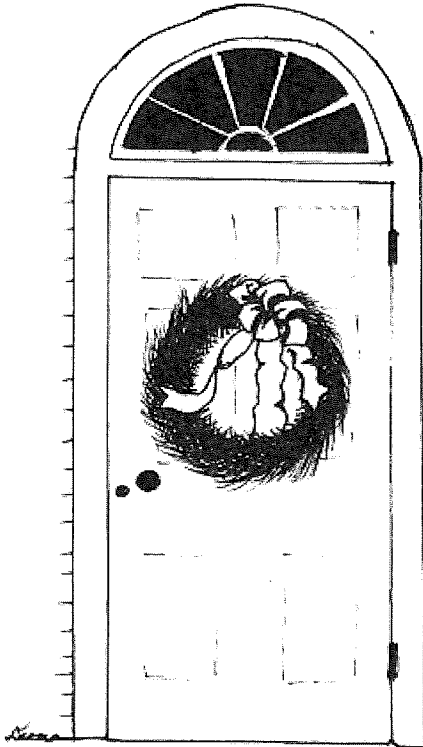


# The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island

FOUNDED 1685  
CHURCH CONSTRUCTED 1830



The Mission Statement of The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island:  
In response to God's love and grace, through Jesus Christ, we commit to  
learning, proclaiming, and living the love of God.

**ASHLEY SANDERS, PASTOR**  
**J.L. HYATT, MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**JACQUE LINDSAY, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

2164 Highway 174      PO Box 86      Edisto Island, SC 29438  
Phone: 843.869.2326      [www.pcedisto.org](http://www.pcedisto.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:30am - 3:15pm

# The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island

December 24, 2017

*Christmas Eve  
Six O'Clock*

Liturgical Color: White

BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

THE PRESENCE OF ALL WHO HAVE COME TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ADDS TO THE JOY OF WORSHIPPING THE LORD ON THIS GLORIOUS NIGHT. MAY THE FULL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BE REAL TO US ALL - NOW AND ALWAYS.

*\*As you are able, please stand in body or in spirit.*

**"Enter to worship..."**

**9:55 am PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

**VOLUNTARY**

*Noel  
Noel Angevin  
Noel Provencal*

Charpentier  
Franck  
Candeille

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (ISAIAH 9)**

*Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,*

**People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.**

*Leader: We are that people. Christ is that light.*

**People: For a child has been born for us. God's own Son has been given to us.**

*Leader: He is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**People: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace through his glorious reign.**

*Leader: Let the trees and the forests shout for joy. Let heaven and nature sing.*

**\*HYMN #40**

*Joy to the World!*

Antioch

**WORDS OF WELCOME & HOSPITALITY**

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**  
The Jim Murray Family

*What Shall We Name Him?*  
**Christ The Lord**

**CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFT OF CHILDREN**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are not always prepared, O God, to receive the Christ child into our hearts. We do not always look to see your light shining in the darkness of our world. We are reluctant to leave our flocks behind and search for the glory you reveal. Overcome our fear, Holy One, and inspire us to sing with the heavenly host as we seek the Christ child this night. Prepare our hearts to behold your precious gift in awe and wonder. Amen. (Silent Confession)

HYMN #44

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
(stanza 4)

St. Louis

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Leader: Hear this good news of great joy. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.*

**People: Amen. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*Leader: Thanks be to God!*

\*HYMN #23 REFRAIN

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

\*HYMN #31

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mendelssohn

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Scripture: Luke 2: 1-20**

### CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Rev. Sanders

\*HYMN #41

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Adeste Fideles

## OUR RESPONSE

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never smother it.**

**I believe that on a night like this night in Bethlehem  
there was born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.**

**I believe in the Word who has become incarnate,  
our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth.**

**I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God,  
that is for the happiness of all people.**

**I believe in his name as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of peace;  
Of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace,  
there will be no end.  
The zeal of the God of hosts will do this.**

**This I surely believe!**

(Christmas Affirmation of Faith written by Bruce Prewer)

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION 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.**

#### **OFFERING TO BENEFIT THE EDISTO ISLAND FOOD PANTRY**

**OFFERTORY**

*Still, Still, Still*

arr. Hyatt

**\*RESPONSE #592**

**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.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

#### **THE SHARING OF THE LIGHT**

We gather this holy night, the light of the Christ candle illuminating gently in our sanctuary. Love's pure light glows softly - inviting and beckoning us, calling us to be a part of Christ's work in overcoming darkness. As Christ's light spreads to each and everyone of us, the soft light begins to glow radiantly, reminding us that the glory of the Lord shone all around them, filling the night sky, and filling each and everyone of us. Light dispels darkness. Praise be to God on High for sharing his light with us. **Safety:** During the candle lighting, please be aware of your neighbor with the flame and the dripping of hot wax. There will be a box on the porch for depositing used candles.

**HYMN #60 (Insert)**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*  
(Remain seated)

Stille Nacht

**BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL  
RESPONSE**

**"Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born"**

**VOLUNTARY**

*Improvisation on Stille Nacht*

arr. Hyatt

*(Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary and then depart - with hope and joy.)*

**...leave to serve."**