

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**This Week**

Liturgist: Candie Vaitkevicius  
Sound:  
Ushers: Joe Vaitkevicius  
Candie Vaitkevicius

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**Next Week**

Liturgist:  
Sound:  
Ushers: Gail West  
Ronnie Storch

**Elder of the Month for February**

Bill Marshall (NS), 864-967-9855 (H), 864-230-5268 (cell)

**SESSION MEMBERS**

**Class of 2022**

Linda Stenhouse  
Jerry Kross  
Jackie Koch

**Class of 2023**

Barb Daugherty  
Bill Marshall (NS)  
Ronnie Storch



**February 13, 2022**



*Remembering and honoring the past; Moving forward in unity and grace.*

**First Presbyterian Church**

**Simpsonville, SC**

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

Cover Art:  
Google Images



Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 9AM-12PM

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

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

Darrell Johnson, Pianist Jackie Koch, Office Administrator

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

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 13, 2022

6th Sunday after Epiphany

\* WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please remain seated for a time of silent meditation as we prepare to worship God. 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                    "Processional on "St. Denio"                    arr. Thygeron

**\*OUR CALL TO WORSHIP**                    Candie Vaitkevicius, Liturgist  
Leader: Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.

**People: They shall be like a tree planted by waters, sending out its roots by the stream.**

Leader: Our roots go deep, we are ever green; even in a drought we are not anxious, but bear fruit, full and beautiful, gifts of the God who made us.

**People: Baptized and freed, grounded in love, let us worship God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #281    "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**  
**"O How He Loves You and Me"**

*Oh, how He loves you and me,  
Oh, how He loves you and me.  
He gave His life, what more could He give;  
Oh, how He loves you,  
Oh, how He loves me,  
Oh, how He loves you and me.*

*Jesus to Calv'ry did go,  
His love for sinners to show.  
What He did there, brought hope from despair.  
Oh, how He loves you,  
Oh, how He loves me,  
Oh, how He loves you and me.*

*Oh, how He loves you,  
Oh, how He loves me,  
Oh, how He loves you and me.*

**PW SOUP LUNCHEON:** Presbyterian Women's annual Soup Luncheon will be held next Sunday, Feb. 20th, after worship service. Everyone is encouraged to attend and support this fundraising effort.

**TASTY TREATS AND TRIVIA:** Mark your calendars for this fun evening on Friday, March 18th, from 6:30-8 p.m. Teams will compete to see who will be the Trivia Champs. A sign-up sheet is placed on the back table or you may call the office and let Jackie know. Team sizes will be determined by the number of participants, and teams will be selected by a random draw. Family and friends are invited and encouraged to attend. Tasty treats and drinks will be provided and prizes will be awarded to the winning team. Deadline to register is Sunday, March 13th. We hope everyone will come out for this first event to celebrate our 100th Anniversary! Rides to and from the Fellowship Hall will be provided to those needing them.

**LEGACY PROJECT:** Following are the two questions concerning our congregation that Session will be discussing in February:

- How deeply is prayer woven into the fabric of our communal life? How can we make the practice of prayer more central?
- How does our congregational culture encourage generosity, including tithing, as a spiritual discipline?

We welcome any input from the congregation.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Due to the changes to our worship service because of the pandemic, we are asking those who have served in the past as ushers and liturgists, to sign up for Sundays for the rest of this year. Sign-up sheets are located on the back table, along with the sign-up sheet for flowers and refreshments. **We need more volunteers for these duties since some of our congregation have not yet returned to active worship due to COVID.**

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK:** Betty Bell, Linda & Bill Marshall

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** Katie Watson (02/15), Nick Young (02/16), Leah Young (02/17)

**LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Pastor Cassie, John Jackson; Jean Kirkland, Sue Marshall's mother, Barbara; Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall's brother); Bob Marshall (Bill Marshall (PA)'s father; Bobby & Martha Gault family (friends of Linda Marshall); Henry Powell (friend of Jackie Koch); Richie & Barbara Deroches (friends of Linda & Bill Marshall); Mac Parks (former member); Susan Medina; Joe Vaitkevicius; Rev. Small's daughter Madeline; Gail West (for the loss of her brother-in-law); Chuck (Candie Vaitkevicius' brother); Cora Larsen (Linda Marshall's mother); the Shelf family (for the loss of Teresa's brother); Dan Mills (brother of Barb Daugherty—Missionary to Papua New Guinea); Ivy Bertuzzi; Pat Clark; Elizabeth Cooper; Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Roger Edney & Jen Gibson (relatives of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office (office@firstpressimpsonville.com) about any pastoral concerns.

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

**PULPIT SUPPLY:** Feb. 20: Jim Caprell—Scout Sunday & Soup Lunch  
Feb. 27: Elliott Grow

**AED TRAINING:** Training on our new AED (Automated External Defibrillator) will be held after worship service today, Feb. 13th, from approximately 12:30 –2:00 p.m. A catered lunch will be provided prior to the training.

**BOY SCOUT SUNDAY** is next Sunday, Feb. 20th.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will meet on Thursday, Feb. 17th at 11 a.m. at the Church.

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

**Sustaining God, you would have us be deeply rooted in you, finding strength in your word and nourishment in your grace. More often, though, we live as chaff, blown here and there by the winds of circumstance. Forgive our lack of permanency and our failures to hold fast to our commitments. Grow in us faith that we might be firmly planted in your promises, released from sin, and open to the life you have shown us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: The waters of grace refresh our lives and bring forth a new creation.

**People: This is good news!**

Leader: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**RESPONSE: "Hallelujah!"**

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!*

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!*

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!*

*Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

**HYMN ##361 "How Firm a Foundation"**

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Old Testament: Jeremiah 17:5-10

New Testament: Luke 6:17-26

SERMON "Are You Blessed?"

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch

\*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** 3

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.

#### Joys and Concerns 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 on a back table in the sanctuary just inside the back double doors.)

OFFERTORY "Nothing But the Blood/O he Blood of Jesus/  
Are You Washed in the Blood" arr. Callaway

#### \*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 #379 "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

#### BENEDICTION

#### RESPONSE: "Surely, It Is God"

*Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in Him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
And He will be my Savior.*

#### POSTLUDE

"All Praise to Thee"

Tune SINE NOMINE

**WELCOME TO FIRST 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 First Presbyterian community, we invite you to contact us through our website [www.firstpressimpsonville.com](http://www.firstpressimpsonville.com), or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** today are given by Kitty Shealy. Thank you.

**REFRESHMENTS** this week are provided by Kitty Shealy. 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.

We welcome to our pulpit today Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch Rev. Welch was born and grew up in Greenwood, SC. She graduated from Lander College (now University) and had a career as a third-grade teacher in Gaston County (NC) schools. Upon retirement from teaching, she finally responded to God's call and entered Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte. Following graduation, she pastored churches in Great Falls, SC, and Farmington, Iowa, while earning a Doctor of Ministry degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Retiring from full-time ministry June 1, 2021, she and husband Lawrence moved to Simpsonville to be near family (and to live again in an area where the decision whether to wear a hat in the winter was a fashion statement and not a matter of life and death). Lawrence and Mary Anne met at Greenwood High School, dated for six years, and have been married forever (49 years, 1 month, and 1 week—but who's counting?).