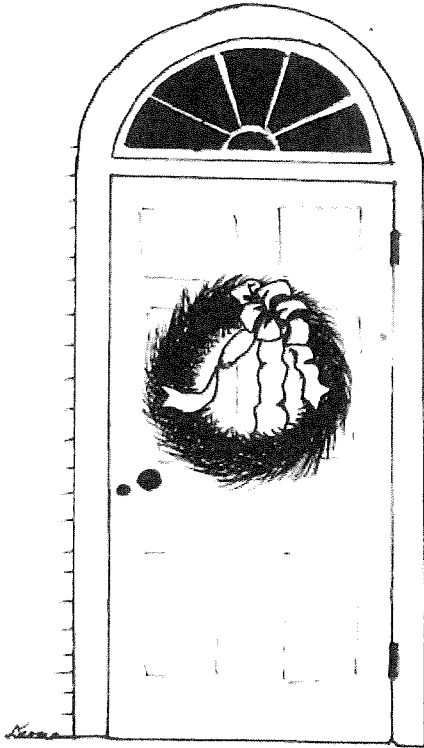


The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island

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

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:30am - 3:15pm
Pastor Sanders can be reached at 843-252-8791 or pastorpcei@gmail.com.

The Presbyterian Church on Edisto Island

December 24, 2018

*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..."

VOLUNTARY

*Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her
In the Bleak Midwinter
Noel Angevin*

Pachelbel
arr. Hyatt
Franck

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Tonight is a holy night: a night of stars and angels,

People: a night of shepherds and sheep, and a family in a stable.

*Leader: Tonight we celebrate in memory and in hope the birth of our Savior,
the Holy Child of Bethlehem*

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Let all of God's children come to the manger.

***HYMN #23**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

WORDS OF WELCOME & HOSPITALITY

Jacque Lindsay

Song of

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Preparation #31

(stanza 1)

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

ANGEL CHOIR

Away in a Manger

Mueller

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - JOY

Grace Judy

The People of Christmas

The Angel of the Lord

CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFT OF CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great and glorious God, through Jesus Christ our Savior you have shown us that the blessed age of grace has appeared and the hoped-for time of salvation has come. Yet, we cling to the glories of the present age – worldly passions and impious pursuits. We choose to walk in darkness, unwilling to see the evil your light exposes. Cleanse us and free us; break the yoke we choose to carry through Christ, who gave himself for us, so that we might be your people, holy and whole.

(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: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

***HYMN #23 REFRAIN**

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

***HYMN #40**

Joy to the World!

Antioch

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Rev. Sanders

OUR RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Written by Stephen Fearing**

We believe that God has come to us as a little child,

making our weakness his strength,

securing our salvation by becoming one of us,

blessing us with with a steadfast savior,

filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.

We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,

giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,

making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,

declaring an everlasting reign of peace,
defeating the power of pain and suffering.

We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,
inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,
transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,
sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,
challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.

This we believe. This we preach.

This we seek to embody in word and deed. Amen.

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.

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

Stille Nacht

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL
RESPONSE

“Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born”

...leave to serve.”