

SERVING THE CHURCH

This Week

Liturgist: Jackie Koch
Ushers: Ronnie Storch
Gail West

SERVING THE CHURCH

Christmas Eve

Liturgist: Candie Vaitkevicius
Ushers: Joe Vaitkevicius
Candie Vaitkevicius

Elder of the Month

For December: Candie Vaitkevicius, 864-631-1010(H), 630-247-9507 (cell)

For January: Barb Daugherty, 864-234-0143

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2024

Linda Stenhouse
Jackie Koch
Candie Vaitkevicius

Class of 2025

Barb Daugherty
Bill Marshall NS
Linda Marshall

Class of 2026

Bill Marshall PA
Candie Vaitkevicius
Jackie Koch

Linda Stenhouse—Clerk of Session

2 Cents-A-Meal

Next Week!

Cover Art:

Provided by Google Images



Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 8:30-10:30 a.m.

510 East Curtis Street * Simpsonville, SC 29681 * (864) 963-8854

www.simpsonvillepres.com E-mail: office@simpsonvillepres.com

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch, Pastor

Darrell Johnson, Pianist

Jackie Koch, Office Administrator

The WiFi Identity is FPCS-Guest and the password to connect is Grace4all.

Carol Sing



Sunday, December 29, 2024

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church

Simpsonville, SC

"Growing Together in Faith - Loving and Serving in the World"

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 29, 2024

First Sunday of Christmas

Welcome, announcements

Prayers and Concerns

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch has office hours on Tuesdays from 9 a.m.-Noon. Please call 864-963-8854 to make an appointment.

Please note that the wearing of masks during service and singing hymns is optional. NOTE: This service may be video recorded.

Please stand if you are able where asterisk.

PRELUDE "Joy to the World" arr. Smith

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Jackie Koch, Liturgist

Leader: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

People: So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Leader: But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

People: Teach us, O Lord, how to lead lives of holiness and godliness while in accordance with your promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN #306 "Fairest Lord Jesus"**

HYMN #53 "What Child is This?"

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: Reading: Luke 2:9-16, Bill Marshall NS

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

Holy and merciful God, we confess we neglect to seek your wisdom for our lives. Instead, we think more highly of ourselves and our own knowledge, choosing to go our own way in this world. Lord have mercy.

SCHEDULES AND EVENTS

FOOD PANTRY: Your continued prayers and giving hearts allow us to keep this mission to our neighbors going. Suggestions for the month of January are cereal and canned fruit. As always, we are grateful for all donations.

VIDEO RECORDINGS: Video recordings of services that have been previously recorded are available on the Church's website: www.simpsonvillepres.com. Click on "Videos" in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: 2025 PLEDGE CARDS – You may return your pledge card by placing it in the offering plate or leave it in the Church Office with Attn: Bill Marshall - Stewardship Team. Thank you in advance for your pledge consideration.

YEAR END GIFTING: Reminder that gifts to the church for tax purposes, must be received by the Stewardship Team no later than Tuesday December 31. If you are considering gifting of stock, please contact Bill Marshall on the stewardship team (864)230-5268 as soon as possible. Additional steps and a longer timeline need to be considered with stock gifting.

INSTALLATION OF ELDER CLASS OF 2026: The installation of the 2026 Session Members will be on Sunday, January 5th. 2026 members are Candie Vaitkevicius, Bill Marshall PA, and Jackie Koch.

BIBLE STUDY : A 4-week Bible study on honoring the Sabbath will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am from Jan. 5 through Feb. 2. In a quick-moving world filled with routines, the Sabbath can often become just another day of the week. It is so much more than that! Come join us and discover how honoring the Sabbath can lead to peace and joy. Please sign the sheet in the back of the sanctuary if you are interested. Books will be provided if you sign up by Dec. 29.

COMING NEXT SUNDAY:

Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6/Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: Epiphany

We let the cares and concerns of this world crowd out the promise of your Word, that you are with us always. Christ, have mercy. We confess we face the future with uncertainty and misgivings. Help us put our trust in you so we may live faithful and obedient lives, as we depend on the wisdom of your Holy Spirit and the love of Christ to shape our lives and actions. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

People: He fulfills the desires of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven!

All: Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE: "O Come, All Ye Faithful " (refrain)

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

Christ the Lord!

Hymn # 29 "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

SILENT PRAYER: A few moments of silent communication with God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26/Luke 2:41-52

CAROL SING (Sing verses 1 & 2 of each hymn)

Hymn: "O Holy Night" (bulletin insert)

Hymn #37: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Hymn #22: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Hymn #47: "Still, Still, Still"

Hymn #23: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Hymn #31: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hymn #28: "Good Christian Friend, Rejoice"

***Affirmation of Faith**

The 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living 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.

Prayer of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER (the offering plate is located in the sanctuary just inside the back double doors.)

OFFERTORY "O Come, All Ye Faithful" arr. Livingston, Jr.

***The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #308 "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"**

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"**

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!*

POSTLUDE "In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born" Mays

WELCOME TO SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN! Whether you are a long-time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to learn more about the Simpsonville Presbyterian community, we invite you to contact us through our website www.simpsonvillepres.com, or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND REFRESHMENTS today are given by Linda Stenhouse, Thank you.

BIBLE STORY BAGS are available for children during worship. See an usher if you would like one for your child to use. Please return the bag to an usher after worship.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Chip & Teresa Shelf, Jim & Linda Stenhouse

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Roger Pryor (01/02), Alice Grooms (01/03). Bill Marshall PA (01/03)

LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER CONCERNS: Jan Johnson; Lena Staschak, Donnett Hanson; Alice Grooms; Cory and children (friends of Brenda Stenhouse); Conner Dixon (friend of Jimmy Cheeks); Alysa Berdan (co-worker of Roger Pryor); the Powell family (friends of Jackie Koch); Sue Marshall's mother; Tina Minnich (daughter of Candie & Joe); Beverly Sullivan (friend of Jimmy Cheeks); Everett (sister of Donnett); Debra Datko; Lisa Shelf; Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Roger Edney (relative of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office (office@simpsonvillepres.com) about any pastoral concerns.