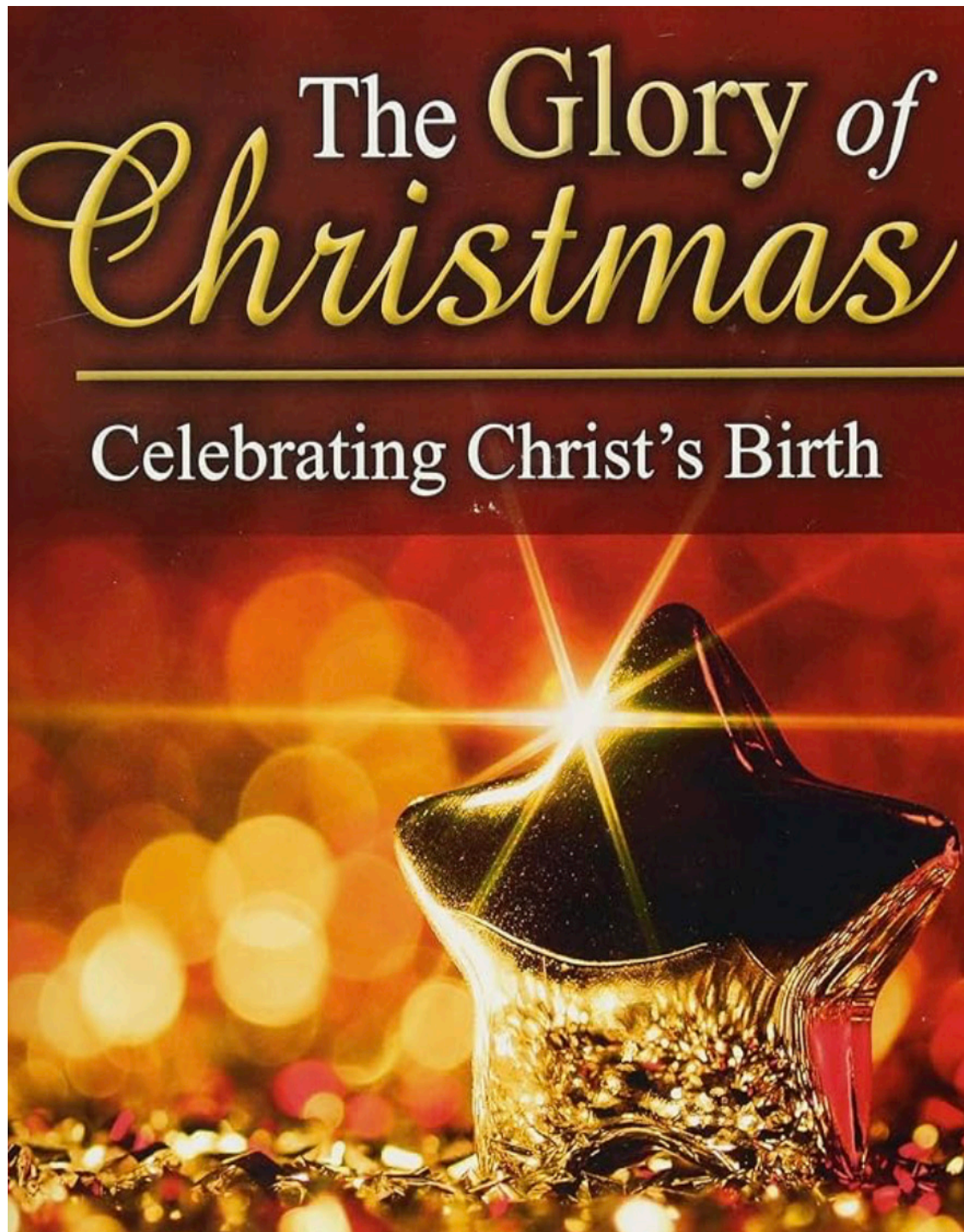


Service for the Lord's Day
ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Third Sunday in Advent
December 17, 2023 | 10:30 am Traditional Service

WE GATHER TO PRAISE

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

Ushers

Jerry Hardiman
Chris Bone
Lynda Bisher
Angie Votsis
Pat Heran

Acolyte

Chase Callaway

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.

THREE CHIMES

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

PRAYER LIST

Members

Millard Allen
Anne Faust Brown
Harlan Hambright
Leah Hopkins
Pat Kent

Joyce Kitchens

Stephen Nelms

Dorothy Russell

Stephen Scarlett

Friends and Family

Ellen Fixx

Jack Franklin

Rhett Rhame

Mary Whaley

Long-term Care

Mary Katherine Arens

Joann Bobb

Joan Cummings

Doris Hewell

Ellen Knesek Knowlton

Bill Lueckel

Deryl Warner

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Brooks Family

Taylor, Kelsi, Abiney, and Estes

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS!

