

Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Our Lady of Sorrows, 1883
Pedro Americo

Third Sunday in Advent
December 11, 2022 | 10:30 am Traditional Service

Ushers

Anna Henry
Judith Benjamin
Randy Ellis
Linda Gilsrud
Tim Gilsrud

Acolyte

Evie Buckley

WE GATHER TO PRAISE

Let us now prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

We are glad you are with us in worship today and we ask that you silence your cell phones and other devices upon entering the sanctuary. Children are welcome in worship although a nursery is available in the children's hall at the rear of the church. Please ask an usher for guidance. Following the Word for Children those up to 2nd grade are invited to follow a staff member for Children's Chapel.

INTROIT

Bells Are Ringing
Preschool & PreKindergarten Choirs; Iris Ellis, Director

Susan Nipp

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

THREE CHIMES

*The Three Chimes Represent
the Trinity-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

PRELUDE

The Holly and the Ivy
Chancel Ringers; Suzanne Morrison, Director

arr. Patricia Sanders

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Chris Bone

One: Into the dry and desolate places of our lives
God brings new things to bear.

**ALL: The desert rejoices and blossoms,
the wilderness teems with new life.**

One: Sorrow and sighing will flee:

ALL: Let us come into God's presence with singing!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 88

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
VERSES 1,2,3,6,7

VENI EMMANUEL

* Please stand if able.

Welcome to worship this
third Sunday of Advent.
Throughout this season, we
prepare our hearts for the
arrival of Jesus Christ into
the world on Christmas,
and we celebrate in faith
that Christ is here and Christ
will come again. During
this season of Advent, we'll
anticipate Christ's coming
by seeking out the glimmer
of light that shines in the
darkness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)

God of surprise and magnificence, it is easy for us to rejoice when the desert blooms with new life and to give thanks when we are filled with good things. However, it is more difficult to pray for the rich and powerful to be turned upside down and sent away empty while the poor and weak are held up as blessed. Being among those the world perceives as the powerful and privileged, forgive us for all the ways we have used others and spoiled your creation to build our tiny kingdoms. Forgive us for assuming we are particularly blessed by you when many in the world with much less don't take your blessings for granted. Refocus and direct us to use our power and wealth for the good of your world so that we may receive true blessings in the way of Christ.

Silence for Personal Confession

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (ALL)

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, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven. By the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day He rose again, in fulfillment of 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. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

After we hear the good news, we stand to say what we believe in an Affirmation of Faith. Often these words come from the church's creeds and confessions. In these writings, we remember and tell the world who we are, what we believe, and how we hope to live according to God's Way.

*GLORIA PATRI 581

H.W. GREATORREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

The third Sundays of
Advent have been given
various designations, but a
traditional set of meanings
is one that we use in
worship. The candles of
the Advent wreath stand
for God's promises of
Hope, Peace, Joy, and
Love. We pray for these
words to be fulfilled in
your life and in the lives of
the whole world.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship
John Matthews

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Buckley Family:
Stuart, Kate, EJ, Evie, and Ben

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Patsy Gregory
Amy and Richard Hunt
Jan Mason McCabe
Lauren and Kurt Meng

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

WORD FOR CHILDREN

All children are invited to come forward at the pastor's invitation.
Following the Word for Children, children Preschool-2nd grade may leave for children's chapel.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7
pg 1072 OT

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Come See this Child in Bethlehem
Chancel Ringers

arr: Linda Lamb

SECOND READING

Luke 1:39-56
pg 1589 NT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary."

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

WE SHARE OUR LIFE & GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Ding, Dong, Merrily on High
Chancel Ringers

arr. Fred Gramann

*DOXOLOGY (606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 99

MORNING SONG

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway
Amy Bishop, Organist

arr. Hobby

Prayer List

Hospital

Johnny Alexander
Wendy Stephens

Home

Jan LaBoone
Janella Brand
Dee Davis
Faye Foster
Harlan Hambright
Steve Goyer
Linda Johnston
Mary Lewis
Lanier Miles
Sally Miles
Jamie Scott

Surgery

Bob Harper

Long-term Care

Joann Bobb
Joe Camp
Kathy Chapman
Lynn Forsythe
Bob Stanford
Frances Teel

Hospice

Nancy Thrun



If You Are New Here. Whether you are visiting from out-of-town, a seasonal resident, or searching for a church home, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please be sure to speak with a pastor before or after today's worship or fill out the friendship register, located at the end of each pew. We would love to get to know you better!



