

**SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

1st Sunday of Christmas  
December 29, 2024  
9:00 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 "Away in a Manger" arr. Wilson  
Renee Keese, Flute

\* Call to Worship

Leader: The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
**People: On those living in the land of the shadow of  
death  
a light has dawned.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is our life and light.  
**People: In his name and in his power, let us worship  
God!**

(based on Isaiah 9:2)

\* Hymn "Joy to the World" No. 134

\* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**O God, in the beginning you spoke,  
and creation was brought into being.  
In the fullness of time you spoke anew,  
and the Word became flesh, Jesus our Savior.  
We are amazed by the power of your voice,  
and we stand in awe before the mystery of the  
Incarnation.  
Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith,  
empty of hope, lacking in love.  
Create in us clean hearts, new and right spirits,  
and help us to hear and heed your Word in all things;  
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.**

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 Givesto Us Through HisWord**

Scripture Lesson Psalm 72:1-8

L: Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the royal son!

**P: May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice!**

L: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!

**P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!**

L: May they fear you while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

**P: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth!**

L: In his days may the righteous flourish,  
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

**P: May he have dominion from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth!**

Anthem (11:00 a.m.) "The Work of Christmas" arr. Forrest  
Adult Choir

Scripture Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon "Home By Another Way" Cyndi Banks

**We Respond to God's Word**

\* Hymn "We Three Kings of Orient Are" No. 151

\* 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.) "Child of the Light" arr. Forrest  
Adult Choir

\* 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 "I Wonder as I Wander" arr. Wilson  
Renee Keese, Flute

\* 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 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 132

\* 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" arr. McDonald

\* Congregation Stands

**Announcements**

The church office will be closed December 31, 2024  
and January 1, 2025.

**Wonderful Wednesday:** If you have always wanted to  
know more about the Book of Revelation, now is the  
time! Plan to come for a 4-week study led by Dr. Bryan  
Bibb, professor of Religion at Furman University on  
Wednesdays during January.

**The Gospel of John Sermon Series:** We will  
continue our sermon series this morning on the Gospel  
according to John. To aid you in your study of scripture,  
we have scripture journals available to purchase for \$5  
in the church office or the glass hallway. This journal is a  
great study aid to bring to worship to write notes,  
thoughts, questions, and prayers.

**EPC Winter Retreat 2025:** We have an EPC Winter  
Retreat planned for February 7-8, 2025 at Bonclarken  
Conference Center in Flat Rock, NC, which is only one  
hour away from EPC. Our guest speaker will be Rev.  
Dr. Buz Wilcoxon, Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life at  
Presbyterian College. This retreat will be for all ages. Go  
to the church website for details and to sign up. Registra-  
tion is now open. The deadline is January 15, 2025. Visit  
www.bonclarken.org to view the conference center.

**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

# Easley Presbyterian Church



## 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

<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>
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

<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>
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
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## NURSERY STAFF

Valerie Brock

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
Sarah & Cliff Lutz	Ginna Lister

## SAFE PLACE MONITOR

David Owen

## DECEMBER USHERS

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
Lucas Durham, Head Lori Brock, Asst.	Elizabeth Weaver, Head Melissa Wilbanks, Asst.

## SOUND & LIGHT

Phil Darity

## VIDEO

Kevin Taaffe

## MEMBER NEWS

The red rose in the sanctuary today is in honor of the birth of Hayes Beckworth Bagnol, born December 19, 2024. Beck is the son of Mary Helen and Holden Bagnol and the grandson of Floride and Nick Caldwell.

We welcome our new member, Teresa Kearse, who joined on December 22, 2024.

## 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.

## NEW INFORMATION?

Have you moved or have a new home phone or cell phone or new E-mail address? Do you have any changes in your family's information?

To help us keep the church's records current, please call us at 859-4220. If you call after hours, you may leave your information on Extension 12, or you may E-mail [dicie@easleypresbyterian.org](mailto:dicie@easleypresbyterian.org)

**December 29, 2024**

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