Arr. By Lloyd Larson

Orchestrations by Ed Hogan

Conductor: Rhonda Hambright

Narrators: Fred and Emmeline Griffith

Come and Worship the New Born King

“Ding Dong, Merrily on High” Traditional

Congregation:

Traditional French

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

* Please stand if able.

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

SUSSEX CAROL, Traditional English

Congregation:

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

African American Spiritual; quoting EST IST EIN ROS'
Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1599

THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

Lloyd Larson, incorporating CRANHAM by Holst, 1906

THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

Child of Promise, Child of Love

Ann Nermoe, Soloist
arr. with New Music, Lloyd Larson; See Amid the
Winter's Snow - HUMILITY, Goss ; Gentle Mary Laid
Her Child" from Piae Cantiones

THE MAJESTY OF CHRISTMAS

Jesus is Born Tonight!

Members of Kidz Ensemble
arr. Larson; Traditional Bohemian Melody and
MENDELSSOHN by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Congregation:

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ is Born This Holy Night

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS

Arr. Larson; Traditional French, Austrian,
and Polish Melodies

OFFERING

Guide us to the Perfect Light

THE BRILLIANCE OF CHRISTMAS

arr. Larson, quoting **KINGS OF ORIENT**
by John H. Hopkins, Jr. 1857

THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

The Glory of Christmas! (Finale)

arr. Larson,

Congregation:

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

SOLI DEO GLORIA

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C/Joy to the World
Amy Bishop, Organist

Bach/Handel

MUSICIANS

CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano

Laurie Bentley
Marcia Dobbin
Wanda Guokas
Brenda Haughney
Rixie Hendry
Kathy Lindsay
Ginnie Schroder
Bonnie Springer
Sheryl Vaughters

Alto

Jane Drake
Nancy Matthews
Beverly McCreary
Lisa NcNeal
Ann Nermoe
Ellen Smith
Audrey Stewart
Judy Stipp
Mary Jo Townsend

Tenor

Tom Haughney
Anna Henry
Mark Lochstampfor
David Stewart

Bass

Richard Hathaway
Bud Longley
Fleming Martin

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Flute 1.....	Les Roettges
Flute 2.....	Carolyn Menke
Oboe.....	Liam Nunn
Clarinet 1.....	AnnMarie Morrison
Clarinet 2.....	Judy Foster
Bassoon.....	Ehren Hoehn
French Horn 1	Mike Morgan
French Horn 2.....	Suzanne Knox
Trumpet 1.....	Anne Marie Stirewalt
Trumpet 2.....	Ed Jackson
Trumpet 3.....	Don Davis
Trombone 1.....	Aiden Cromwell
Trombone 2	John Simmons
Tuba.....	Mike Bradberry
Percussion 1.....	Jess Hunter
Percussion 2.....	Quan Armstrong
Percussion 3.....	Charlotte Zell
Timpani.....	Harlan Hambright
Harp, Vibes, Marimba.....	Iris Ellis
Piano.....	Amy Bishop
Violin 1.....	Ann Hertler
Violin 2.....	Patrice Evans
Viola.....	Sue Pardue
Cello.....	Brian Magnus
Bass.....	Jason Lindsay



STEWARDSHIP GIVING UPDATE

\$1,500,000 OPERATING BUDGET



154 PLEDGES



AS OF DECEMBER 14, 2023,

We have received 154 Pledges totaling \$925,724 which is 61.7% of the 2024 Budget of \$1,500,000.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged to support our church for the upcoming year. In case you haven't had the chance, please review the 2024 Ministry Report attached below. This report provides a detailed account of our spending, which we hope you'll consider prayerfully as you contemplate your pledge to our church.

[SSPRES.ORG/GIVING](https://sspres.org/giving)



the Longest Night

A WINTER SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING
Thursday, December 21
7 PM | Sanctuary
LIVESTREAM AT
SSPRES.ORG/LONGESTNIGHT

CHRISTMAS EVE
Nativity Tableau
10:30AM OR 5:30PM
(Communion Service at 9PM)
Tableau parts for Children
in Grades Pre-K thru 2nd
SIGNUP REQUIRED

SIGNUP FOR NATIVITY
SSPRES.ORG/CHRISTMAS-EVE




Christmas Eve Services

WORSHIP, CAROLS & CANDLES
10:30AM A WORSHIP SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S NATIVITY TABLEAU

LESSONS, CAROLS, & CANDLES
5:30PM A FULL SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S NATIVITY TABLEAU

CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION
9:00PM AN ABBREVIATED SERVICE WITH CAROLS AND COMMUNION

5:30PM LIVESTREAM AT SSPRES.ORG




TRY SOMETHING NEW DAY TOUR OF SAPELO

JANUARY 11 **8AM - 3PM | LIMITED TO 30 PPL**
Explore the historic treasures on the South end of Sapelo Island with local resident and master basket maker, Yvonne Grovner.

