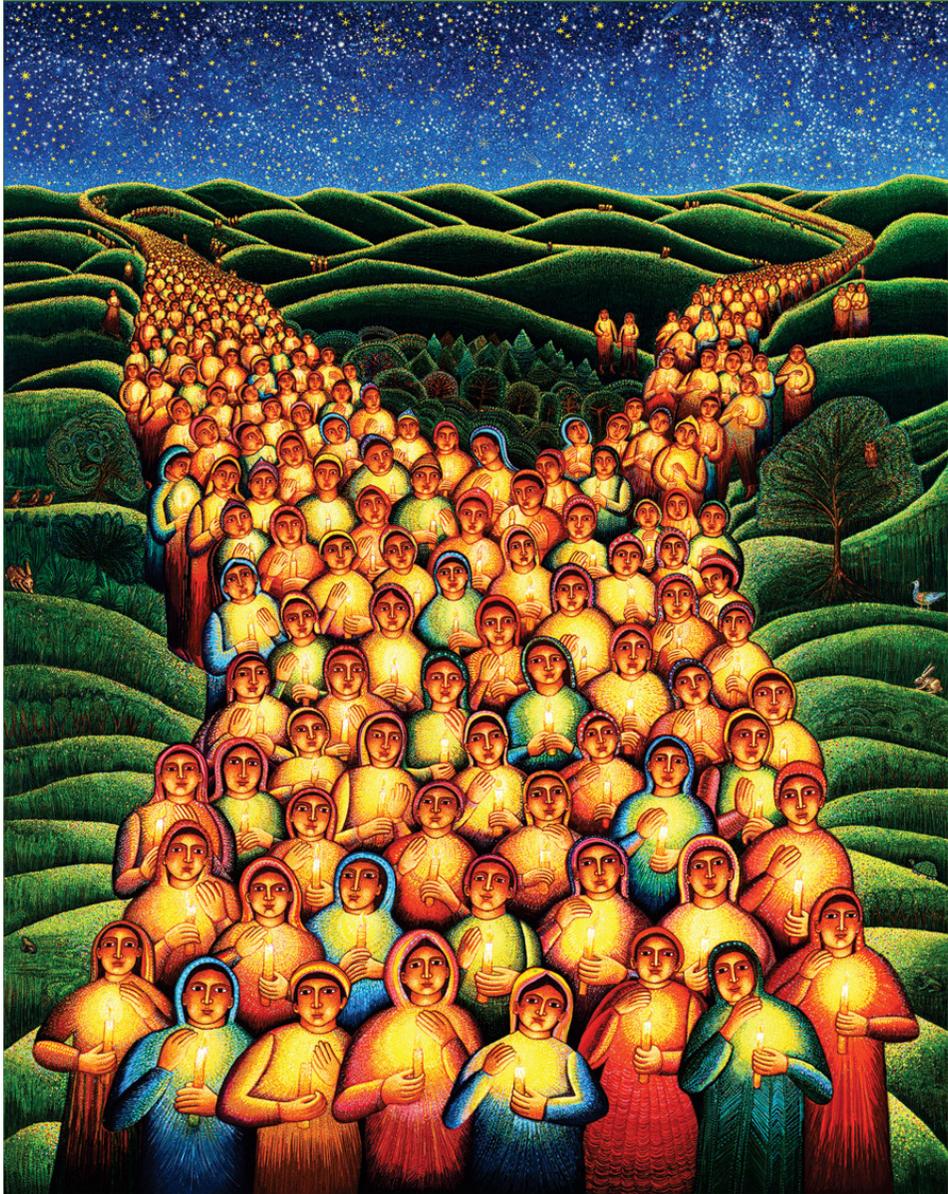


Candles and Carols

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Festival of Lights"
John Augustus Swanson

Christmas Eve Candles & Carols

December 24, 2018 | 5:30 pm Worship

Ushers

Sean Hidalgo
 Emma Hidalgo
 Sophie Hidalgo
 Mary Bryson
 Ben Bryson
 Fred Griffith
 Thomas Arvin
 Sandi Goeldner

