

SERVING THE CHURCH Christmas Eve	SERVING THE CHURCH Christmas Day
Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse	Liturgist: Jerry Kross
Sound:	Sound:
Ushers: Linda Stenhouse Jackie Koch	Ushers: Jan Kross Jerry Kross

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

SESSION MEMBERS		
<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Linda Stenhouse	Barb Daugherty	Linda Stenhouse
Jerry Kross	Bill Marshall (NS)	Jackie Koch
Jackie Koch	Ronnie Storch	Candie Vaitkevicius



Cover Art:
Google Images



Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 9-10:30 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.



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

December 24, 2022

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church
Simpsonville, SC

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

WELCOME

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 "Still, Still, Still with Silent Night, Holy Night" arr. Herbster

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Linda Stenhouse, Liturgist

Leader: In the holy darkness of this night,

People: amid labor pains and newborn cries,

Leader: angel songs and tremors of fear,

People: tears of relief and looks of amazement,

Leader: our Savior takes his first breath.

All: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to us.

***OPENING HYMN #24** "Away in a Manger"

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: Reading: Linda Marshall

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Joe & Candie Vaitkevicius

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

Emmanuel, you have given us a gift that we can never deserve. You do not ask us to be worthy. You do not ask us to earn your love. Yet the ways we have fallen short threaten to overtake us. But we know we can come to you, even on this holiest of nights, to seek the forgiveness you offer so freely, grateful for your mercy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to us all! With Christ's birth comes forgiveness and redemption.

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!



Silent Night, Holy Night

60

STILLE NACHT Irregular

Joseph Mohr, 1818
Trans. John Freeman Young, 1863

Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright, Round you
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight, Glo - ries
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - dian
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won-drous star, lend thy light; With the

vir - gin moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav-en a - far, Heav-en-ly hosts sing: "Al - le - lu - ia;
 beams from Thy ho-ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

Sleep in heav-en-ly peace, Sleep in heav-en-ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born."
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

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 #53 "What Child is This?"

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Isaiah 9:2-7/Luke 2:1-14

SERMON "Beyond the Manger" 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 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.

PASTOR'S PRAYER AND 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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY

***CLOSING HYMN #60** “Silent Night” (bulletin, page 6)

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 “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” Parry

WELCOME TO SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! 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 are the lovely poinsettias purchased in memory of and in honor of loved ones and special friends. For those not attending tomorrow’s worship service, you may take your flower(s) home this evening. Those attending tomorrow, please wait to take your flower(s) home then. If you are not able to take your flower home on either of these days, please let Linda Stenhouse know and she will hold for you.

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.

LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER CONCERNS: Jean Kirkland, Sue Marshall’s mother, Barbara; Linda Marksberry (friend of Darrell & Roger); the Cash family (friends of Darrell and Roger); Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall’s brother); Bob Marshall

(Bill Marshall (PA)’s father; Hector & Susan Medina; Robert Polenta & Keith Purser (friends of Jackie Koch); Rev. Small’s daughter Madeline; Tina Vaitkevicius; Dan Mills (brother of Barb Daugherty—Missionary to Papau New Guinea); Ivy Bertuzzi; Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); the family of Jen Gibson (relatives of Barb & Roger Daugherty; 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 December are Chicken Noodle and Vegetable Soups and canned ravioli and spaghetti. As always, we are grateful for all donations.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Christmas Day service will be at our regular time, 10:30 a.m., on Christmas Day, December 25th.

NEW YEARS DAY SERVICE will be held at the regular time of 10:30 a.m. on January 1st.

COMING TOMORROW (Christmas Day):

Scripture: Isaiah 62:6-12/Luke 2:8-20

Sermon: “The Gift of the Christmas Cookie”