



THE CHURCH IN NEW YEAR'S COMMUNION WORSHIP
01 • 04 • 15



The Church in New Year Communion Worship

Sunday, January 4, 2015
9:30 and 11:00 am

Based on **The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**,
our service of Communion today is an opportunity
for us to joyfully celebrate the goodness and blessings of God
as we begin a new year of worship together.

*The following prayer
may be used as you
prepare for worship:*

SOVEREIGN LORD,

As we begin another year
that Thou hast granted us
by grace, give us:

a deeper hunger for you;

a thirst that is only
quenched by Your
presence; and

a heart that longs
to know you more.

Clear away the clutter
of our lives, and the
distractions that so easily
deter us, and let us run
with a passionate
pursuit after you.

May we, in 2015, imitate
the One who has
created us,
redeemed us,
and set us free.

Amen.

The Reflections for the Prelude

Thou hast restored us to this ease
By this thy heav'nly blood,
Which I can go to, when I please,
And leave th'earth to their food.

George Herbert, The Holy Communion

Do ye therefore, clothing yourselves with meekness, become the imitators of His sufferings, and of His love, wherewith He loved us when He gave Himself a ransom for us, that He might cleanse us by His blood from our old ungodliness, and bestow life on us when we were almost on the point of perishing through the depravity that was in us.

Ignatius (A.D. 68)

The cross was the pulpit from which Jesus preached.
Augustine

Jesus invites His saints
To meet around His board;
Here pardon'd rebels sit, and hold
Communion with their Lord.
For food He gives His flesh,
He bids us drink His blood,
Amazing favour! Matchless grace
Of our descending God!

Isaac Watts, (1707)

The Prelude The Morning Welcome and Service Explanation

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

*I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.
This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.*

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

EAST COOPER BAPTIST CHURCH

361 Egypt Road
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
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*Equipping people to pursue
Jesus Christ passionately
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The Morning Hymn of Praise

Christ Triumphant, Ever-Reigning

1. Christ tri - um - phant, e - ver reign - ing, Sa - viour, Mas - ter,

King. Lord of heav'n, our lives sus - tain - ing,

hear us as we sing: Yours the glo - ry

and the crown, the high re-nown, the e - ter - nal name.

2. Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Pow'r and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

4. Priestly King, enthroned for ever
high in heav'n above!
Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

3. Suff'ring servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

5. So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

With joy we give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, Source of all life and love, That we live in your world, that you are always creating and sustaining it by your power, and that you have so made us that we can know and love you, trust and serve you. You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They shall perish, but you shall endure. You are always the same and your years will never end.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

[THE EUCHARIST PRAYER]

Eucharist is the New Testament Greek word for "thanksgiving." So the "eucharistic prayer" is often called "**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving.**"

The Great Prayer will serve as our guide for Communion Worship today.

Thanksgiving, is at heart, the table grace of the people of God. Christians pray together when gathered at the table. We return thanks to God for the meal we share and all it means. We "say grace" for the food we have received.

This essentially simple act of prayer also cradles the church's central, basic affirmations concerning the knowledge of God, the person and work of Christ, and the life and ministry of the church in the power of the Spirit.

The word Eucharist refers equally to the liturgy of the Lord's Supper itself and to the words of the prayer that accompanies the meal.

The prayer itself was used at least as early as A.D. 215.

In a section called the Preface, the prayer praises God and recounts God's goodness in creation and redemption. It evokes God's steadfast love and providential goodness, and points to the ultimate gift of Christ.

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[continued from p. 3]

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving is a unique prayer with a distinctive pattern, provided by the Lord Jesus Christ himself on the very first Easter.

As Jesus walked to Emmaus with two of his disciples that day, he recounted the story of salvation: *“And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself”* (Luke 24:27, RSV). Then, when he was eating with them, he did four more specific things:

he took the bread,
he blessed it,
he broke it,
and he gave it to them.

As soon as he did these things, they recognized him.

No other pattern of communion observance available to us gets us closer to Jesus' model. Nor is any other pattern closer to the message of the gospel. The same Trinitarian pattern that summarizes the gospel promises in the Apostles' Creed (creation, redemption, epiclesis) provides the structure for the Great Prayer.

So when you pray the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, you are praying the gospel promises, and you are walking with Jesus on the Emmaus road as he recounts the history of salvation.