Instrumentalists

Anne Marie Stirewalt
 Trumpet

John Morrison
 French Horn

Ann Marie Morrison
 Clarinet

Landon Wilson
 Percussion

David Stewart
 Percussion

Harlan Hambright
 Guitar & Timpani

Amy Bishop
 Piano & Organ

Acolyte

Anderson Chambliss

WELCOME

Welcome to worship at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. As you enter the sanctuary, please silence your cell phones. All children are welcome in worship. Please note that out of consideration for our nursery workers, we do not provide a nursery for this Christmas Eve service. If you prefer, a "rocking room" with live video of the service as well as toys for children is available in the Chapel located outside of the front right door of the sanctuary.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Amy Bishop, Organ
 Rhonda Hambright, Piano

CHRISTMAS WELCOME

Rev. Alan Dyer

PRELUDE

Larson

Prepare the Way
 Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

One: By the tender mercy of our God,

ALL: **The dawn from on high will break upon us,**

One: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

ALL: **To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

One: Come, for the time has drawn near;

ALL: **Come, let us welcome the Christ-child into our hearts anew!**

***OPENING HYMN 133**

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful

CHRISTMAS PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL)

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.

THE LORD'S ADVENT IS TOLD TO MARY

SOLO

Greene

Mary, Did You Know?
Ann Nermoe

FIRST READING

Luke 1:26-38
Page 1588, NT

Haynes Hallman

CAROL

Martin

He Shall Feed His Flock
Chancel Choir

THE LORD'S ADVENT IS TOLD TO JOSEPH

SECOND READING

Matthew 1:18-24
Page 1497, NT

Margaret Ernst

*HYMN 140

IRBY

Once in Royal David's City

OFFERING

Noel Festival
Chancel Choir

French Carol, African Folksong,
English Carol

The offering received tonight will go to the St. Simons Presbyterian Church Deacon's Fund which is used to assist those in need in our community. The Deacon's Fund allows the church to provide (at the pastor's discretion), food, electricity, gas for transportation, temporary emergency lodging, and other urgent aid to those who come to the church in dire and immediate need.

THE LORD IS BORN

THIRD READING

Luke 2:1-20
Page 1590, NT

Mel Baxter

SOLO

Adam/arr. Hayes

O Holy Night
Rhonda Hambright

NATIVITY TABLEAU

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright:
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CANDLELIGHT HYMN

STILLE NACHT

Silent Night, Holy Night

*The congregation is invited to remain seated and turn on their
candles during the singing of the candlelight hymn.*

Tonight we light the Christ
Candle remembering that
with the birth of Christ,
salvation has drawn near.
The God who ordered the
chaos of the universe has
come down into the chaos
of our world. The Word
which was with God at
the beginning has come
to dwell among us. In the
words of Eugene Peterson,
"The Word became flesh
and blood, and moved into
the neighborhood."

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born; Christ the Saviour is born!"

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Saviour is born; Christ the Saviour is born.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CANDLELIGHT PROCESSIONAL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen 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!"

As our time of worship ends, the work of Christmas begins. And what is the work of Christmas? In the words of Dr. Howard Thurman: "To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart."

Please keep moving away from the doors as you exit. Thank you.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXITING THE SANCTUARY

The congregation is invited to join the choir on the front driveway of the church following worship (weather permitting) to “sing in Christmas” by candlelight. Ushers will help guide you as you exit. Please remember to return your candles to the collection baskets being held by ushers following the singing.

Transepts and Front of Sanctuary: Please exit sanctuary using the doors on either side of the chancel. Follow signs to outside paths that lead to front driveway.

Back of Sanctuary: Please exit using the main sanctuary doors at the rear of the sanctuary. Please be considerate to those behind you by continuing to move away from the doors as you exit onto the front driveway.

