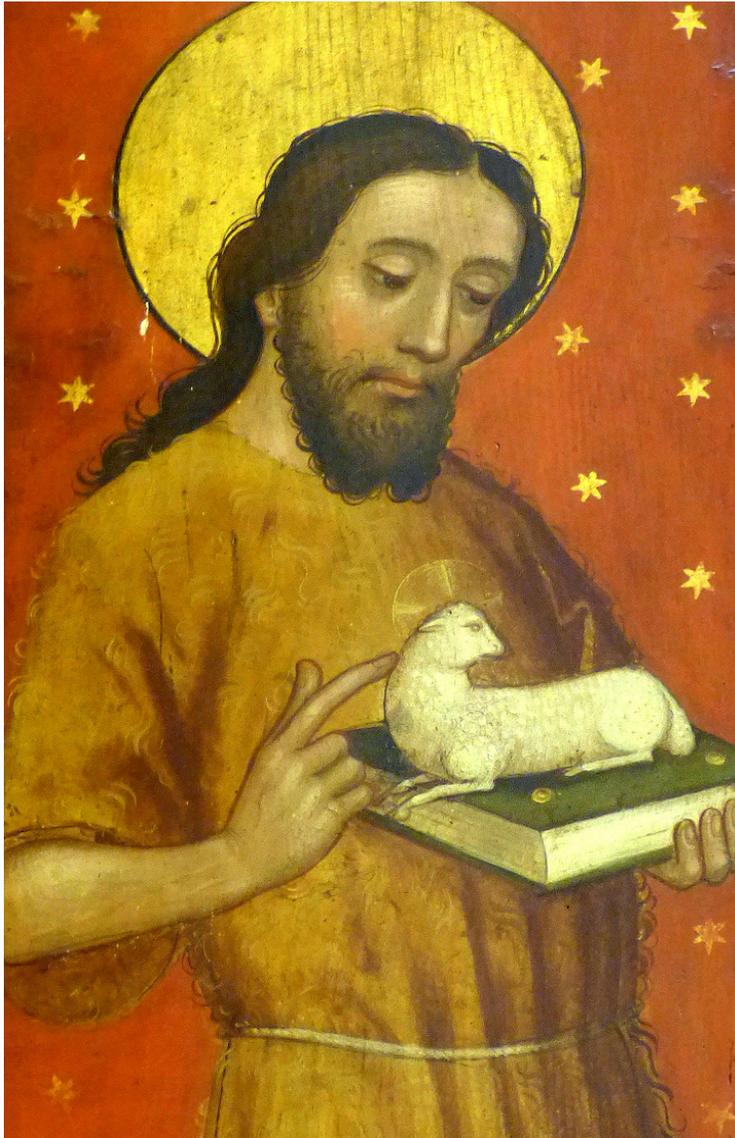


Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



John the Baptist

Altar of Saint Catherine (1465)

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018 | 11:00 am Traditional Service

Greeter

Judy Benjamin

Ushers

Teresa Hodgdon

Matt Hodgdon

Harry Moffett

Kathleen Haller

Acolyte

Gigi Cate

WE GATHER TO PRAISE

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

INTROIT

TRADITIONAL

Bell Peal

Chancel Ringers

GATHERING WORDS

One: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Alan Dyer

Welcome to worship at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. During the announcements please take a moment to sign and pass the friendship register located at the end of the pew. As you enter the sanctuary, please silence your cell phones. All children are welcome in worship. If you prefer, a nursery (located in the children's hall at the rear of the church) is available for children from birth to five years. Worship resources for children are available at the sanctuary entrances.

PRELUDE

arr. Thompson

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Chancel Ringers, Suzanne Morrison, Director

Advent is a season of hope and joy, anticipating the fulfillment of the rule of God in Christ's coming in the future. The Scriptures read, the liturgical texts used, the music sung all convey this sense of expectant, joyful longing for the fulfillment of God's promised reign.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Judy Benjamin

One: The day of the Lord brings grace and blessing.

ALL: We come to this day with hearts prepared for praising.

One: The day of the Lord brings judgment and pardon.

ALL: We come to this day with souls set on praying.

One: The day of the Lord brings wisdom and light.

ALL: We come to this day with minds eager to listen for God's will.

One: In our praising, praying, listening, and responding,

ALL: we come to worship God.

*OPENING HYMN 82

HYFRYDOL

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

* Please stand if able.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

Holy and loving God, we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light; we have been proud of our accomplishments and despaired over our shortcomings. Smooth down the mountains of our pride, and lift up the valleys of our doubts. Open a path in the wilderness of our lives that we might find our way to you again. Refine us and prepare us once again for life in your kingdom.

Silence for Personal Confession

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

H.W. GREATOREX

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.

WE SHARE OUR LIFE & GIFTS

BAPTISM

Asa Owens
Son of Graham & Ada Owens

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Carla, Vassa, Wilder, and Gigi Cate

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Nat Scott

Third Day of Christmas Party

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

“We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. Whoever is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.”
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God’s love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. Through baptism we all join a vast family spanning time and space. We commit ourselves to follow Christ and worship God within that family.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.