May this prayer, this service, and this time of communion open our eyes and hearts to Him afresh this day as we offer Him our praise with gratitude in our hearts.

You made us in your image and called us to be your people.

But we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign. Still you loved us and sought us. In Christ, your grace defeated death and opened the way to eternal life!

We give you thanks that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in Him may not die but have eternal life.

(sung)

I once was lost in darkest night
Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life
Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own
A rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first
I would refuse You still

But as I ran my hell-bound race
Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state
And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed
You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me
Now all I know is grace

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ Hallelujah! Jesus is my life

Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone
And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands
Could never come from me
Oh Father, use my ransomed life
In any way You choose
Oh Father, use my ransomed life
In any way You choose
And let my song forever be
My only boast is You

We thank You that Jesus was born among us; that He lived our common life on earth; that He suffered and died for us; that He rose again; and that He is always present through the Holy Spirit.

We thank You that we can live in the faith that your kingdom will come, and that in life, in death, and beyond death you are with us.

Therefore with all the company of heaven, and with all your people, of all places and times, we proclaim your greatness and sing to the glory of your name.

(sung) **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. Amen.**

Holy Lord God, by what we do here in remembrance of Christ, we celebrate His perfect sacrifice on the cross and we declare that:

Christ Has Died! / Christ Is Risen! / Christ Will Come Again!

By what we do here in remembrance of Christ, we celebrate His glorious resurrection and we declare that: (louder!)

Christ Has Died! / Christ Is Risen! / Christ Will Come Again!

By what we do here in remembrance of Christ, we proclaim His victorious ascension and His promised return and we declare that: (even louder!)

Christ Has Died! / Christ Is Risen! / Christ Will Come Again!

(sung) **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who, when darkness of sin is abounding,
Who, when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding,
Sheddeth His light, chaseth the horrors of night,
Saints with His mercy surrounding.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.**

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

So remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this cup from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Christ Jesus. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves that our lives may proclaim the One crucified, risen, and coming again.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Therefore, let us pray as you have instructed, saying...

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 trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus on the night before He died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." [Eat the Bread]

In the same way He took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." [Drink the Cup]

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son
Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me

**Your blood has washed away my sin; Jesus, thank You
The Father's wrath completely satisfied; Jesus, thank You
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table; Jesus, thank You**

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near
Your enemy You've made Your friend
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end

Lover of my soul I want to live for You

Help us, O God, to love as Christ loved. Knowing our own weakness, may we stand with all who stumble. Sharing in His suffering, may we remember all who suffer. Held in His love, may we embrace all whom the world denies. Rejoicing in His forgiveness, may we forgive all who sin against us. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the day of resurrection, When with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory.

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
All glory and honor are yours, eternal God, Both now and forevermore. Amen!**

The Offertory Prayer

Walt Lancaster, Deacon of the Day

The Offertory

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all."

**Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.**

Lord, now indeed I find Thy power and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots And melt the heart of stone.

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save" my lips shall still repeat

*O Praise the one who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead*

The Lord's Supper

We come to the Lord's Table at the invitation of the Lord Himself and so we come on His terms.

Therefore, East Cooper Baptist Church welcomes to the Lord's Table all those who have trusted in Jesus Christ as Savior and who acknowledge Him as Lord.

Because Communion is an ordinance of the church, all are welcome to partake who are baptized members in an evangelical church (*a church where the gospel is loved and proclaimed*).

If you are uncertain where you stand in your relationship to Christ, or are not ready to take the Lord's Supper this morning for any reason, please allow the elements to pass by and use this time to seek the Lord in prayer.

We come not as those who are intrinsically righteous, but as those who have been given through grace the righteousness of our perfect Redeemer.

Please hold both elements, pondering the immensity of God's love for you, until we take them together as instructed.

Babies & Toddlers

In order to maintain a worshipful atmosphere and for the comfort of our little ones, we ask that parents exit the service with their crying babies and talkative toddlers. We would encourage parents to use our excellent nursery and trained staff to care for your children.

The Spoken Word

CD's of today's sermon (\$3.00 each) will be available to order through the church office after today. Free copies of the 3-hole punch sermon notes are available on the wall slats.

Missed A Sermon?

(or want to hear it again?)