SINGING IN CHRISTMAS

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day.
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove.
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

SIGN UP FOR CHANCEL FLOWERS 2019

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ON A SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP DURING 2019, PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A SPECIFIC WEEK ON THE FLOWER BOARD IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN HALLWAY. PLEASE BE SURE TO EMAIL ADA OWENS WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN A WEEK PRIOR TO THE SUNDAY YOU SIGN UP FOR! (ADA@SSPRES.ORG)



THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 27 | 6 - 9 PM | Britt Room
RSVP by December 20th
DETAILS & REGISTRATION ONLINE

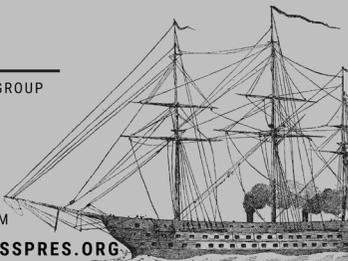
LAND, AIR, & SEA

WITH THE TRY SOMETHING NEW GROUP
JANUARY. 10. 2018

WE WILL VISIT:

- THE RAILROAD MUSEUM
- SHIPS OF THE SEA MUSEUM
- MIGHTY 8TH AIR FORCE MUSEUM

MORE INFO & SIGN UP AT SSPRES.ORG
RSVP DEADLINE IS JANUARY 3RD



PIZZA+ MOVIE NIGHT

AND SALAD, TOO!

JAN
13TH

ALL ARE WELCOME!
SIGN UP ONLINE
AT SSPRES.ORG

Merry Christmas!

Thank you for worshipping with
St. Simons Presbyterian Church!

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 worshipping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please indicate that on the Friendship Registers that are located on the ends of the pews so that we can be in touch with you soon.

Child Care. Children of all ages are welcome in worship. A nursery is not provided for Christmas Eve worship in order to allow our regular nursery staff to worship with their families on this special night. If you prefer, a "rocking room" with live video of the service as well as toys for children is available in the Chapel located outside of the front right door of the sanctuary.

If You Are in Need of Prayer. You may fill out a prayer request card (available in the pews) and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

To Aid in Worship. A "Rocking Room" with live video of the service is available in the chapel located outside of the front right doors of the sanctuary. Hearing assistance devices may be obtained from the ushers.

Sermons Online. To hear sermons online, visit www.sspres.org/sermons.

Sign up for our eNewsletter. Stay informed by subscribing to our weekly eNewsletter. Sign up on our friendship register or visit www.sspres.org/newsletters.

Christmas Wreaths: The wreaths on the front doors of the church are given to the glory of God by Ron and Alex Binkney in honor of their grandchildren.

Sign up for Chancel Flowers: If you are interested in providing the Chancel flowers for worship on a Sunday in 2019, please sign up on the flowers board in the Memorial Garden Hallway.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend: Drs. Genie and Preston Dyer - retired social work and family studies professors from Baylor University in Texas - will be coming to the island to lead a Friday/Saturday marriage enrichment retreat at SSPC. More info to come, but mark your calendars now for the weekend of February 22nd & 23rd!

Poinsettias: If you dedicated a poinsettia this year, please feel free to take one home with you after the service this evening.



Let's go BOWLING!

JANUARY 20TH | 6 PM | STRIKE ZONE

WE WILL MEET AT THE BOWLING ALLEY AT 6 PM.
COST IS \$10 PER PERSON. ALL ARE WELCOME!

To Ponder Prayerfully

Eternal Birth

“**T**HE ETERNAL BIRTH WHICH GOD BORE AND BEARS UNCEASINGLY IN ETERNITY IS NOW BORN IN TIME, IN HUMAN NATURE. **ST. AUGUSTINE** SAYS THIS BIRTH IS ALWAYS HAPPENING. **BUT** IF IT DOES NOT HAPPEN IN ME, WHAT DOES IT PROFIT ME? **WHAT MATTERS** IS THAT IT SHALL HAPPEN IN ME.”

—Meister Eckhart

St. Simons Presbyterian Church

Ministers: All members of the church

Rev. Alan Dyer

Pastor
alan@sspres.org

Nat Scott

Congregational Life
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Rhonda Hambright

Music Ministry
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Jeannine Torbert

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Judy Cauley

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Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

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Ada Owens

Dir. of Communications
ada@sspres.org

Al Ledingham

Treasurer



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

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