

SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
18th Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 2023
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Time for quiet prayer and meditation . . .
"Be still and know that I am God."*

We Come Before God in Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" arr. Davis

* Call to Worship

Leader: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

**People: May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.**

Psalm 104:33-34

* Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" No. 1

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Eternal and merciful God,
you have loved us with a love beyond our
understanding,
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for
your name's sake.**

**Yet we have strayed from your way;
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and
deed,
through what we have done and what we have left
undone.**

**As we remember the lavish gift of your grace,
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive
us yet again.**

**Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria Patri No. 581

**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.**

Prayer for Children
(Ages K3-1st Grade may leave for Children's Church)

**Little ones to Him belong:
Lord Jesus, bless our children. Amen.**

God Gives to Us Through His Word

Scripture Lesson Genesis 28:10-22

Sermon The Disciplines of Joy Dr. Seel
I. Awe and Worship

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn "God, Reveal Your Presence" No. 412

* Nicene Creed (Unison)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Call to Communion (11:00 a.m.) "God Will Delight"
Adult Choir arr. Trenney

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
(Please hold the elements until all are served)

- Invitation

- Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

- Words of Institution

- Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

- Prayer after Communion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (11:00 a.m.) "For Everyone Born" arr. Trenney
Adult Choir

* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

**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.**

* Hymn "To God Be the Glory" No. 634

* Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response "Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole"

In your love, make us whole. May we rest in your compassion.

Calm the lost, weary soul in the warmth of your love.

May your peace fill our hearts May we know the love of Jesus

By your grace, you console. Make us holy, make us whole.

* Postlude "Variations on CWM RHONDDA" arr. Hopson

* Congregation Stands

**Please write your
request, tear off this
form, fold, and place in
the offering plate.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Tuesday Morning Prayer
Group meets each week at
10:00 a.m. to pray for the
EPC family and any other
special needs.

Name and date: (optional)

(These are kept confidential!)

**WELCOME TO
VISITORS**

If you are visiting today,
we would like you to know
that it is a privilege to have
you with us. It is our hope
that you will find a warm
welcome and an atmosphere
to worship God.

We would love a record of
your visit. Please fill out the
following and place in the
offering plate when passed.

Name

Address

Phone Number

Email Address

1st Time Visit

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in worship today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 25th wedding anniversary of Mary and Kevin Taaffe. Given by their sons, Jason, Justin, & Jacob.

Fill out the form below, tear off and put in the offering plate.

Wonderful Wednesday Meal Reservation October 4, 5:30 pm

Hamburger Steak,
Potatoes, Succotash,
Salad, & Dessert

Prepared by: Deke Van Wagner

Family Name

\$5 for ages 5 years & up
\$25 Family Cap

Ages 5 & up: # of meals _____
Vegetarian: # of meals _____

**Deadline is Noon,
Monday each week.**

Fellowship at the Farm Meal Reservation October 15, 5:30 pm

Cookout Menu:
Hamburgers & Hotdogs
with all the fixings

Family Name

\$5 for ages 5 years & up
\$25 Family Cap

Ages 5 & up: # of meals _____

**Deadline is Wednesday,
October 11.**

NURSERY STAFF

Valerie Brock, Victoria Rose Brock, & Sophie Wilson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS TODAY

9:00 a.m.

Samantha & Grant
Hollis

11:00 a.m.

Julie & Margaret
Bishop

SAFE PLACE MONITOR

Mitch Greene

OCTOBER USHERS

9:00 a.m.

Chad Lister, Head
Mary Ann Merritt, Asst.

11:00 a.m.

Michael Baker, Head
Lori Brock, Asst.

SOUND & LIGHT

Marty Kwasniewski

VIDEO

Ryan Moore

MEMBER NEWS

The red rose in the sanctuary today is in honor of the birth of Madelyn Graham Bowers, who was born on September 26, 2023. Madelyn is the daughter of Mallory and Mike Bowers.

We express Christian love and sympathy to Gene Johnston in the death of his sister, Margaret Koonts of Lexington, NC, who died on September 14, 2023.

We express Christian love and sympathy to Sherry DiPietro and her family in the death of her father, Larry Gibson of Easley, who died on September 22, 2023.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. William P. Seel, *Pastor*

Ext. 2014, bill@easleypresbyterian.org

Rev. Dr. Christie S. Gravely, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Life & Care*

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Dicie Thompson, *Financial Secretary*

Ext. 2012, dicie@easleypresbyterian.org

Tony Brock, *Building Superintendent*

Ext. 2035

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Class of 2023

Floride Caldwell
Paul Cook
John Cutchin
Jel Ledbetter
Kathy Lyles
Robert Sams

Class of 2024

Gregg Branham
Karen Cooper
Phil Darity
Dennis Latham
Wilma Shealy
Scott Wilbanks

Class of 2025

Carolyn Brice
Barry Brock
Meg Jewell
Kelvin Kearsse
Dan Nunnery
Monty Oxendine

Diaconate

Class of 2023

Britt Burnett
Dustin Coats
Lucas Durham
Chad Lister
Greg Lucas
Melissa Wilbanks

Class of 2024

Melanie Branham
John Dockery
Eric Goodwin
Mary Ann Merritt
David Owen
Stephen Roach

Class of 2025

Michael Baker
Lori Brock
Eric Dillon
Candice Ledbetter
Annie Rossley
Brad Wilson

Trustees

Dexter Rogers

David Whittemore

Jack Brock

Easley Presbyterian Church



October 1, 2023

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www.easleypresbyterian.org



Sunday, October 1, 2023

**“Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.”**
Psalm 150: 1, 2 and 6

Awe and Worship

Worship is a sacred time when we deliberately gather seeking to encounter God in Christ. This worship breathes life into the community of believers.

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.”

When we enter into worship with the expectation of Awe and Wonder, we open ourselves to the touch of transcendence that pulls us out of ourselves and deepens our understanding of life, our relationship with God, and makes us feel truer to what God has created us to be.

“Be Still and know that I am God.”

When we enter worship expecting to encounter a closeness to God, it changes how we focus our minds in preparation for worship.

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty who was, and is, and is to come.”

In order to allow the beautiful mystery of worship to flow over us, we must not just simply sit and observe, but must actively engage in receiving what God has to offer and offer our very best in response. By singing together, joining voices in prayer, actively listening to the Word of God, confessing sins, and freely forgiving and receiving forgiveness, and celebrating sacraments, our lives intermingle together. We are connected by God into a community. And the wonder of worship becomes not only personal, but communal as well.

“Clothe yourselves in love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.”

Worship bends the heart toward God as it stretches hands outward toward others.

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”*

**Lord of mystery and majesty,
Open our eyes to see you more clearly and deeply and meaningfully.
Open our lips to breathe out our praises. Open our arms to bless one
another in the Love of Christ. Amen.**