

# Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*The Fathers Forgiveness*  
Daniel Bonnell

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019 | 11:00 am Traditional Service

**Greeter**

Carol Snyder

**Ushers**

Bunnie Lynn

Anne Marie Stirewalt

Mike Kellar

Nardis Kellar

**Acolyte**

Emmeline Griffith

# WE GATHER TO PRAISE

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

## INTROIT

CALLAHAN

*O Savior of the World*  
Chancel Choir

## 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

J.S. Bach

*Prelude in E Minor*  
Amy Bishop, Organ

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jean Sucher

One: Blessed are those whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is covered.

**ALL: They are happy for the Lord declares them “not guilty” and there is no deception in their hearts.**

One: Let us worship and rejoice in the One who is our hiding place and our refuge in times of trouble.

**ALL: Let us worship God!**

## \*OPENING HYMN 370

TERRA BEATA

*This Is My Father's World*

Today's Call to Worship is based upon Psalm 32.

The Psalms served our ancestors as their book of worship, song and praise. Our forebears in the Presbyterian tradition once only sang the Psalms as their worship songs because they understood the importance of the Psalms. As an act of memory and continuity, we often begin our worship service with the words of the Psalms.

\* Please stand if able.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our home, but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty. You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love. Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.

*Silence for Personal Confession*

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

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI 581

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.*

The Assurance of Pardon proclaims God's faithfulness. Our lives are redeemed by the saving grace of God—the Gospel in miniature. God does for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

## WE SHARE OUR LIFE & GIFTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Day of Service*

Brenda Haughney

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER 184

CALM SEAS

*Calm to the Waves*  
Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

We pray for the world because God loves it. God created the world and cares for it. To abide in God's love is to share God's concern for the world. Our prayers should therefore be as wide as God's love, and as specific as God's tender compassion for the least ones among us.

OFFERTORY

Newton, arr. Wilberg

*Amazing Grace!*

Chancel Choir; Amy Bishop, Organ;  
Michael Evers, Bagpipes; David Stewart, Snare Drum

*Electronic giving is available by texting the code "SSPC" to the number 73256.*

\*DOXOLOGY

*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

The prayer of dedication  
is an act of offering  
back to God all that we  
hold precious. It is a  
recognition of God's grace,  
an affirmation of our  
faith against all the false  
idols of our culture, and  
acknowledgement of a  
truth that lies beyond our  
understanding.

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.*

FIRST READING

Jean Sucher

**Psalm 32**  
*Page 869 OT*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

**Luke 15: 11-32**  
*Page 1624 NT*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

*Lent with Luke: Reconciliation*

Rev. Alan Dyer

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (ALL)

## A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Our Affirmation of Faith is taken from A Brief Statement of Faith. The Presbyterian Church (USA) has a constitution that consists of two parts. The first part is the Book of Confessions which consists of eleven creeds, confessions, and catechisms, written over nearly two thousand years. A Brief Statement of Faith was added to the Book of Confessions in 1991. It was written as the confessional and theological basis for the reunion of the northern and southern Presbyterian denominations in 1983.

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION 22

ROEDER

*God of the Sparrow*

### \*BENEDICTION

### CHORAL RESPONSE 568

AMEN (Haugen)

*Amen*  
Chancel Choir

### POSTLUDE

J.S. Bach

*Prelude in C Major*  
Amy Bishop, Organ

**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 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.

**Giving By Text.** You can give your tithes and offerings electronically through text messaging. Text the code "SSPC" and send to the number: 73256.

**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](http://www.sspres.org/sermons).

# 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 Starting Jan 31st: Faith, fun, and music. Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM. Wednesday Night 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.*

## Youth

### Sunday School

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

### Sunday Night Fellowship

*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

### TGIF/Faith on Tap

*Monthly Friday (usually 2nd Fridays) at 6PM  
A casual social gathering for the 20s/30s/40s group.  
Location varies. Movie night at church will coordinate for the kids.  
Ada Owens at ada@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 (Traditional)** - Ashantilly Room

**Come & See (Discussion)** - Social Hall

**Rejoice (Sharing)** - John Law Room

**Trinity (Reflective)** - Parlor

**20s/30s/40s (Conversational)** - 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 Chapel*

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*

# Easter Flowers

Easter Hydrangeas are now available for purchase online at [sspres.org](http://sspres.org)



# This Week | Apr 1 - 5

## Today, Mar 31

- 8:30 am **Chapel Service** - Sanctuary
- 9:00 am **Coffee Hour & Breakfast** - Social Hall
- 9:30 am **Sunday School** - Various Locations
- 11:00 am **Traditional Service** - Sanctuary
- 3:00 pm **Grant Vernon Memorial Service** - Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm **Youth Group** - Britt Room

## Monday, April 1

- 9:00 am **Manna House** - 1408 G Street
- 8:00pm **AA Meeting** - Britt Room
- 8:00pm **Al Anon** - John Law

