

Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Mary at the Tomb, 2004
Miriam McClung

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026 | 8:30 am & 10:30 am Worship Service

Ushers

8:30 Service

Kathy Wade
Judy Scarlett
Bettye Russell

10:30 Service

Kathy Wade
Lee Arnold
Tim Darrah
Mike Aspinwall
Anne Aspinwall

Acolyte

8:30 Service

Ansel Owens

10:30 Service

Lanier Cannon

We bring live, bright
flowers to the dead, empty
cross on Easter Sunday
to memorialize Jesus'
death and resurrection.
Christ is Risen!

Easter is the central event of
our faith, a celebration of our
transformation into God's
new people. It is not simply
the miracle of a dead person
raised from a grave, but a
celebration of power that
can shatter death in order
that people can freely serve
the God of life. Resurrection
shouts "no" to everything in
our world that works against
God's will, and "yes" to God's
victory. – adapted from The
Companion to the Book of
Common Worship

* Please stand if able.

† 10:30 Service Only

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

Christ is Risen

Wagner

Chancel Choir

Chancel Ensemble - Ed Jackson, Anne Marie Stirewalt, Trumpets; Judy Foster, Clarinet;
Mike Morgan, French Horn; John Simmons, Trombone; Mike Bradberry, Tuba;
Mike Pickett, Timpani

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Laurie Bentley

THREE CHIMES

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

PRELUDE

My Lord, What a Morning
Amy Bishop, Organist

arr. R. Lau

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Buddy Hendrick †

One: Rejoice and be glad:

ALL: This is the day that the Lord has made!

One: Rejoice and be glad:

ALL: Heaven and earth will never be the same!

One: Rejoice and be glad!

Let us share the good news with all the world:

**ALL: Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God!**

In our life of worship,
music can be a powerful
presentation and
interpretation of the
scripture, a response to the
gospel, or a
prayer offered.

CONGREGATION (in unison)



Cong. 1. I know that my Re - deem - er
Choir 2. He lives, tri - um - phant from the
Cong. 3. He lives, all glo - ry to His



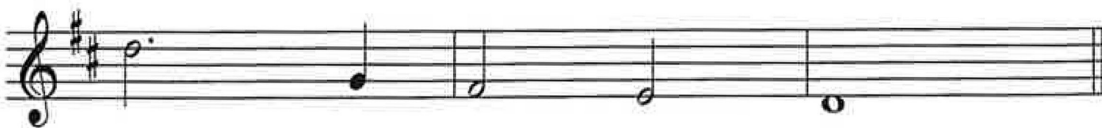
lives! What com - fort this as - sur - ance
grave. He lives e - ter - nal - ly to
name! He lives, my Sav - ior, still the



gives: He lives, He lives, who
save. He lives, ex - alt - ed,
same. What com - fort this as -



once was dead; He lives, my
throned a - bove. He lives to
sur - ance gives: I know that



ev - er - liv - ing Head!
rule His church in love.
my Re - deem - er lives!

In the Prayer of Confession,
 we trust God's mercy
 enough to lay before
 God not only those
 sins which may belong
 to us individually and
 personally, but also the
 sins and brokenness of the
 congregation, the church
 universal, and the world.
 We do not confess primarily
 specific acts of omission or
 commission, but rather the
 tragic brokenness of our
 human condition, in which,
 even without intending to,
 we are constantly running
 away from God and our
 neighbors."
 -The Companion to the Book
 of Common Worship

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)

All-knowing, all-powerful God, we confess that, even on this most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your stunning presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work in this world and our prayer for your world to come, will make whole what is broken, and restore us to the joy of your salvation.

Silence for Personal Confession

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

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

One: Listen, beloved church: By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. God who raised Jesus from the dead has not given us over to death, but instead restored us to new life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI 581

GLORIA PATRI

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 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.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Matthew 25:31-45
pg 1542 NT

SECOND READING

Luke 24:13-35
pg 1642 NT

SERMON

“Would I Know Jesus If I Saw Him?”

Rev. Dr. Michael Jenkins

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (ALL)

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY

The Glory of This Day
Chancel Choir, Chancel Ensemble

EJ Hinojosa

*DOXOLOGY (606)

*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.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

On Easter Sunday, in addition to the regular offering, we participate in PCUSA's One Great Hour of Sharing. Your gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Donation can be made using the designated envelopes found in each pew, by scanning the QR code found here or by visiting pcusa.org/give-ogh



Prayer List

Joys

Christ is Risen!

Deaths

Scott Smith

Son of Marj Smith

Jean Sucher

Members

Doug French

Rachel Rhodes

Marsha Risi

Kay Roberson

Marj Smith

Johnny Warren

Friends and Family

Karen "Tucker" Allen

Rev. Burt Cramer

Allyson Mayberry Jackson

Toddy M.

