

SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
3rd Sunday of Advent
December 17, 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 "Good Christians All Rejoice" arr. McDonald

* Call to Worship

L: You know what time it is,
how it is now the moment for us to wake from sleep.

**P: For salvation is nearer to us now
than when we became believers.**

L: The night is far gone,
the day is near.

**P: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness
and put on the armor of light.**

(based on Romans 13:11-12)

* Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 88
Stanzas 1, 6, & 7

* Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Merciful God, always with us:
We confess that we do not know
how to prepare for your Advent.
We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;
we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;
we get distracted by all the busyness of the season.
Forgive us, God.
Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds,
the intelligent courage of the Magi,
and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,
that we may journey with them to Bethlehem
and find the good news of a child born for us.
We ask you to make us ready for his coming. 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.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

9:00 a.m. Calvin, Becky, David, and Colton Wright
11:00 a.m. Michael, Ashley, and Parker Corso

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 (11:00 a.m.) "Angels From the Realms of Glory"
Adult Choir arr. Forrest

Scripture Lesson Zechariah 10:6-12

Sermon The Visions of Zechariah Dr. Seel
III. Home for Christmas

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" No. 144

* 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.) "Come and Worship" Traditional
Adult Choir

Prayer of 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 Offerings

Offertory "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Sykes

* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication No. 606

**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 "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 113

* 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 "Go Out with Joy" McDonald

* 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

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.

NURSERY STAFF
Valerie Brock & Sophie Wilson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS TODAY

<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Samantha Hollis Grant Hollis	Ashley Durham

SAFE PLACE MONITOR
Dustin Coats

DECEMBER USHERS

<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Greg Lucas, Head Chad Lister, Asst.	Greg Lucas, Head Brad Wilson, Asst.

<u>SOUND & LIGHT</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
Roger Kilpatrick	John Franks

NEW INFORMATION???

Do you have a new phone number? New email address? Any changes in your family's information?

To help keep the church's records current, please fill out the form below and return it in the offering plate, call us at 859-4220, or E-mail the office: dicie@easleypresbyterian.org.

Name: _____

New Information: _____

Thank You!

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 Kearse
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 |
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Trustees

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|------------|
| Dexter Rogers | David Whittemore | Jack Brock |
|---------------|------------------|------------|

Easley Presbyterian Church



December 17, 2023

**200 South 1st Street—Easley, SC 29640-2934
864/ 859-4220 (Office)
www.easleypresbyterian.org**