## Tuesday, April 2

- 7:00 am **Youth Breakfast Devotion** - Chick-Fil-A
- 9:30 am **Staff Meeting** - John Law
- 9:30 am **Yoga Class** - Chapel
- 6:00 pm **New Member Dinner** - The Dyer's Home

## Wednesday, April 3

- 10:30 am **Ladies Video Bible Study** - Chapel
- 4:00 pm **KidZ Crew** - Veranda
- 6:30 pm **Chancel Ringers** - Bell Room

## Thursday, April 4

- 7:15 am **Men's Bible Study** - Britt Room
- 4:00 pm **Yoga Class** - Chapel
- 5:30 pm **ODD Book Study** - John Law
- 8:00 pm **AA Meeting** - Britt Room
- 8:00 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law Room

## Friday, April 5

**Chancel Flowers:** The chancel flowers are given by Bain, Brady, and Kate Head to the glory of God and in honor of the SSPC staff.

**Christian Sympathy:** We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Grant Vernon, husband of Nancy Vernon, who passed away on March 27, 2019. A memorial service will be held in the sanctuary today, March 31, at 3 PM.

**Christian Celebration:** We share in celebration with Eric Andrae on the birth of his great grandson, Dev Nikhil, born on March 23rd in New York, NY. Everyone is happy and healthy! Welcome to the world, Dev!

**Spring Break:** There will be no Wednesday night supper this week, as it is Spring break. We will resume next Wednesday, April 10.

**Source:** Parts of today's liturgy are adapted from liturgy written in Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.

# TGIF

A social night for 20s/30s/40s...

**APRIL 12 | 6 PM**  
**VILLAGE INN & PUB**

...A movie night at SSPC for the kids

**SIGN UP AT [SSPRES.ORG](http://SSPRES.ORG)**

# Vacation Bible School

June 11-13 | 9-1PM



Sign Up at [sspres.org](http://sspres.org)

# SAPELO ISLAND KAYAK ADVENTURE

MAY 28 - 31

Sign Up at [sspres.org](http://sspres.org)

# Community Holy Week

**DAY OF AUTHORITY:** Monday, April 15 | 12 PM  
St. Simons United Methodist Church | Lunch at 12:30PM | Cost \$3

**DAY OF CONFLICT:** Tuesday, April 16 | 12 PM  
First Baptist Church of St. Simons | Lunch at 12:30PM | Cost \$3

**DAY OF WITHDRAWAL:** Wednesday, April 17 | 12 PM  
Wesley United Methodist Church | Lunch at 12:30PM | Cost \$3

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** Thursday, April 18  
No Community Service

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Friday, April 19 | 12:30 PM  
St. Simons Presbyterian Church | Lunch at 11:30AM | Cost \$3

To Ponder Prayerfully

# In the End

“**I**N THE END WHAT MATTERS IS NOT HOW GOOD WE ARE BUT HOW GOOD GOD IS. NOT HOW MUCH WE LOVE HIM BUT HOW MUCH HE LOVES US. AND GOD LOVES US WHOEVER WE ARE, WHATEVER WE’VE DONE OR FAILED TO DO, WHATEVER WE BELIEVE OR CAN’T.”

-Archbishop Desmond Tutu

## St. Simons Presbyterian Church

*Ministers: All members of the church*

**Rev. Alan Dyer**  
Pastor  
[alan@sspres.org](mailto:alan@sspres.org)

**Nat Scott**  
Congregational Life  
[nat@sspres.org](mailto:nat@sspres.org)

**Rhonda Hambright**  
Music Ministry  
[rhonda@sspres.org](mailto:rhonda@sspres.org)

**Jeannine Torbert**  
Administrator  
[jeannine@sspres.org](mailto:jeannine@sspres.org)

**Judy Cauley**  
Preschool Director  
[judy@sspres.org](mailto:judy@sspres.org)

**Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin**  
Assoc. Pastor of Youth & Mission  
[annie@sspres.org](mailto:annie@sspres.org)

**Frieda Warner**  
Children’s Ministry/CE  
[frieda@sspres.org](mailto:frieda@sspres.org)

**Amy Bishop**  
Organist  
[amy@sspres.org](mailto:amy@sspres.org)

**Walter Lynn**  
Building Coordinator  
[walter@sspres.org](mailto:walter@sspres.org)

**Leslie McCracken**  
Clerk of Session

**Rev. Jann Briscoe**  
Parish Associate  
[jann@sspres.org](mailto:jann@sspres.org)

**Madelynne Risi**  
BRIDGE Director  
[madelynne@sspres.org](mailto:madelynne@sspres.org)

**Suzanne Morrison**  
Handbells  
[suzanne@sspres.org](mailto:suzanne@sspres.org)

**Ada Owens**  
Dir. of Communications  
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**Molly Macaulay**  
Chair of Deacons

**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