Child Care. Children of all ages are welcome in worship. If you prefer, a nursery is available for children, birth through age five. The nursery is located in the Children's Wing at the rear of the church.



To Aid in Worship. Advanced listening technology is available for those with a hearing impairment. Please locate an usher for assistance.



If You Are in Need of Prayer. Please let us know how we can be praying for you by visiting with a pastor or staff member before or after worship, or by visiting sspres.org/prayer.



Worship Online. A livestream of the 10:30A worship service is available every Sunday at sspres.org/livestream. A recording of the worship is available immediately afterwards for viewing anytime. To hear sermons online, visit sspres.org/sermons or subscribe to the St. Simons Presbyterian Podcast on iTunes or Google Play.



Ways to Give. Offering boxes can be found at the entrances to the sanctuary. You can also give electronically through text messaging or Venmo. Text the code "SSPC" and send to the number: 73256. Or give with Venmo by scanning the QR code on the right or by searching for @sspres. You can also mail or drop off checks or cash offering to the church office anytime M-F from 9A-4P (205 Kings Way).

venmo



SPIRITUAL FORMATION AT ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN

Mission

Manna House

*First Monday of Every Month.
1408 G Street, Brunswick, GA*
Help prepare, serve, and cleanup a meal for guests at "Manna House," a local soup kitchen ministry.

Annie Franklin Arvin at annie@sspres.org

PAL Mentoring Program

Mentor children in Brunswick elementary schools as part of Positive Adult Leadership (PAL) Mentoring.

Richard Hathaway at thehathaways2@comcast.net.

Community & Global Missions

Share God's love with service locally and globally. Missions include Angel Tree Christmas Gifts, Hunger Action Team, and summer mission trips.

Children

Children's Chapel

Sundays: following the "Word for Children" during worship. (*Pre K-2nd*)

Kidz Crew (*Resumes in January*)

Wednesdays: (Preschool to Grade 5)

Faith, fun, and music.

Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM.

KidZ Fellowship (Grades 3 to 5)

Monthly on Sundays: Faith and fun. Meet on the Veranda at 5PM.

Frieda Warner at frieda@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Youth

Youth Group

Sunday evenings at 6:00PM.

Meet on the Veranda.

Breakfast Devotion (Grades 6 to 12)

Tuesdays at 7:00AM at Chick-Fil-A

Transportation to school is available for middle schoolers.

Annie Franklin Arvin at annie@sspres.org

Adults

Try Something New Ministry

A group that is all about loving, connecting, serving, learning, and celebrating together.

Nat Scott at Nat@sspres.org or 638-2220.

TGIF/Crossroads Ministry

Casual social gatherings for the 20s/30s/40s group. Location and dates vary. Kids welcome.

Madelynne Risi at Madelynne@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Discipleship

Sunday School

Begins at 9:30 AM in Various Locations

Sunday School classes are available for all ages.

Coffee will be made available for all.

:: Names for the Messiah

By Walter Brueggemann - Upper Room

Frieda Warner at frieda@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10AM in the Upper Room

Men's Bible Study led by Nat Scott every Wednesday.

Visitors are always welcome. *John Matthews at*

jhmatthews7@comcast.net.

Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group

Thursdays at 10AM in the Upper Room

Gwen Mayberry gwenmayberry@gmail.com or 638-8711.

Presbyterian Women (PW) Circle

All women are invited to join a PW Circle.

Circles meet for Bible Study each month.

Nardis Kellar at nardisk@gmail.com or (912) 230-2254

Ginny Connors at ginnyconnors1@gmail.com

or (608) 220-8481

Music

Choir

Choirs for all ages are available. See Children and Youth for graded choir schedule. Adults meet in the Sanctuary on Wednesday nights.

Handbells and Other Instrumentation

Handbells, chimes and instruments remain an important part of the ministry of St. Simons Presbyterian. For more information about the music ministry, please contact Rhonda Hambright or Suzanne Morrison.