You can listen to Sunday messages online at www.eastcooperbaptist.com.

Choose the "Resources" tab

Responding to the Word

As we sit under the reading and teaching of Scripture, it calls for a response as we ask ourselves "what will we do with the truth presented today?"

The Christian life is marked by the offering of one's self to God to be shaped, empowered, directed, and changed by God. In worship, God presents us with the costly self-offering of Jesus Christ. We are claimed by Christ and set free.

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ we offer our lives, our gifts, our time, our abilities, and our material goods, for God's service, His glory, and our ultimate good.

The Morning Sermon

REMINDERS FOR 2015

ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

CONRAD "BUSTER" BROWN, SENIOR PASTOR

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. ²And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" ³Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. ⁴And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." ⁵And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by. ⁶And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, ⁷"Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. ⁸Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. ⁹For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. ¹⁰In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."

Zechariah 3:1-10 ("The Reclothing of Joshua") is the fourth of eight visions in Zechariah. This vision is to encourage the people of God, recently returned from the Babylonian exile, to live faithfully, with the assurance that God is preserving His people for the coming Messianic Branch.

I. God's people are "a brand plucked from the fire" (v. 2b); those who have had "filthy garments removed" (v.4) and clothed with "pure vestments" (v. 4). All of this will be accomplished "in a single day" (v.9)

"Those whom God effectually calls, He also freely justifies; not by infusing righteousness into them, but by pardoning their sins, and by accounting and accepting their persons as righteous; not for any thing wrought in them, or done by them, but for Christ's sake alone; nor by imputing faith itself, the act of believing, or any other evangelical obedience to them, as their righteousness; but by imputing the obedience and satisfaction of Christ unto them, they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith; which faith they have not of themselves, it is the gift of God."

Westminster Confession 11.1

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. ² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? ³ But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Hebrews 10:1-4

On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:1

Information 01.04

Please complete and place in the offering plate

SANCTUARY

Visitor Tear-off Sign-Up Info

NAME _____

SPOUSE NAME (if applicable) _____

STREET / P.O. BOX _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

(_____) _____
HOME PHONE

(_____) _____
CELL PHONE

(_____) _____
CELL PHONE SPOUSE

E-MAIL _____

E-MAIL SPOUSE _____

Birthdate _____

Birthdate Spouse _____

Children's Names / Gender / Birthdates

NAME _____ M/F _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME _____ M/F _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME _____ M/F _____ BIRTHDATE _____

___ I would like to become a Christian.

___ I would like to join ECBC.

___ I would like a personal visit.

___ I have a confidential need to discuss.

___ Add me to mail / e-mail list.

___ I would like information re: _____

___ I would like to join a Community Group.

___ Other: _____

II. Those who are newly clothed will walk in the way of the Lord (vv.6-8)

"Faith, thus receiving and resting on Christ and His righteousness, is the alone instrument of justification: yet is it not alone in the person justified, but is ever accompanied with all other saving graces, and is no dead faith, but works by love."

Westminster Confession 11.2

These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith: and by them believers manifest their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, edify their brethren, adorn the profession of the Gospel, stop the mouths of the adversaries, and glorify God, whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus thereunto, that, having their fruit unto holiness, they may have the end, eternal life.

Westminster Confession 16.2

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Zechariah 13:1

III. There is to be Joy and Shalom because of the Branch (Messiah) who comes (v. 10)

³He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; ⁴but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

Micah 4:3-4

"The webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call *shalom*. We call it peace, but it means far more than mere peace of mind or a cease-fire between enemies. In the Bible, *shalom* means *universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight* – a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator delights. *Shalom*, in other words, is the way things ought to be."

Not the Way It's Supposed to Be, Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., p. 10

On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:1

"Under the vine and under the fig tree, Micah had already made the description of the peaceful days of Solomon, a symbol of the universal fearless peace of the time of Christ. 'Christ by His Passion shall not only take away iniquity, but also bring peace, delight, free communication of all things...For the law of Christ enjoineeth charity, forgiveness of injuries, patience, love of enemies, all which bring temporal peace.'"