OFFERTORY

arr. Buckwalter

Advent Trilogy
Chancel Ringers

*DOXOLOGY

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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

WORD FOR CHILDREN

*All children please come forward at the pastor's invitation.
Following the Word for Children, children Preschool-2nd grade may leave for KidZ Worship.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Judy Benjamin

Malachi 3:1-4

Page 1490 OT

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Willis/arr. Lamb

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
Chancel Ringers

Doxology, a Greek word meaning "saying of glory," is a brief hymn of praise that follows another hymn or Psalm – in our case the offertory. Doxologies appear in many Christian traditions and have their origin in the Jewish kaddish, which concludes each portion of the synagogue worship service.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 3:1-6

Page 1593 NT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Alan Dyer

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (ALL)

A Declaration of Faith

Jesus, the long expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 104

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

arr. Glycannon

In the Bright Night, the Christians Sing
Amy Bishop, Organist

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 indicate that on the Friendship Register as it is passed down your pew at the beginning of worship so that we can be in touch with you soon.

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.

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 and large print hymnals and Bibles may be obtained from the ushers.

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

Reflecting on today's Gospel reading from Luke, pastor and professor Karoline Lewis writes that, "Advent suggests that God seems to want us to wait. God seems to expect expectation. God seems to know that the immediacy of desire is not the same as experiencing the fullness of life in the moment. All flesh will see the salvation of God. Wait for it. Live in the moment that anticipates such a promise. Be in the moment that believes such promise is possible."

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AT ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN

Mission

Manna House

First Monday of every month

Help prepare, serve, and cleanup a meal for guests at "Manna House," a local soup kitchen ministry.

Chris Pippart at cpipp109@gmail.com.

PAL Mentoring Program

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

Richard Hathaway at thehathaways2@comcast.net.

Habitat for Humanity

Join us for local Habitat for Humanity home construction. Builds happen each fall and winter.

Alan Dyer at alan@sspres.org or 638-2220.

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.

Alan Dyer at alan@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Children

Sunday School

Begins at 9:30AM in the Social Hall with breakfast

KidZ Crew (Preschool to Grade 5)

Sundays: KidZ Worship following the "Word for Children" during 11AM worship. (Pre K-2nd)

Wednesdays: Faith, fun, and music. Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM. WOW supper at 6PM.

KidZ Fellowship (Grades 3 to 5)

Monthly on Sundays: Faith and fun. Meet in the Britt Room for supper at 6PM.

Chimes and Choir

Wednesdays: Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM.

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

Youth

Sunday School

Begins at 9:30AM in the Social Hall with breakfast

Sunday Night Fellowship *Resuming Sept 9*

*Sunday evenings in the Youth Suite
Dinner at 6PM*

Breakfast Devotion (Grades 6 to 12)

*Tuesdays at 7:00AM at Chick-Fil-A
Transportation to school is available for middle schoolers.*

Music (Grades 6 to 12)

Sundays: Youth Ensemble meets at 5PM in Music Attic

Annie Franklin Arvin at annie@sspres.org

Young Adults

Faith on Tap

*Monthly Thursday (usually 2nd Thursdays) at 7PM
A casual young adult Bible Study for 20 and 30-somethings meets monthly. Location varies. Childcare available.*

Alan Dyer at alan@sspres.org or 638-2220.

Discipleship

Sunday School

Begins at 9:30 AM

Sunday School classes are available for all ages. Please come for breakfast and a time of fellowship each week in the Britt Room prior to class.

Britt Class - Upper Room

Come & See - Social Hall

Rejoice - John Law Room

Trinity - Parlor

20s/30s/40s - Chapel

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

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 12PM in the John Law Room.

Come for lunch and Men's Bible Study led by Alan Dyer every Wednesday. Visitors are always welcome.

Thursdays at 7:15 AM in the Britt Room

Come for breakfast and Community Men's Bible Study led by area pastors every Thursday.

John Matthews at jhmatthews7@comcast.net.

Ladies' Video Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10:30AM in the Youth Suite

Gather for prayer and discussion each week using a video study. All women are invited!

Gail Ledbetter at gbledbetter@att.net.

Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group

Thursdays at 10AM in the Upper Room (Sept.-May)

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.

Anne Aspinwall at anneaspinwall@gmail.com or 912-399-1101

Terri Simpson at tsimp57@yahoo.com or 912-580-8754.

Music

Choir

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

Handbells and Other Instrumentation

Handbells, chimes and instruments are an important part of the music ministry for children through adults.

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

Suzanne Morrison at suzanne@sspres.org

Pastoral Care

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry offers confidential one-on-one Christian care to those experiencing difficult life circumstances.

Jann Briscoe at jannbriscoe@gmail.com or 269-0212.