DETAILS & SIGNUP AT SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS






ONLINE DIRECTORY

WE ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF UPDATING OUR ONLINE DIRECTORY.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO PROVIDE YOUR INFO USING THE LINK BELOW.

THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE WILL BECOME PART OF THE CHURCH'S RECORDS, BUT WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

LINK TO DIRECTORY UPDATE
SSPRES.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Feel free to call the church office with Questions: 638-2220

This Week | December 17-22

Sunday, December 17

- 8:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 9:30 am **Sunday School** - Various Locations
- 10:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm **Movie Night (I Heard the Bells)** - Youth Suite

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

No Activities Scheduled for this Date

Office Closed from 11 am-1 pm for a Staff Christmas Lunch

Wednesday, December 20

- 10:00 am **Grief Group** - Parlor
- 11:00 am **Early Music Ensemble** - Rhonda's Office
- 3:00 pm **Sonshine for the Soul** - John Law
- 6:45 pm **Chancel Choir** - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 21

- 7:00 pm **Longest Night Service** - Sanctuary

Friday, December 22

No Activities Scheduled for this Date

Joy Gift Offering: Today's special Christmas offering goes to supporting retired PC(USA) Church Workers & PC(USA) Racial Ethnic Schools & Colleges. Please use the envelopes in the pews, scan the QR code, or text "SSPC joygift" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.



Draw Near Advent Banners-Designed by Hannah Garrity

Details in the banners weave the Christmas story with inspiration from the poetic "Draw Near" prayers by Sarah Are, including images of her metaphors. The overall image is laid out around the Madonna and Child, located in the banner on the right. The star of Bethlehem rises over an elusive horizon line in the banner on the left. Shepherds gaze up from the fields. A sheep stands in the foreground of the left hand banner. Circling top to bottom in a counterclockwise flow, tiny cut outs represent our weekly sub-themes, to draw near to wonder, truth, justice, and one another. The sky, stars, leaves, tree branches, and raindrops intertwine to represent wonder. Truth is portrayed by the horizon line and the curling waves; water cleanses each of us of our sins, reminding us that honesty is what God requires. Justice is on the earth, represented by wildflowers in bloom at the bottom of the banners. Roots of the tree of wisdom flow downward from the Madonna and Child representing a world rooted in justice. Finally, sun rays radiate toward the wildflowers of justice at the bottom of the right hand banner to convey the idea of drawing near to one another. The rays symbolize the intangible connection between human beings.

Elders

Class of 2024

Lee Dillard
 Leslie Hartman
 Buddy Jones
 Mike Kellar
 John Matthews
 Meg Mimbs
 Jerry Spencer

Class of 2025

Chris Bone
 Mary Bryson
 Mary Gash
 Jeff Roberts
 Philip Saussy
 Anne Marie Stirewalt
 Will Tsai

Class of 2026

Sandi Goeldner
 Kevin Lokey
 Lee Malone
 Bryan Neill
 Daryl Rabert
 Tate Simpson
 Carrie Wessel

Deacons

Class of 2024

Lynda Bisher
 Nancy Fixx
 Tom Haughney
 Denise Hidalgo
 Michael Johnson
 Jan Rossiter
 Andrew Turner

Class of 2025

Ami Bishop
 Kelsi Brooks
 Anna Henry
 Sandy Kilgore
 John LaBoone
 Graham Owens
 Joe Wills

Class of 2026

Anne Aspinwall
 Judy Benjamin
 Jackie Griffin
 David Keen
 Lowell Korb
 Katie Rossiter
 Linda Seierstad

Staff

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

Interim Pastor
steve@sspres.org

Amy Bishop

Organist
amy@sspres.org

Frieda Warner

Children's Ministry/CE
frieda@sspres.org

Donna Purdy

Administrative Assistant
donna@sspres.org

Doug Marshall

Worship Tech Specialist

Rev. Laurie Bentley

Parish Associate
laurie@sspres.org

Suzanne Morrison

Handbells
suzanne@sspres.org

Eliza Ours

Youth Director
eliza@sspres.org

David Keen

Interm Facility Manager
david@sspres.org

Leslie McCracken

Clerk of Session

Rhonda Hambricht

Music Director
rhonda@sspres.org

Nat Scott

Congregational Life
nat@sspresv.org

Jeannine Torbert

Finance /Administration
jeannine@sspres.org

Madelynne Risi

Mission& Outreach
madelynne@sspres.org

Anne Aspinwall

Chair of Deacons

Ada Owens

Communications
ada@sspres.org

Ashley Biletzskov

Preschool Director
ashley@sspres.org

Bob Harper

Treasurer



Savannah Presbytery



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



www.sspres.org



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