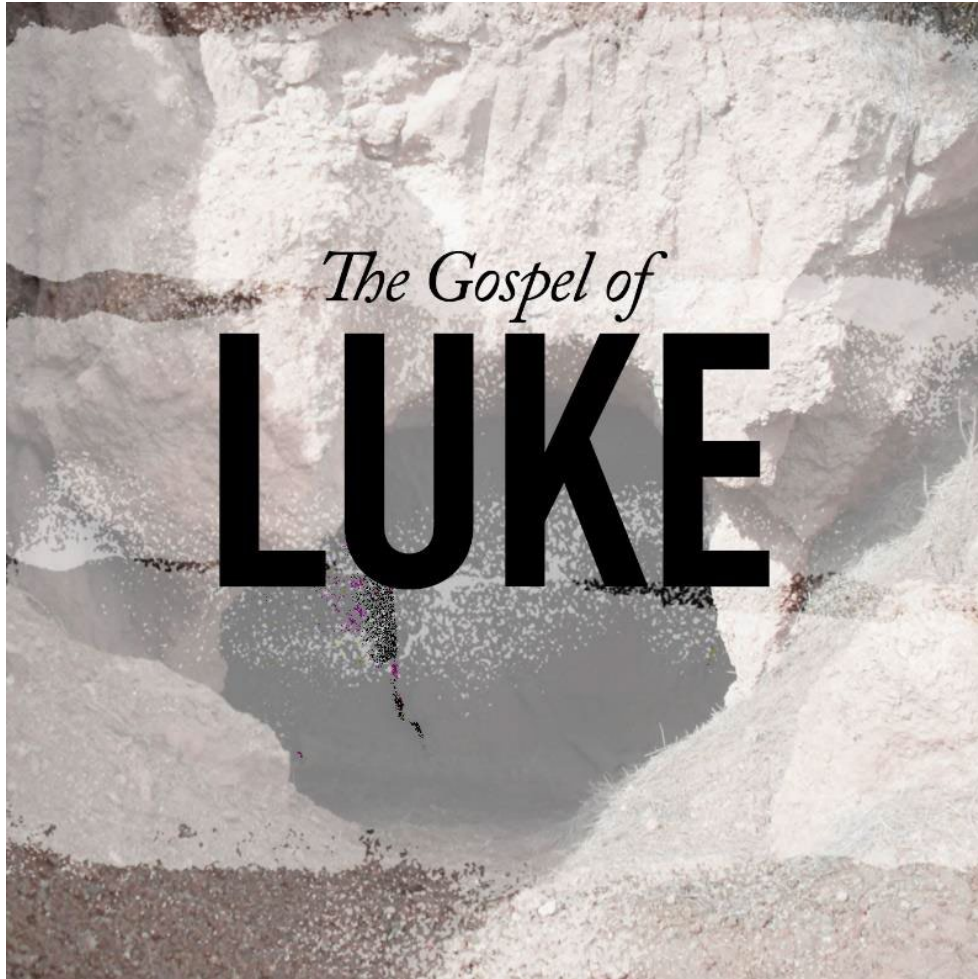


*For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10*



***Ebensburg Presbyterian Church***  
***First Sunday of Christmas***  
***January 1, 2023***

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.comEbensburgPresbyterianChurch>

**Webpage:** <https://ebgpresby.org>

**E-mail:** [ebgpresby@verizon.net](mailto:ebgpresby@verizon.net)

Mission Statement: "Ebensburg Presbyterians are Christians giving help and hope to all by sharing God's love."

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison)

**O Lord our God, we give you thanks  
for the wonder and love you offer us  
through the gift of our baptism—  
your Word made flesh among us,  
a child and Savior born to us,  
good news of great joy for all.  
By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
poured out upon us in baptism,  
let us be born anew from above  
so that we may give glory to you  
and live as your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise God!  
With the angels and hosts, we praise!  
**With the sun and moon, we praise!**  
With the fire and hail, we praise!  
**With the frost and snow, we praise!**  
With the mountains and valleys, we praise!  
**With the skies and the seas, we praise!**  
Praise God!

\*HYMN#28 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsively*)

Even in a season of celebration and joy,  
there is grief and pain.

