

<b>SERVING THE CHURCH This Week</b>	<b>SERVING THE CHURCH Next Week</b>
Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse	Liturgist: Jerry Kross
Sound:	Sound:
Ushers: Linda Stenhouse Candie Vaitkevicius Joe Vaitkevicius	Ushers: Jan Kross Jerry Kross

**Elder of the Month of December**  
Jerry Kross, 864-915-3560

<b>SESSION MEMBERS</b>	
<u><b>Class of 2021</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2022</b></u>
Bill Marshall (NS)	Linda Stenhouse
Bill Marshall (PA)	Jerry Kross
Barb Daugherty	Jackie Koch

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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.



**Sunday, December 5, 2021**

**First Presbyterian Church**  
Simpsonville, SC

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

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 5, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent

\* 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 "Prelude on 'Wachet Auf'" arr. Smith

\*OUR CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: And our eyes at last shall see Him, through his own redeeming love, for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in Heav'n above.

**People: And he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.**

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: Luke 2:1-5 Hector Medina

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Reading: Alice Grooms & Ronnie Storch

**PRAYER (ALL): Lord, you are our Rock and salvation, our refuge and strength. As we wait with anticipation and anxiety, with patience and eagerness, even with irritation and fear, silence in us any voice but yours. Grant us confidence in your promise to always be with us. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

**Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

**People: Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, let us share that peace with one another.**

**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:**

Nov. 28 thru Dec. 24: Beverly Kelly

Dec. 26: No in-house service (link will be provided for Foothills Presbytery service.)

**100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING:** The 100th Anniversary Committee will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 15th at 10 a.m. at the Church. We encourage anyone who would like to help with planning events and activities or to contribute to our 100th Anniversary booklet to attend.

**LEGACY MEETING:** The Legacy Team will meet on Thursday, Dec. 16th, at 2 p.m. at the Church. The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend.

**STEWARDSHIP AND 2021 YEAR END GIVING/SUPPORT:** See bulletin insert..

**FELLOWSHIP STATION:** The Fellowship Station (drinks, cookies, etc.) has been reinstated. If you would like to contribute refreshments one Sunday, please sign up on the sheet on the back table.

**NEW SEATING ARRANGEMENT:** Please note that the seating has been changed. Those who wish to Social Distance will sit on the right side (window side) of the Sanctuary; those who don't wish to Social Distance may sit on the left (wall side). Further changes will be forthcoming as we incorporate the Pray Ground into the Sanctuary.

**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. **We need more volunteers for these duties since some of our congregation have not yet returned to active worship due to COVID.**

and pastor of First United Church of Christ in Bay City, Michigan. Thirteen years ago she and her husband, Burnett retired and moved to Sunset, SC. Shortly after moving, she began working to establish a monthly ecumenical worship service at the historic McKinney Chapel.

Beverly has been a volunteer Chaplain at Hospice of the Upstate, served on the Board of Oconee County Habitat for Humanity, and served on **the** Thornwell Home for Children Board of Trustees. She has served as Interim Director of Christian Education at Pickens Presbyterian Church and is presently Parish Associate there. She and Burnett have four children and fourteen wonderful grandchildren.

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK:** Linda Brought, The Session

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** None

### LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Pastor Cassie, John Jackson; Jean Kirkland, Sue Marshall's mother; Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall's brother); Jo Klein; Susan Medina; Chuck (Candie Vaitkevicius' brother); Sean & Donna (friends of Linda Stenhouse's daughter); Robert Pryor (Roger Pryor's brother); Linda Marksberry (friend of Darrell & Roger); Cora Larsen (Linda Marshall's mother); Colleen Rogers (friend of the Stenhouse family); Doris Phipps (sister of Linda Stenhouse); 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](mailto:office@firstpressimpsonville.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 December are baking supplies such as flour, sugar, etc. and packaged cookies. As always, we are grateful for all donations

### **RESPONSE: "While We Are Waiting, Come"**

*While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting., come.*

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

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSONS AND CAROLS (please repeat Leader & People Response after each reading)

Lesson One: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19 Linda Stenhouse

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Carol: Hymn # 36 "In the Bleak Midwinter" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Lesson Two: Genesis 22:15-18 Jackie Koch

**Carol: Hymn #56 "The First Nowell" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Lesson Three: Isaiah 9:2b, 6-7 Burnett Kelly

**Carol: Hymn #38 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (vs. 1 & 4)**

Lesson Four: Isaiah 11:1-9 Roger Daugherty

**Carol: Hymn #53 "What Child is This?" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Lesson Five: Luke 1:26-38 Barb Daugherty

**Carol: Hymn #37 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Lesson Six: Luke 2:1-7 Susan Medina

**Carol: Hymn # 43 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs. 1-2)**

Lesson Seven: Luke 2:8-16 Candie Vaitkevicius

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

Lesson Eight: Matthew 2:1-12 Bill Marshall (PA)

**Carol: Hymn #66 "We Three Kings" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Lesson Nine: John 1:1-14 Darrell Johnson

**Carol: Hymn #40 "Joy to the World" (vs. 1-3)**

**\*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.

**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 "Prepare the Royal Highway" arr. Dengler

**\*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: The communion meal is pre-packaged. Upon receiving it from the servers, pen and eat the wafer, but hold the juice to drink together. The wafer is not gluten free.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**RESPONSE: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.*

POSTLUDE "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" Schop

**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** are our lovely poinsettias.

**FRESHMENTS** this week are provided 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.

We welcome to our pulpit today, The Reverend Beverly J. Kelly who is a native of Tryon, NC. She is a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church, USA and before coming to the Upstate, served as the Director of Christian Education at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Midland, Michigan