Worship, Carols, and Nativity Tableau

St. Simons Presbyterian Church



O Holy Night Mackenzie Kissell

Christmas Eve

Ushers

Jan Rossiter Charlotte Zell Lee Dillard Anne Aspinwall Morgan Aspinwall

> Acolyte Arthur Owens

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

He is Born, the Divine Christ Child Amy Bishop, Organist arr. Larson

CHRISTMAS WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer

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 morning service.

*Call to Worship

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

ALL: break forth into singing and give praise!

One: The Lord has brought comfort to all people;

ALL: the Lord will bring righteousness and peace.

One: With one voice, let us cry out:

ALL: Praise the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rossiter Family
Luke, Katie, and Connor

*Opening Hymn 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

CHRISTMAS 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Rocking
Rhonda Hambright, Soloist

Traditional Czech Carol

* Please stand if able.

The offering received this morning 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

aid to those who come to the church in dire

and immediate need.

73256.

Gifts can also be made electronically by texting the code "SSPC" to

lodging, and other urgent

NATIVITY TABLEAU

FIRST READING

Jesus is Born!

CAROL

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.

SECOND READING

The Angels Appear

CAROL

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.

THIRD READING

The Shepherds Adore Him

CAROL

The First Noel

The first Noel 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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

FOURTH READING

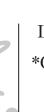
The Wise Men Bring Gifts

CAROL

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!

Children are invited to come forward during the Carol that coordinates with their costume, beginning with Mary and Joseph during Away in the Manger.



LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Candlelight Hymn



Silent Night

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.



*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Postlude

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."

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.

Joe Wills at willsjoe@gmail.com

PAL Mentoring Program

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

Richard Hathaway at rshssi24@gmail.com

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

Wednesdays: (Preschool to Grade 5) Faith, fun, and music. Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM.

KidZ Ensemble (Grades 3 to 5) *Monthly on Sundays:* Before KidZ Fellowship Meet in the Music Attic at 4PM. Use the Veranda Door

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 Ensemble

Sunday evenings at 5:00PM. Meet on the Music Attic - Use the Veranda Door.

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.

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.

Discipleship

Sunday School

Begins at 9:30 AM in Various Locations Sunday School classes are available for all ages. Coffee will be in the Britt Room.

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

Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 10:00AM in the Upper Room
Men's Bible Study led by Nat Scott every Wednesday. Visitors are always welcome.

John Matthews at jhmatthews 7@comcast.net.

Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group

Thurdays at 10:00AM in the John Law Room Womens's Bible Study led by Nat Scott every Thursday.

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

Presbyterian Women (PW) All women are invited to join a PW Circle. Circles meet for Bible Study each month. See Something for Everyone for more group activities.

Ginny Connors at ginnyconnors 1 @gmail.com or (912) 672-1916

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 Gover 904-718-7777 Rev. Laurie Bentley 912-580-7903

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Thank you for worshiping with us at **St. Simons Presbyterian Church**

MERRY CHRISTMAS













Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church



183_{PLEDGES}

STEWARDSHIP (**GIVING UPDATE**

\$1.500,000 OPERATING BUDGET AS OF DECEMBER 20, 2023,

We have received 183 Pledges totaling \$1,065,714 which is 71% 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 using the QR code.

This report provides a detailed account of our spending, which we hope you'll consider prayerfully as you contemplate your pledge to our church.





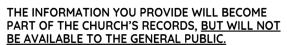
SAVE THE DATE

January 28th, 2024 8:30 am & 10:30 am Worship

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.



LINK TO DIRECTORY UPDATE SSPRES.ORG/MEMBERSHIP



Connect

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



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!



at the rear of the church.



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-Th from 9A-4P (205 Kings Way).



Elders

Class	of	2	02	4

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 Hambright

Music Director rhonda@sspres.org

Nat Scott

Congregational Life nat@sspresvorg

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







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





