

Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Abigail
Answered Faith

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 8, 2026 | 10:30 am Worship Service

Ushers

Tom Alexander
Matt Lemke
Santo Silva
Lisa Silva
Linda Seierstad

Acolyte

Lanier Cannon

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

Festive Peal

Karen Thompson

Chancel Ringers, Suzanne Morrison, Director

GATHERING WORDS

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Rachel Rhodes

THREE CHIMES

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

PRELUDE

Praise His Holy Name!
Chancel Choir

Hampton

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Carrie Wessel

One: Come, people of God, to worship the One
who meets us in moments of conflict and choice.

All: We come to worship the God who calls us to peace.

One: When anger rises and violence feels close,
God sends wisdom, courage, and timely words.

All: We come seeking the strength to overcome evil with good.

One: Come, for peace is not the absence of struggle,
but the presence of God's grace within it.

**All: We come ready to listen, to trust,
and to be shaped into people of reconciliation.**

Let us worship God together!

Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God. In worship the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God's claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed. In worship the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world. -PCUSA Directory for Worship

* Please stand if able.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)

God of wisdom and mercy, you call us to live with restraint, humility, and courage. Yet we confess that when we are hurt or wronged, we are quick to anger and slow to listen. Like David, we allow our tempers to guide us. We rehearse grievances, justify retaliation, and forget that vengeance belongs to you alone. We repay evil with evil in our hearts, even when our lips remain silent. Forgive us, O God, for the harm we cause with our words, for the peace we abandon when pride takes over, and for the moments we refuse to step back from the edge. Teach us the courage of holy restraint. Give us the wisdom to speak words that heal, the grace to step into conflict as peacemakers, and the faith to trust that you are at work where reconciliation seems impossible.

Silence for Personal Confession

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

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

*GLORIA PATRI 582

GLORY TO GOD

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

In the Assurance of God's Grace we are reminded once again that God's grace sets us free from guilt and fear. As Walter Brueggemann says, "you can keep singing. You can keep hoping. And because you sing and hope, you can act in freedom, unburdened, uncoerced, unafraid, and without cynicism. The song goes on. It is a subversive, revolutionary song. And we get to sign on to sing and to live it... unafraid!"

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 in the Children's Hallway on the other side of the Social Hall.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Romans 12:17-21

pg 1764 NT

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Rock-a My Soul
Chancel Choir

arr. Russell Robinson

SECOND READING

1 Samuel 25:2-35

pg 459 OT

SERMON

“There’s Someone I’d Like You to Meet: Abigail”

Rev. Rachel Rhodes

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

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.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (ALL)

The Confession of 1967, selected

God’s reconciling work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life. The church is called to bring all people into the reconciling love of God. In obedience to Jesus Christ, the church seeks justice, resists violence, and practices reconciliation in a world torn by conflict. We trust in God’s power to overcome evil with good and to make peace where fear and anger divide. 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.**

OFFERTORY

How Great Thou Art
Amy Bishop, Organist

arr. Janet Linker

*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.*

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 774

STUTT GART

There is Now a New Creation

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

You Shall Go Out With Joy
Amy Bishop, Organist

Douglas Wagner

Prayer List

Joys

Kashey Odum
102nd Birthday on February 7th
Jemelle Khan
All State Chorus

Deaths

Charlie Green

Members

Denise Hidalgo
Erin Hidalgo
Betty Smith
Jean Sucher
Nancy Vernon

Friends and Family

Teresa Cramer
Tim Helton
Karen Keen
Mom of Heather Joris
Allyson Jackson
Our Country
People of Minneapolis

Long-term Care

Rich Armstrong
Sue Chambless
Claudette French
Mary Lewis
Caroline & Dwight Plyler
Betty Lou Schoneker
Alison Schueneman
Frances Teel



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, by completing a prayer request card and placing it in an offering plate, or by visiting sspres.org/prayer.



Worship Online. A livestream of the 10:30AM 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 envelopes can be found in the pews of 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-4PM (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.

Missions

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

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

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.

Dara Pickren-Davis at dara@sspres.org or

638-2220

Youth

Youth Ensemble

Sunday evenings at 5:00 PM

Meet in the Music Attic -

Use the Veranda Door.

Youth Group

Sunday evenings at 6:00-8:00 PM

Meet on the Veranda.

Breakfast Devotion (Grades 6 to 12)

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

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 served in the Britt Room.

:: Following the Call

Meets in the Upper Room

Nat Scott at Nat@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 jhmatthews7@comcast.net.

Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group

Thursdays at 10:00AM in the John Law Room

Women'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 ginnyconnors1@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 ext 8, or email pastoralcare@sspres.org. The first available pastor will notify you as soon as possible.

Habitat Build Opportunity

Volunteers Needed



Upcoming Project

- FEBRUARY 11
- 8:30am - 12pm



VOLUNTEER AT
SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS

DEACONS, ELDERS, & TRUSTEES CLASS OF 2029

NOMINATIONS

Please submit your nomination(s) no later than April 1, 2026.



paper forms are available at sanctuary entrances

submit your nominations online at sspres.org/nominations

Ash Wednesday

- FEBRUARY 18**
- DRIVE-THRU ASHES**
 - 8 am - 11 am | Front Drive
 - LENT EVENT FOR ALL AGES**
 - 5 pm | Social Hall
 - WED NIGHT SUPPER**
 - 6 pm | Social Hall
 - WORSHIP SERVICE**
 - 6:45 pm | Sanctuary



info & supper signup at sspres.org/lent

NEW DATE!!!



