

SERVING THE CHURCH This Week	SERVING THE CHURCH Next Week	
Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse	Liturgist: Jerry Kross	
Sound:	Sound:	
Ushers: Jan Kross Linda Stenhouse	Ushers: Jan Kross Linda Stenhouse	
Elder of the Month		
For December: Jerry Kross, 864-915-3560		
For January: Linda Stenhouse, 864-967-7218 (H), 864-979-2863 (cell)		
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

2 Cents-A-Meal
Next Week!

Cover Art:
Google Images



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

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church

Simpsonville, SC

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

Welcome, announcements

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch has office hours on Tuesdays from 9 a.m.—
Noon. Call the Church office 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 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" arr. Herbster

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Jerry Kross, Liturgist

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song,

People: for the true light has come into the world!

Leader: Break forth into singing,

People: for in Christ is life!

Leader: The Word has become flesh and lives among us,

All: And we have seen God's glory, full of grace and truth!

OPENING HYMNS: #22 "Angels, From the Realms of Glory" (vs. 1 & 2)

Hymn #38 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (vs. 1 & 2)

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: Reading: Gary Klein

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

O Christ, reflection of God's glory, let this be a day that changes us. Let this be a day that challenges us to live as those you have blessed. Let this be a day that we find not only forgiveness, but a new way forward. Renew your call to us. Save us, forgive us, and inspire us to allow our lives to be imbued with your presence. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We celebrate God's steadfast love this day. No matter what we do, no matter what we neglect to do, that love never changes, and we are forgiven.

Coming Next Sunday—New Years Day:

Scripture: Isaiah 63:7-9/Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon: From Bethlehem to Rosewood

Communion



**Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas!**

STEWARDSHIP: The 2023 pledge card communication packet contains a budget summary that supports our plan to continue with Stated Supply into the new year. As we shared at our congregational meeting, we will also be assessing our overall financial status in the first six months of the year with the hope of taking our next step, in planning a move from Stated Supply to a more permanent Pastoral status. Timing of this move will depend heavily on our ability to retire most or all our current mortgage (\$75,600), investment income performance and the result of our 2023 pledge campaign. In all this, your financial support is critical. After you prayerfully consider and complete your 2023 Faith Promise, you may return it to the office (attention Bill Marshall) or place it in the offering plate any Sunday.

2022 YEAR END GIVING: As you review your 2022 giving status, please consider a year end gift to the church. If you are mailing in your gift, please have it post marked by Dec 31, 2022, or earlier to be considered as a 2022 gift for tax purposes. You can also leave your gift at the church office by Dec 31 with attention to Bill Marshall. If you have any questions, please contact Bill at 864-230-5268.

IN-KIND GIVING CLOSE OUT FOR YEAR-END: If you have outstanding in-kind gifts you would like included in your 2022 giving statement, please have those receipts and the accompanying form requesting they be recorded as in-kind, completed and submitted to the church office by Wednesday Dec 28, 2022.

2022 REIMBURSEMENT CLOSEOUT: If you have any receipts supporting church business that you will be requesting reimbursement for, please have the receipts and the accompanying reimbursement form completed, signed and in the church office no later than Wednesday, Dec 28.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS: The ordination and installation of class of 2024 Session members will be held on Sunday, January 8th during worship service. Candie Vaitkevicius will be ordained and installed, and Jackie Koch and Linda Stenhouse will be reinstalled.

People: Thank God for peace! Thank God for good news! Thank God for redemption!

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!*

HYMNS #23 *“Angels We Have Heard on High” (vs. 1 & 2)*

Hymn #44 *“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (vs. 1 & 2)*

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Isaiah 62:6-12/Luke 2:8-20

SERMON: “The Gift of the Christmas Cookie” 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.

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 "Christmas Medley" arr. Bisharat/Purifoy

***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 HYMNS #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (vs. 1 & 2)**

Hymn #40 "Joy to the World" (vs. 1 & 2)

***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 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Wade

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 are our lovely poinsettias. If you chose to take your flower(s) home, please do so after today's service. If you cannot take your flower today and would still like it, let Linda Stenhouse know.

REFRESHMENTS this week are provided by Jan & Jerry Kross. 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: Barb & Roger Daugherty, Jim & Linda Stenhouse

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Sharon Stone (12/27), Kitty Shealy (12/28)

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.

VIDEO RECORDINGS: Video recordings of services that have been previously recorded are available on the Church's website: 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."