Rhonda Hambright at rhonda@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Suzanne Morrison at suzanne@sspres.org

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care

To notify the church of illness, hospitalization, births, deaths, or prayer request, contact the church office at 912-638-2220. If you need pastoral care after hours please contact one of our pastors.

Rev. Steve Goyer 904-718-7777

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin 828-443-0299

Rev. Laurie Bentley 912-580-7903



An opportunity for "Adulting Together"
and a time to catch during this busy season!
Dinner will be provided by the church & BYOB.
Childcare will not be provided for this event.



This Week | December 11-16

Sunday, December 11

- 8:30 am **Early Worship** - Sanctuary
- 9:30 am **Adult Sunday School** - Upper Room
- 9:30 am **New Members Meeting** - Social Hall
- 10:30 am **Traditional Worship** - Sanctuary
- 1:00 pm **PW Planning** - John Law
- 5:30 pm **Youth Lights** - Jekyll Island

Monday, December 12

- 6:30 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law

Tuesday, December 13

- 7:00 am **Youth Chick-fil-a Breakfast** - SSI Chick-fil-A
- 9:30 am **Staff Meeting** - Upper Room
- 9:30 am **Preschool Christmas Program(2s)** - Social Hall
- 10:00 am **PW Morning Glories** - Upper Room
- 1:00 pm **Snow Bird Lunch Planning** - John Law
- 4:00 pm **PW Ladies of the Night** - Upper Room

Wednesday, December 14

- 9:00 am **Pastoral Care Coordinating Team** - John Law
- 9:30 am **Preschool Christmas Program (3/4s)** - Social Hall
- 10:00 am **Men's Bible Study** - Upper Room
- 1:30 pm **Hands and Heart Quilting Ministry** - Music Attic
- 4:30 pm **Caroling on the Trolley** - Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm **Chancel Ensemble** - Sanctuary
- 5:15 pm **Early Music Ensemble** - Rhonda's Office
- 6:15 pm **Chancel Choir** - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 15

- 10:00 am **Ladies Bible Study** - Upper Room
- 4:30 pm **Pastor Nominating Committee** - Upper Room

Friday, December 16

- 6:00 pm **Live Nativity** - Front Lawn
- 7:00 pm **Live Nativity** - Front Lawn
- 7:30 pm **Youth Lock In** - Youth Suite

Saturday, December 17

- 6:00 pm **Cross Road Gathering** - Risi's Home

Chancel Flowers: The Chancel flowers this morning are given in memory of Lydia Thompson by her family.

Christmas Poinsettias: Every Advent Season many of our folks order poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones and then see how beautiful they look at Christmas time. All proceeds will go towards our Deacons fund. Deadline to order is December 12. Order at sspres.org/Poinsettia

Joy Gift Offering: Today's special Christmas offering goes to supporting retired PC(USA) Church Workers & PC(USA) Racial Ethnic Schools & Colleges

Christmas Wreaths: The wreaths on the front doors of the church are given by Ron and Alex Binkney in honor of Alex's parents, Bill and Meg Way.

Christian Sympathy: We extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Grant Brown (formal Music Director), who passed away on Tuesday, December 6. Please join us in praying for God's peace and comfort to surround Grant's family and friends near and far who mourn his passing.

To Ponder Prayerfully

Eternity

“**H**E WHO BINDS TO HIMSELF A JOY DOES THE WINGED LIFE DESTROY
HE WHO KISSES THE JOY AS IT FLIES LIVES IN ETERNITY’S SUNRISE.”

— WILLIAM BLAKE

St. Simons Presbyterian Church

Ministers: All members of the church

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

Interim Pastor
steve@sspres.org

Nat Scott

Congregational Life
nat@sspres.org

Rhonda Hambright

Music Director
rhonda@sspres.org

Jeannine Torbert

Finance /Administration
jeannine@sspres.org

Madelynne Risi

BRIDGE Director
madelynne@sspres.org

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

Assoc. Pastor of Youth & Mission
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Leslie McCracken

Clerk of Session

Pat Heran

Chair of Deacons

Iris Ellis

Children’s Choir Director

Doug Marshall

Worship Tech Specialist

Bob Harper

Treasurer



*St. Simons Presbyterian Church is a member of the Savannah
Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

205 Kings Way

St. Simons Island, GA 31522

| 912-638-2220



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