The Minor Prophets: A Commentary, Vol. II, E. B. Pusey, D.D. p. 359

PRAYER REQUESTS / PEOPLE IN NEED
Prayer Line: 856-3222 ext. PRAY(7729)

Please list your prayer requests and/or names (with detailed information) of people in need. Thank you!
___Confidential (distributed only to Pastors)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS PREVIEW

January 4th at 9:30 and 11:00 in Room B214/215/216. Find out about upcoming SMBC offerings and hear faith stories about God's work in the lives of Scott Stacks, Caleb Yaryan, Christie Romine and Lynne King.

JOIN THE CHOIR OR ORCHESTRA FOR 2015

If you are a part of our Choir or Orchestra, have ever been a part of our Choir or Orchestra or ever THOUGHT ABOUT being a part, please join us this Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 pm for our 2015 NEW YEAR OPEN HOUSE! Come and join us and use your gifts in helping us lift high the name of the Lord in praise! Please complete the form on today's tear-off for more information, or call 856-3222, ext. 2040, or just show up Wednesday!

OPEN HOUSE

Kindergarten and First Grade Thursday, January 8 @ 6:00 pm

Preschool - High School Thursday, January 22 @ 6:30 pm

For more information and PCA applications for the 2015-2016 school year visit our website www.palmettochristianacademy.org. For questions, contact Lisa Shimakonis at the Admissions Office: 843-881-9967 x2081

GATEWAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH

We believe that growth happens in us when we as the people of God intentionally seek ways to develop deeper "Christ-centered" relationships and find ways to use our God-given gifts to serve both inside and outside of the church within the local community. We want to encourage you to do TWO things intentionally this year:

1. Make Community Groups and Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class a priority.
2. Discover ways that you can serve people both inside and outside of the church, in the local community.

So please mark your calendars for January 11th and make plans to visit us in the gym, following the morning services! We will be serving a great lunch for you as we showcase all the ECBC ministry opportunities you can take part in, as well as the chance to get connected into a Community Group and an Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class. We look forward to seeing you there!

HANNAH'S HEART - JANUARY 11

Is the desire to be parents an important matter of prayer for you? If you are a couple dealing with infertility concerns and wish to meet with a like minded group for PRAYER, please join us at 8:45 am on the second Sunday of each month in the ECBC Prayer Room. Come pray with us, or fill out the tear-off and we will pray for you.

WOMEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT: LIVING JOY!

Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort, January 16-18, 2015. Speaker: Ruth Ripkin. Come enjoy sweet fellowship and time with the Lord at our annual women's retreat. Go to www.eastcooperbaptist.com for more information and to register.

ECBC CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Please PRINT your name and contact info on the opposite side of this tear-off.

___Yes! I am interested in knowing more about being apart of the ECBC Choir or Orchestra

GRIEF SHARE

January 29th-April 27th, 7 pm - 8:30 pm in B222. Grief Share is a nondenominational support group that meets weekly to provide help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. The video seminar is led by the leading grief recovery experts and encouragement is experienced through the group discussions. The cost is \$20 which includes the workbook. Each session is self contained so anyone can join at any time. For more information or to register go to www.eastcooperbaptist.com

SANCTUARY PROJECT 2015

Q: I see the construction fencing has been put in place for our new Sanctuary, when will actual construction begin?

A: We now have a Land Disturbance Permit. We anticipate sitework beginning in early January. We are planning a formal Ground Breaking Celebration Service. Watch for details.

HANNAH'S HEART

Please PRINT your name and contact info on the opposite side of this tear-off.

___Please pray for us as we deal with infertility.

___I would like more information on this group.

GIVING

Given Last Week \$ 125,642
Required to Date \$ 2,271,000
Over/[Under] \$ [257,200]

ECBC INFO

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ELDERS

Harry Carter Elder Chairman
Reg Christopher Missions
Joe Diamond, Brad Williams, Ron Romagnoli Children
Rick Ethredge Benevolence & Pastoral Care
Mark Fitts High School
John Graham, Daniel Dukes PCA
Rick Gwinn Finance & Facilities
David Jackson Equipping/SMBC
Mark Lejendecker Worship
Lee Lewis, David Kornegay Campus Outreach
Robert McCants IV, Van Hendry Contemporary Worship
Brad Reed Community Groups & Shepherding
Ned Rupp & Bobby Weaver Young Adults
Claude Tackett Middle School
Derek Walden Deacons & Local Missions
Mike Weeks Men & Women
Kenny Caldwell Young Married
Mark Nelson Personnel