Lord, have built your church in this place and we have been blessed.

Let us worship God.

~ *BEING RENEWED IN GRACE* ~

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Zoey Sweeny

Holy God, we seek your merciful forgiveness for our failure to share with our children, and our children’s children, the truths about you, your love, and your compassion that we are blessed to receive. We ask that you inspire us with a zeal for sharing the ‘good news’ of God; to encourage us in our stuttering attempts to tell others what God has done for us throughout our life; and to empower us with a clear understanding of our own faith and trust in you, and your ways of justice and peace. (We continue in silent prayer.) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Zoey Sweeny

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us. The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding and forgiving. Friends, hear the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Zoey Sweeny

~ *HEARING THE WORD* ~

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Take Me As I Am

John L. Bell

Eastminster Children’s Choir and soloists Louisa Kometer and Rachel Rich

FIRST READING

Psalm 78:1-7

Pew Bible O.T. p. 661
Mark Sauls

MUSICAL OFFERING

Halle, Halle, Halle

Hal H. Hopson

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Praise God in this holy place, every nation, every race. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Sound the trumpet, sound it clear. Sound it for the whole world to hear. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Everything that breathes now praise; sing your songs, let voices raise. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Play the cymbals, play the lute; play the timbrel, play the flute. Come, make joyful music to the Lord. Sing to the Lord. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

Matthew 28:16-20

Pew Bible N.T. p. 41
Rev. Jeanine Fulton

SERMON

What’s Next?

Rev. Jeanine Fulton

~ *RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING* ~

*HYMN NO. 713

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Mark Sauls

(The Apostles’ Creed may be found on the inside cover of the hymnal.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jeanine Fulton

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, for ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Jeanine Fulton

INVITATION

We invite you to partake of the communion elements as you receive them, using the time between bread and unfermented wine for prayer and meditation. Each tray of bread will include several gluten-free wafers along the side of the tray for those who need it. All are invited.

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Lord is my Shepherd
Samantha Burke

Rhett Barnwell

The Old Rugged Cross

Mark Hayes

CALL FOR OFFERING

Mark Sauls

OFFERTORY

Here I am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte

Allessandra Roberson and Audrey Jung

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them, they turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them; my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

~ GOING FORTH TO SHARE THE WORD ~

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Jeanine Fulton

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Irish Blessing

Brandon K. Smith

(dedicated to Allessandra Roberson and Audrey Jung)

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine upon your face, and always keep you warm, may the soft rains fall gently on your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you safe in the palm of his hand.

We invite you to enjoy the postlude or gather in the gym for Eastminster's birthday celebration.

POSTLUDE

O Worship the King

Marilyn Reimer

Visitor Information

- ❖ Our worship service is streamed live on YouTube at 10:30 AM every Sunday and can be accessed from our website at www.eastminster.us/sundays.
- ❖ Hearing assistive devices are available. Please see a greeter for a device.
- ❖ We offer adult and children's Sunday school.
- ❖ Childcare is available for young children in room 222.
- ❖ If you are interested in joining or desire more information about Eastminster, please speak with the pastor or a member after the service.

Membership at Eastminster Presbyterian Church

If you are reading this information in our worship bulletin, you are already welcome. At Eastminster, all are invited to participate in our activities and ministries, regardless of membership. However, by becoming a member, you will gain a voice and a vote in congregational meetings and can more fully express your commitment to Jesus Christ through this church.

Individuals may join the church in one of the following ways:

- Profession of Faith and Baptism (for those who have never been baptized)
- Reaffirmation of Faith (for those who are not currently active members of another Christian church)
- Transfer of Church Letter (for those on the active role of another church and wishing to move their membership)
- Affiliate Membership (for members of another Christian body who wish to be received by the Session of Eastminster)

Affiliate members may participate fully in church life, except they cannot vote in congregational meetings or be elected to ordered ministry or any office.

Contributions to Eastminster Presbyterian Church can be made using the provided pew envelopes or online by visiting our website at www.eastminster.us/giving

Pastor ~ Rev. Jeanine Fulton: jfulton@eastminster.us
Director of Spiritual Formation ~ Rev. Dr. Deedra Rich: drich@eastminster.us
Director of Outreach and Technology Ministries ~ Mark Sauls: msauls@eastminster.us
Director of Music Ministries ~ Brandon Smith: bsmith@eastminster.us
Music Intern ~ Alessandra Roberson: aroberson@eastminster.us
Organist & Pianist ~ Carole Mitchell: cmitchell@eastminster.us
Office Coordinator ~ Christina Wetzel-Sizemore: office@eastminster.us
Director of Weekday Ministries ~ Celeste Sears: csears@eastminster.us

Called by the grace of God and empowered through the Holy Spirit, Eastminster Presbyterian Church seeks to share the good news of Jesus Christ with people both near and far through proclamation, nurture, and mission.

*Eastminster Presbyterian Church
5801 Hugh Howell Road ~ Stone Mountain, GA 30087
770-469-4881 ~ www.eastminster.us*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite those on the aisle seat to sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.

The Outreach Blood Drive is today until 1 pm. Look for us in the LifeSouth Bloodmobile and help us reach our goal of 10 units of blood. You must be 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and have an ID. Come and give, knowing that your "Gift of Life" will save lives.

