SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Day of Pentecost
May 19, 2024
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 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" arr. Carter

* Call to Worship

Leader: Holy Spirit, Creator,
you breathe life into all creatures.
People: Holy Spirit, Comforter,
by you we are born again as children of God;
you make us living temples of your presence;
you pray within us with prayers too deep for words.
Leader: Holy Spirit, breath of life,
you sanctify and breathe life
into the whole body of the church;
you dwell in each one of its members.
People: Come into us, Holy Spirit.

* Hymn "Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove" No. 279

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God,
You send us the Spirit of courage,
but we have been afraid.
You send us the Spirit of truth,
but we cling to our illusions.
You send us the Spirit of healing,
but we cannot let go of our hurts.

Holy Spirit, come to us again!
Set our souls on fire with your love!
Send us out into the world rejoicing in your power!

We hold out to you
all our particular burdens of guilt and sin,
and we ask for your help
to live the way of your justice and love. 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-K5 may leave for Children's Church)

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

Recognition and Blessing of High School Seniors (see insert)

God Gives to Us Through His Word

Anthem (11:00 a.m.) "My Wordless Prayer" arr. Courtney
Adult Choir

Scripture Lesson Acts 13:13-43

Sermon The Acts of the Apostles Dr. Seel
XVI. The Old, Old Story

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn "I Love to Tell the Story" No. 462

* 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 Find the Quiet Center"
Adult Choir Murray

Prayers of the People and 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 "Agnus Dei" arr. Smith
Pianist, Aidan Moore

* 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 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" No. 286

* 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 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" arr. 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

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of my mother, Dorothy Hagood Grantham, an elegant and gentle soul. Given by Dottie Grantham.

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!

NURSERY STAFF

Valerie Brock, Katie Guthrie, & Sophie Wilson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Ginna Lister	Ally Morrow

SAFE PLACE MONITOR

Mitch Greene

MAY USHERS

9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
David Owen, Head Lori Brock, Asst.	Eric Goodwin, Head David Owen, Asst.

SOUND & LIGHT	VIDEO
Phil Darity	John Franks

MEMBER NEWS

The known hospitalizations this week were Barbara Gutwein and Charley Schonhar.

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 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Gregg Branham	Carolyn Brice	Nick Caldwell
Karen Cooper	Barry Brock	Tammy Darity
Phil Darity	Meg Jewell	Phil Lyles
Dennis Latham	Kelvin Kearse	Chris Robinson
Wilma Shealy	Dan Nunnery	David Weaver
Scott Wilbanks	Monty Oxendine	Jennifer Willis

Diaconate

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Melanie Branham	Michael Baker	Garrett Charles
John Dockery	Lori Brock	Marian Dawkins
Eric Goodwin	Eric Dillon	Lucas Durham
Mary Ann Merritt	Candice Ledbetter	Russell Patterson
David Owen	Annie Rossley	Elizabeth Weaver
Stephen Roach	Brad Wilson	Melissa Wilbanks

Trustees

David Whittemore	Jack Brock	Dexter Rogers

Easley Presbyterian Church

May 19, 2024

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

Recognition and Blessing of Our High School Graduates

Introduction of Graduates & Presentation of ESV Study Bibles

Litany of Recognition

Leader: You have grown up here on the stories of God.
We have told them to you, sung them to you, acted them out —
hoping to teach them to you;
and, in turn, with gratitude,
we have listened to you tell them to us, sing them, act them out —
teaching us in return.

People: **We have prayed for you more than you know,**
both in frequency and in urgency.
Amidst our prayers, we give thanks for you continually.
And today we celebrate your achievement,
with pride in what you've done,
and in what we see you becoming.

Leader: We pray that the stories of God will continue to sustain you,
encourage you, challenge you, and transform you,
wherever you go, whatever you do —
these stories of God's truth and grace,
of God's love and of the redeeming of all creation.
These are the stories we pray you will continue to hear,
continue to live toward, continue to live into.

People: **Each one of you is a special part of this congregation.**
We are proud of you, and we love you.
We promise to continue to support you with our love,
our counsel and prayers,
and to continue to walk with you on your journey of faith.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
do not depend on your own understanding.
Seek God's will in all you do,
and God will direct your paths.

Prayer

(parents of graduates are invited to come forward to lay on hands during the prayer)

Leader: Almighty and gracious God,
beneath your loving-kindness our lives are lived,
and by your wisdom truth is found.
We pray for our graduates who have finished a course of study,
and now move on to something new.
Take away any anxiety or confusion of purpose,
and give them confidence in the future you plan,
where energies may be gathered up
and given to neighbors in love.

We ask that the friends and families gathered around them today

might be to these graduates a sign of your love for them,
and of your good intentions for their lives.
We thank you for the labor of parents that this moment represents,
for the good efforts of teachers and administrators and coaches,
for the fellowship of friends and colleagues.

O God of the past, present, and future,
help these graduates to know that you will be active in their future,
just as surely as you have been active in their past.
Help them always to be aware of Christ as their Good Shepherd,
that they might continue to seek justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Blessing

(the congregation is invited to stand)

People: **May God's blessing rest on each one of you.**
May God's light shine on you, and make your path clear.
May hope carry you through the challenging times,
and gratitude be your response when life is good.

May God continue to bless you and challenge you.
May you always be surrounded by people who love and support you.
May you ever grow more fully into the person God wants you to be,
and may you discover the incomparable joy
of living lives that bring honor and glory to God. Amen.