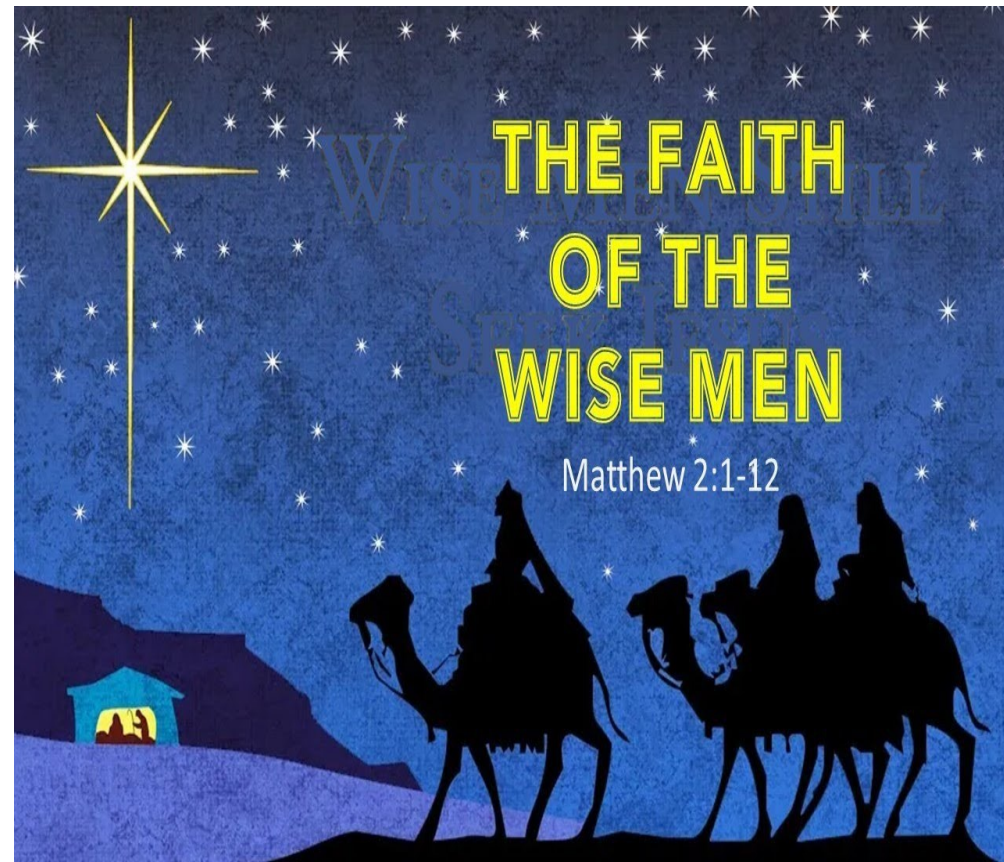


<b>SERVING THE CHURCH</b> <b>This Week</b>	<b>SERVING THE CHURCH</b> <b>Next Week</b>	
Liturgist: Jackie Koch Ushers: Joe Vaitkevicius Candie Vaitkevicius	Liturgist: Linda Marshall Ushers: Sharon Flesch Gail West	
<b>Elder of the Month</b> For January: Barb Daugherty, 864-234-0143		
<b>SESSION MEMBERS</b>		
<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Linda Stenhouse Jackie Koch Candie Vaitkevicius	Barb Daugherty Bill Marshall NS Linda Marshall	Bill Marshall PA Candie Vaitkevicius Jackie Koch
Linda Stenhouse—Clerk of Session		



**2 Cents-A-Meal**

*Please Donate Today!*

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](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com) E-mail: [office@simpsonvillepres.com](mailto: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.

**Sunday, January 5, 2025**

*Simpsonville Presbyterian Church*  
Simpsonville, SC

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

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 5, 2025

Epiphany

**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 "March of the Kings" arr. Rocherolle

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

Leader: The glory of God has now appeared

**People: through Christ our light, in flesh.**

Leader: The reign of God has now arrived

**People: through Christ our king, our eternal ruler.**

Leader: The mystery of God has been revealed

**People: through Christ our peace, ever reconciling.**

Leader: With the stars to lead us and the magi to teach us

**All: we come, bringing our gifts to worship God. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #68 "What Star is This with Beams So Bright"**

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: Reading: Matthew 2:1-5a, 9-11, Sharon Stone

CALL TO CONFESSION

**CONFESSION OF OUR SIN** (unison prayer)

**Redeem your world, O Lord. We lament the destruction caused by worldly rulers extending their power through force. We lament the ways that the tendrils of oppression have taken hold among your people, your creation. Redeem your people, O Lord. Too often, we fail to act in ways that reflect your love. Too often, we fail to speak your truth. When it is easier for us to do nothing, help us act. When it is easier for us to say nothing, give us words to speak. Turn us away from sin, liberate us from the grasp of oppression, and lead us towards new life in Christ. Amen.**

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.

**LEGACY MEETING:** The Legacy Team will meet on Tuesday, January 7th, at 1 p.m. at the Church. All are invited to attend.

**CARDS:** Join us for card playing on Wednesday, January 8th at 11 a.m. at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

**SESSION MEETING:** The Session of SPC will meet on Thursday, January 9th at 10:30 at the church.

**COMING NEXT SUNDAY:**

Scriptures: Isaiah 43:1-7/Luke 3:15-177, 21-22

Sermon: Remember Your Baptism

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK:** Bill & Sue Marshall, Marnie Logan

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** None

### 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.

### 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](http://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.

**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

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**People: But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.**

Leader: Hear this good news with Joy: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and, in Him, all things are being made new.

**All: 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 # 411 "Arise, Your Light is Come!"

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Isaiah 60:1-6/Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON: "Epiphany" Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son**

is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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 "Break Thou the Bread of Life" arr. Larson

### \*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

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts!  
We lift them up to the LORD!

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

### THE SHARING OF THE MEAL

As the trays are passed please serve your neighbor with the words, "The Body and blood of Christ, given for you."

The Communion wafer is not gluten free. It is our tradition to take the bread individually and to hold the wine to drink together.

### INSTALLATION OF ELDERS CLASS OF 2026

### \*CLOSING HYMN #66 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

### \*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 "As With Gladness Men of Old" Kocher

**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](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com), or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** today are given by Gail West, Thank you.

**REFRESHMENTS** today are given by Ronnie Storch. 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.