All women interested in attending **Presbyterian Women's (PW) circles** are welcome to join us, as we finish our study called Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation by Patricia Tull. The **Circle of Blessings will meet at 10 am on Tuesday, May 6** in the Adult Center and the **Evening Stars will meet at 7 pm on Thursday, May 8** in the Youth Room.

The men's Bible study with Jonathan Streich & Tom Gordon is on Tuesday, May 6, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Zoom information can be found in the Thursday 'Witness' and Sunday's 'This Week at Eastminster' emails. Hope you will join us!

Happy Hour from Home! Looking for a relaxed way to connect with church friends from the comfort of home? EPC's Virtual Happy Hour is a casual Friday evening gathering where members come together online to share conversation, laughter, and community. Started during the pandemic to stay connected, Happy Hour has become a cherished weekly tradition. It's not a program or agenda—just friendly faces, open conversation, and a chance to unwind with fellow church members. **Join us Fridays at 6:00 PM via Zoom**—no pressure, no prep, just fellowship from home. Zoom details are available on our website: eastminster.us/onlinegatherings.

In the spirit of Mother's Day, Outreach is hosting a **drive-thru Food Drive on Saturday, May 10, from 11:00 AM to 12 PM at the portico side of the parking lot.** As we honor all who nurture and care for others, let's extend that kindness to our neighbors in need. You can bring non-perishable, in-date food items to drop off, or make a monetary donation to help purchase food or support the Co-ops. Donations can be mailed or placed in the Sunday offering—please note "Buy Food" or "Assist Co-ops" on the memo line. Thank you for sharing love in action!

Please join us for our **Wednesday Night dinner and program on May 14.** We will eat at 5:30 PM in Founders Hall and dinner will include roasted pork loin, rice and gravy, green beans, salad, cornbread muffins, cake, and drinks. For our program, we will gather in the Adult Center at 6:15 PM to welcome our very own **Dr. George "Chip" Wilmot, MD, PhD** for a fascinating and informative presentation titled "The Human Brain – How It Works and How It Fails." Dr. Wilmot is a specialist in the clinical assessment and treatment of ataxias—a group of rare neurological disorders that affect coordination, balance, and speech. Meals are \$12 per person or \$6 per child, 12 years or younger. **Email your reservations by Monday, May 11 to office@eastminster.us or use the sign-up sheet in the narthex.**

Graduate recognition is coming up! Please send the name, school, and degree of those who are graduating from high school or college (between December 2024 - Summer 2025) to msauls@eastminster.us. We will honor all graduates on Sunday, May 18.

Thinking about joining Eastminster? Or maybe you're just curious about what's happening here? Here's your chance! Join us for **Coffee and Conversation on Sunday, May 18, 2025, at 9:30 AM** in the Parlor with Jeanine and representatives from the Session. We'd love to see you there!

A Session Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 18 at 1:30 PM in the Adult Center.

CPR/First Aid/AED Training Class - Join us for a CPR/First Aid/AED certification class on Thursday, May 29th at 6:30 PM in the ESAP area. This important training is open to anyone interested. Cost is \$20 per person and pre-registration is required. Don't miss this opportunity to learn life-saving skills!

Register Now! **True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World Vacation Bible School, June 23-26, 9 AM - 12:30 PM** for ages 3 - 12. New this year, teens 13-18 are invited to join us as Teen Crew Leaders. Registration forms are available on our website at www.eastminster.us/vbs.

THIS WEEK AT EASTMINSTER

Sunday, May 4 – Eastminster’s Birthday Celebration

- 8:30 a.m. LifeSouth Blood Drive – Parking Lot
- 9:15 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (birth - 12 years) – Room 222 - 224
- Adult Sunday School – Adult Center
- Simple Matters Small Group - Youth Room
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
- 11:45 a.m. Eastminster Birthday Luncheon - Gym

Monday, May 5

- 9:15 a.m. LZ Aerobics – Gym
- 10:00 a.m. Rick's Bible Study – Zoom 1
- 6:45 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 876 – Gym
- 7:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting – Conference Room 225

Tuesday, May 6

- 10:00 a.m. PW Circle of Blessings – Adult Center
- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting – Conference Room 225
- AI-Anon – Room 325
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting – Zoom 2
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study Jonathan Streich & Tom Gordon – Zoom 1

Wednesday, May 7

- 9:15 a.m. LZ Aerobics – Gym
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga – Founders Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Choir – Room 136
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Thursday, May 8

- 10:00 a.m. Marys & Marthas Bible Study – Youth Room
- 4:30 p.m. Parkview Choir Concert & Reception – Sanctuary/Founders Hall
- 7:00 p.m. PW Evening Stars – Youth Room
- 7:30 p.m. Pickleball - Gym

Friday, May 9 – Office Closed

- 9:15 a.m. LZ Aerobics – Gym
- 6:00 p.m. Happy Hour from Home – Zoom 1

Saturday, May 10

- 10:00 a.m. Pickleball – Gym
- 11:00 a.m. *Drive-Thru* Food Drive – Portico Entrance

Sunday, May 11 – Mother’s Day

- 9:15 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (birth - 12 years) – Room 222 - 224
- Adult Sunday School – Adult Center
- Simple Matters Small Group - Youth Room
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
- 11:45 a.m. Music Committee Meeting – Adult Center