Even as we celebrate God's goodness,  
we know that we have not always lived it.

Even in all of this, Christ comes.

**Ever-present God,**

**you became our Savior in all our distress.**

**In all the ways we hurt,**

**and all the ways we hurt others,**

**in all the ways we feel neglected**

**and all the ways we neglect others,**

**in all the ways we cry out**

**and all the ways we cause others to cry,**

**you are with us, comforting us and holding us to account.**

**In your love, redeem us once again.**

**Lift us up and grant us your mercy,**

**as you have throughout the generations. Amen. [silent confession]**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (*responsively*)

Christ came into this world for us:

imperfect humans, perpetual sinners,  
trying, learning, striving.

He came to be tested,

so that he might help us as we are tested,

to forgive us all our sins.

**Praise be to our merciful and faithful high priest!**

\*GLORY PATRI

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (*responsively*)

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also, with you.**

*(Please share the peace of Christ with those around.)*

CHOIR ANTHEM

***Jesus the Son of the Most High***

***Luke 1:26-38***

***Page 831***

\*HYMN# 53 "What Child is This"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Mark 12:41–44

**For gifts abundant and for grace abounding,  
we give you thanks, generous God.  
Bless the gifts we bring today.  
Use these gifts and our lives  
to be your gift of grace to others. Amen.**

HYMN #23 “Angels we Have Heard on High”

**Zechariah’s Song**

**Luke 1:67-80**

**Page 832-33**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Remember God’s message: Do not be afraid!  
Therefore, we pray with hope and joy.  
With hope and joy, we pray for the church . . .  
Help us to follow our gentle Savior and Lord,  
who leads his children through suffering  
to the peace and glory of your holy realm.  
With hope and joy, we pray for the earth . . .  
Join our voices with the hymn of all creation,  
so that we may sing with heaven and earth  
the beauty and glory of your name.

With hope and joy, we pray for all nations . . .  
Listen to those who weep for their children,  
victims of poverty, famine, and war.  
Do not let their cries go unanswered.  
With hope and joy, we pray for this community . . .  
Watch over those who are far from home,  
and teach us to show hospitality and care  
for refugees and strangers among us.

With hope and joy, we pray for loved ones . . .  
Strengthen those who are weak or suffering;  
support and sustain them in times of trial.  
Help them to put their trust in you.  
Lord, shine through their darkness and  
renew their hope this new year, in Christ  
Jesus, our Lord, and Savior who taught us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**SENDING**

\*HYMN #40 "Joy to The World"

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

The loving kindness of the Lord our God,  
the grace of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. **Alleluia!**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

**\*Please stand if you are able**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Sunday January 1, 2023 "COZY SUNDAY"—**

Wear your Pajama or as you're comfortable

**Sunday, January 8, 2023—**

Installation Service for new elders

**Sunday, January 8, 2023—**

Holy Communion Service Communion Sunday (Major Church Festivals )

**Sunday, January 9, 2023—**

Ebensburg Session will continue to meet on **Mondays of every 2<sup>nd</sup> week of each month**

**Year 2023** New Prayer Lists begins.

Please send us email, call the church or Rev. Ojulu if you have a person to add to the prayer lists.

Pastor: Rev. Owar O Ojulu  
Cell: 507-304-5958;  
Email: ojh3o@yahoo.com  
Church: 472-6920;  
Email. ebgpresby@gmail.com

**REDSTONE PRESBYTERY—Regular Meetings Saturday, January 28, 2023** -First Regular Presbyterian meeting of the year (In Person at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, 1:00 p.m. This will also be a ZOOM meeting).

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023** -Ebensburg Church will be hosting the Presbytery meeting (In Person at 6:00 p.m. This will also be a ZOOM

## **PRAYER LIST**

If you have any names to add to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920 or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Tim and Paula Craw  
Father Pat Kirsch  
James O'Hara  
Gloria P.  
Dan Quaglia  
Mary R.  
Cathy Rocus  
Bob & Mary Clare S.  
Claudette Segear  
Tim Forberger  
Katrin Wolf & Family  
Chris Wolfe  
Eva Tomb  
Richard McKim  
Jim Estep  
Ramona McKim(*new*)  
Candi Elam (*new*)