

SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 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 "Prelude in C" arr. Bach

* Call to Worship

L: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
**P: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

L: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**P: For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

(Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7)

* Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" No. 611

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you.
We fix our mind on former things,
missing the new thing you are doing.
We focus on worldly treasure and gain,
forgetting the value of knowing Christ.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Through the great mystery of faith,
deliver us from our captivity to sin,
and lead us from death into new life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00 a.m.)

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

Anthem "Let Us Love One Another" arr. Lau
Adult Choir

Scripture Lesson II Corinthians 9:6-15

Sermon The Disciplines of Joy Rev. John DuBose
IV. Gratitude and Generosity

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" No. 716

* Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Call to Prayer (11:00 a.m.) "As the Deer" arr. Nystrom
Adult Choir

Prayers of the People & 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.**

Presentation of Tithes and Pledges

Offertory "O Love that Will Not Let Me Go" arr. Berry

* Doxology No. 606

* Prayer of Commitment

Leader: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I invite you now to
dedicate your pledges and offerings, and so to
recommit yourselves and your whole lives to God
and to God's loving purpose for us as a family of
faith. Let us pray:

**People: Almighty God, by your Holy Word you sent
forth your Son to redeem the world. You
have called us together to be a community of
love, teaching your way and serving others in
need. Keep us ever close to your Word, that it
might be written upon our hearts.**

Leader: Help us to grow in faith and love toward you, so that
we might always live in trust and hope. Center us in
lives of thankful giving and faithful loving.

**People: By your Word and Spirit, O Lord, guide our
lives, inspire our thoughts, shape our
attitudes, lighten our darkness with eternal
hope, and fill our hearts with joy. Receive, O
God, these pledges of commitment which we
offer to you this day.**

Leader: O God, you have given us good gifts in abundance so
that we, in turn, may give generously to your work
and be diligent in the ministries you have called your
church to perform. Please bless and consecrate these
pledges of our commitment for the coming year,
which we bring before you this day.

**People: Be present in the life and work of your
people here at Easley Presbyterian Church.
Help us to be good and faithful stewards.**

**All: All that we have, all that we are, all that we
hope to be — are grounded in you. Praise to
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

* Hymn "Lord of All Good" No. 711

* 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 "Classical Postlude" Haydn

* 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 gratitude for His beautiful creation and also for the joy and abundant life He gives to us so generously. Given by Tracey and Matt Lake.

Staying Connected

Church information can be found on our website and in our weekly Connect emails. Please contact the church office if you are not receiving these very important emails.

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

Wonderful Wednesday Meal Reservation October 25, 5:30 pm

Baked Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Toast, & Dessert

Prepared by: Peppers Catering

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.**

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.

Ally Morrow

SAFE PLACE MONITOR

Michael Baker

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

John LaBrash

VIDEO

John Franks

Member News

The Sacrament of Baptism is being administered today to Garrett Alexander Jordan, at the 11:00 a.m. service. Garrett is the son of Katalin and Stephen Jordan.

Congratulations to Sally Dawkins and Matt McCoy who were married on October 13, 2023 in Bluffton, SC.

CHURCH STAFF

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

Ext. 2014, bill@easleypresbyterian.org

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

Ext. 2027, christie@easleypresbyterian.org

Rev. John DuBose, *Associate Pastor for Youth & Missions*

Ext. 2036, john@easleypresbyterian.org

Ginna Lister, *Director of Christian Education*

Ext. 2030, ginna@easleypresbyterian.org

Robert Norris, *Director of Music*

Ext. 2023, robert@easleypresbyterian.org

Marianne Norris, *Organist*

mariannenorris2012@yahoo.com

Phyllis Sams, *Preschool Director*

Ext. 2016, phyllis@easleypresbyterian.org

Jonene Garrett, *Church Secretary*

Ext. 2010, jonene@easleypresbyterian.org

Cynde Whitmire, *Christian Education Secretary*

Ext. 2022, cynde@easleypresbyterian.org

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 Kears
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 22, 2023

200 South 1st Street—Easley, SC 29640-2934

864/ 859-4220 (Office)

www.easleypresbyterian.org



Sunday, October 22, 2023

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Gratitude and Generosity

As members of Christ’s body, the Church, we are being formed as His disciples in joy. In gratitude for the gift of joy we have been given, may we respond generously to God through the power of His Spirit. Please take a moment to renew your commitment to the work of God in the Church, using the questions below as your guide:

1. How do you think about generosity in giving? Do you think about it in the context of money only, or do you also consider your time as something to give?

2. What motivates you to give? Do you feel guilty about it, or is giving a response of joy?

3. On what occasions and in what ways do you give most often? How is your generosity a reflection of what you value?

4. How will you respond to God’s invitation to generosity? How can your gifts of time and money shape the ministry of Easley Presbyterian Church?