FEBRUARY 20TH | 6-9PM
PRE-K - 5TH GRADE

Join us for dances, crafts, games, & PANCAKES!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS



Try Something New

APRIL 7-9

experience CHARLESTON

Registration Now Open!



INFO & SIGNUP AT
SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS

This Week | February 8 - 13

Sunday, February 8

- 8:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 9:00 am **Youth Confirmation** - Youth Suite
- 9:00 am **New Member Class** - Youth Suite
- 9:30 am **Sunday School** - Various Locations
- 10:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 11:30 am **Love Another Luncheon** - Social Hall
- 4:00 pm **KidZ Fellowship** - Veranda
- 5:00 pm **Middle School Youth** - Youth Suite
- 6:00 pm **Youth Dinner** - Britt Room
- 6:30 pm **High School Youth** - Youth Suite

Monday, February 9

- 10:00 am **Worship and Music** - Upper Room
- 3:00 pm **Congregational Life** - Upper Room
- 5:00 pm **Diaconate Meeting** - Upper Room
- 6:30 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law

Tuesday, February 10

- 7:00 am **Youth Devotions** - Chick-fil-A SSI
- 9:30 am **Staff Meeting** - John Law
- 10:00 am **PW Morning Glories** - Upper Room
- 12:00 pm **PW Lunch Bunch** - Britt Room
- 4:00 pm **PW Ladies of the Night** - Upper Room
- 7:00 pm **Island Concert** - Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 11

- 10:00 am **Men's Bible Study** - Upper Room
- 10:00 am **Early Music Ensemble** - Rhonda's Office
- 3:00 pm **Chancel Ensemble** - Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm **KidZ Crew** - Veranda
- 5:00 pm **Mission Committee** - John Law
- 5:00 pm **Chancel Bells** - Bell Room
- 6:00 pm **Wednesday Night Supper** - Social Hall
- 6:45 pm **Chancel Choir** - Sanctuary

Thursday, February 12

- 9:00 am **Congregational Care** - John Law
- 9:00 am **MAP Packing** - 4700 Glynco Pkwy
- 4:00 pm **Building and Grounds** - John Law

Friday, February 13

Office Closed

Chancel Flowers: Today's flowers are given in memory of our parents by Anne and Mike Aspinwall.



Info & Registration | sspres.org/laity

MARCH 7-8, 2026 Registration Deadline: February 6th

- **New Testament Survey** with Rev. Dr. Craig Vondergeest, Ruby K. Phillips Professor of Religion and department chair at Presbyterian College.
- **Essential Elements of Worship** with Rev. Rick Douylliez, Honorably Retired, Savannah Presbytery. **IN-PERSON ONLY**
- **Elective: Sermon on the Mount; A Vision of Radical Discipleship and Alternative Community** with Rev. Tom Buchanan, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Athens, GA.



Elders

Class of 2026

Sandi Goeldner
Kevin Lokey
Lee Malone
Bryan Neill
Bob Prater
Daryl Rabert
Carrie Wessel

Class of 2027

Taylor Brooks
Fred Griffith
Becky Livingston
Molly Macaulay
Bettye Russell
Mary Margaret Shiver
Doug Tingle

Class of 2028

Keith Griffin
Richard Hathaway
Buddy Hendrick
Denise Hidalgo
Ella Kent
Catherine McCrary
Matt Robinson

Deacons

Class of 2026

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

Class of 2027

Pattie Boykin
Randy Ellis
Portia Hendrick
Drew Holland
Bunnie Lynn
Judy Scarlett
Kathy Wade

Class of 2028

Wheeler Bryan, Jr.
Peggy Dean
Sean Hidalgo
Tripper Mansfield
Elizabeth Shewell
Debbie States
Emelie Tingle

Staff

Rev. Rachel Rhodes

Senior Pastor
rachel@sspres.org

Rhonda Hambricht

Music Director
rhonda@sspres.org

Dara Pickren-Davis

Children & Family Ministry
dara@sspres.org

Donna Purdy

Administrative Assistant
donna@sspres.org

Doug Marshall

Worship Tech Specialist

Amy Bishop

Organist
amy@sspres.org

Alyssa Lee

Youth Director
alyssa@sspres.org

David Keen

Facility Manager
david@sspres.org

Becky Livingston

Clerk of Session

Rev. Dr. Jim Jackson

Interim Associate Pastor
jim@sspres.org

Suzanne Morrison

Handbells
suzanne@sspres.org

Jeannine Torbert

Finance /Administration
jeannine@sspres.org

Madelynne Risi

Mission & Outreach
madelynne@sspres.org

Tripper Mansfield

Portia Hendrick
Co-Chair of Deacons

Rev. Laurie Bentley

Parish Associate
laurie@sspres.org

Nat Scott

Congregational Life
nat@sspres.org

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)