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. Alan Dyer 937-623-7963

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin 828-443-0299

Rev. Jann Briscoe 912-269-0212

Advent Vespers

WEDNESDAYS AT 5 PM DURING ADVENT
DRAW NEAR IN MEDITATION & WORSHIP
A MIDWEEK SERVICE OF SCRIPTURE, SONG, AND REFLECTION.

DECEMBER 5TH - JEREMIAH 33:14-16
DECEMBER 12TH - MALACHI 3:1-4
DECEMBER 19TH - ISAIAH 12:2-6

Live Nativity

DECEMBER 21ST & 22ND | 6 PM & 7 PM



A WINTER SERVICE
OF HOPE & HEALING
*The Longest
Night*
With the Chancel Choir, Youth
Ensemble, & Chamber Orchestra
December 9th | 5 PM
Sanctuary

Caroling ON THE TROLLEY

DECEMBER 20 | 4:30 PM
MEET ON FRONT STEPS

OPENS THANKSGIVING DAY & EVERY
SUNDAY THROUGHOUT ADVENT

Hope Hall

Greater Good Gifts
between Sanctuary & Social Hall



HEIFER PROJECT *Angel Tree* serrv

Today, Dec 9

- 8:30 am **Chapel Service** - Sanctuary
- 9:00 am **Coffee Hour & Breakfast** - Social Hall
- 9:30 am **Breakfast by Grandy's** - Britt Room
- 10:00 am **KidZ Christmas Musical** - Social Hall
- 11:00 am **Traditional Service** - Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm **Marsh's Edge Worship** - Marsh's Edge
- 5:00 pm **The Longest Night** - Sanctuary

Monday, Dec 10

- 10:00 am **Chancel Ensemble** - Sanctuary
- 11:45 am **PW Christmas Luncheon** - Social Hall
- 8:00 pm **AA Meeting** - Britt Room
- 8:00 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law Room

Tuesday, Dec 11

- 7:00 am **Youth Breakfast Devotion** - Chick-fil-A SSI
- 9:30 am **Staff Meeting** - Upper Room

Wednesday, Dec 12

- 12:00 pm **Men's Noonday Bible Study** - John Law
- 5:00 pm **Advent Vespers** - Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm **Chancel Choir** - Sanctuary

Thursday, Dec 13

- 7:00 am **Men's Bible Study** - Britt Room
- 9:00 am **Pre-K Christmas Program** - Social Hall
- 11:00 am **Ladies Bible Study** - Marsh's Edge
- 1:00 pm **Grief Counseling** - Chapel
- 4:00 pm **Yoga Class** - Youth Suite
- 8:00 pm **AA Meeting** - Britt Room
- 8:00 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law Room

Friday, Dec 14

- 9:00 am **Pre-K Christmas Program** - Social Hall
- 10:00 am **Book Study and Prayer** - Jann's Office

Pictorial Directory Reminder: The deadline to turn in your submitted photos is December 31st. These can be either digital or print. Please turn in to Ada at the front office or email ada@sspres.org. The cost for submitting photos is \$10. Please turn in your money to Jeannine at the front office. If a professional photographer took the photo, LifeTouch requires a release form. Please contact Ada to receive this form.

Chancel Flowers: The Chancel flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by Faye & Rob Foster in loving memory of Jack Gorman, Faye Cozart, and Ellie & Jack Foster.

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

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please fill out the envelopes found in the pew racks and place your payment inside. Cost is \$12.00 per plant. You can also purchase online at sspres.org.

Source: Parts of today's liturgy were written by Harry Disher.

To Ponder Prayerfully

Wilderness Voice

“**T**HE EMPEROR MIND STRIVES TO DIVIDE, TO EMPHASIZE OUR DIFFERENCES AND ACCENTUATE OUR FEARS. FOLLOW THE RULES WE HAVE SET FOR YOU, DO NOT QUESTION US AND YOU SHALL LIVE. THE WILDERNESS VOICE REMINDS US THERE IS ONLY ONE RULE: START OVER. MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. FILL WHAT HAS BEEN CRATERED, BRING BACK TO EARTH WHAT HAS BECOME TOO ELEVATED, MAKE CROOKED WAYS STRAIGHT AND ROUGH WAYS SMOOTH. THIS IS WHAT WE ARE HERE FOR.”

-Kayla McClurg

St. Simons Presbyterian Church

Ministers: All members of the church

Rev. Alan Dyer
Pastor
alan@sspres.org

Nat Scott
Congregational Life
nat@sspres.org

Rhonda Hambright
Music Ministry
rhonda@sspres.org

Jeannine Torbert
Administrator
jeannine@sspres.org

Judy Cauley
Preschool Director
judy@sspres.org

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin
Assoc. Pastor of Youth & Mission
annie@sspres.org

Frieda Warner
Children's Ministry/CE
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Amy Bishop
Organist
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Leslie McCracken
Clerk of Session

Molly Macaulay
Chair of Deacons

Rev. Jann Briscoe
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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.

205 Kings Way | St. Simons Island, GA 31522 | 912-638-2220

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