Dr. Suzanne Mericle

Ben Wallace

Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell

Daniki's Family

Recent Global Conflict

Active deployed military

Anticipated deployment

Civilians & families affected

Worldwide places of unrest

Long-term Care

Rich Armstrong

Sue Chambless

Claudette French

Marcia Kester

Mary Lewis

Dwight Plyler

Betty Lou Schoneker

Alison Schueneman

Frances Teel

Revs. Jann Briscoe & Page Shelton

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC 240

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 232

EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*please remain in the pews until the end of the chorus*)

G. F. Handel

Hallelujah Chorus from "The Messiah"

Chancel Choir, Chancel Ensemble, Amy Bishop, Organist

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. G. Young

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 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



Easter Flowers

Given By:

In Memory of:

Tom and Mary Alexander.....Our Parents

Phil and Lysa Allison.....JV and Jane Allison
Ken and Nancy Mowles

Greer Anderson.....Mary Katherine Arens

Sally Baldwin.....Richard Goeldner II

Judy Benjamin.....Nic Benjamin
Bill Baldwin

Lynda Bisher.....Furman Bisher

Patsy Clark-Mahoney.....Paul Clark

Dee Davis.....Eddy H. Davis

Brenda Dohn.....Dr. Carl Dohn

Jane Drake.....Bryce Layson

Marianna Elias..... Bill Elias

Wells Ellenberg.....Dr. John Ellenberg
Gene Anglin

Sandi, Alex & Tripp Goeldner.....Richard Warren Goeldner II

Fred, Melissa, and Emmeline Griffith.Leila Griffith

Rhonda Hambright.Harlan Hambright
Ben Gossett

Bain HeadSamuel Russell Dow Price

Meghan HytryJean Sucher

Michael and Julie JohnsonTed and Elinor Johnson
Richard Goeldner I
Richard Goeldner II

Easter Flowers

Given By:

In Memory of:

Buddy and Brenda Jones.....Dr. and Mrs. Edward Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bowie

David, Karen, David, Jr and Joanna Keen.....Alex Keen

Mike and Nardis KellarCaroline Plyler

Sandy KilgoreWells Kilgore
Mary Brooks

Ellen Kuehm.....Mary Lou and Fred Kuehm
Florence Bossard

Becky Livingston.....Deryle and Emma Dasher
Ivan D. Livingston

Charlotte LueckelWilliam Lueckel

Lisa Martin.....Armand and Elaine Busino
Marion and Kate Martin, Jr.

Stephen and Linda Nelms.....Mildred Pierce and Lamar Nelms
Kenneth and Vivian Briden

Mary Lu and Roland Pamm.....Lu and Bob Currin
Ingrid and Georges Pamm

Harriet and Philip Plyler.....Caroline Plyler

Barbara Powers.....Rick Powers

Mary Jo and Bob Prater.....Robert S. Prater Sr.
Connie and John Grippio

Ramba Family.....Gene Ramba
Christopher Joiner

Liz and Hank Ream.....Henry P. Ream III
Joe Wills

Lorene Reid.....Bob Reid
Al Lendingham

Easter Flowers

Given By:

In Memory of:

Cathy and Jan Rossiter.....Glenn and Jean Rossiter

Freda Thompson Roulhac.....Edward Lee Thompson
George E. Roulhac

Linda Seierstad..... Terry Seierstad

Elizabeth Shewell.....Scott Shewell
Patricia Shewell

Shiver Family.....Leslie McCracken
Ms. Dottie Anne Smith

Elyse and Frank Stackhouse.....Lois and Reinhardt Mollner
Christy Stackhouse

Anne Marie Stirewalt..... David Stirewalt

Pamela Sweeny..... Dr. Leslie McCracken

Frances Teel and Family.....Dr. John Teel

Dylan, Alexis, and Cal Tubertini.....Ken Tubertini

Angie Votsis.....Ginger Jackson

Tom and Debbie (Woodward) Hutcherson, Woodie Woodward,
and Brad, Jennifer, and Winnie Hutcherson.....Rudy and Winnie Woodward

Henry Worthy.....Betsy Worthy

John, Will, and Mike.....Meg and Bill Way

Their Family.....Art Bishop
Lanny Bishop

Her Family.....Debbie Graham

His Family.....Don Roberts

Easter Flowers

Given By:

In Honor of:

Jimmy, Sarah Elizabeth, Jimmy III, Will, Mary Elizabeth, Mary Beth, and William Mary and Jim Bishop

Bishop Family Kay Roberson

Cathy Carey

Granny Sue Roberson

Wheeler Bryan, Jr. and Wheeler Bryan III.....Anne and Wheeler Bryan

Barbara and John Dieterman..... Emma, Avery, Brody, Luca, and Gianna

Jane Drake.....Helen Castrillo

Rhonda Hambright.....Joe Gossett and Amie Jones

Leslie and Ben Hartman..... Jack and Susan Hartman

Jim and Pat Hill

Portia and Buddy Hendrick.....Payne and Gigi

Lizz and Rachel

Michael and Julie Johnson.....Our dedicated SSPC Staff

Buddy and Brenda Jones.....Our Children and Grandchildren

Tripp, Nicole, Anna Grace, and William Mansfield.....Anna K Mansfield

Dennie and Frances McCrary.....Catherine McCrary

Marie Richardson.....Lee Dillard

Betty Russell.....Nancy Paris

Tracy and Philip SaussyGeorge Thomas Saussy

Henry Lee Saussy

Mrs. Betty H. McGlamery

Shiver Family..... Jamie and Tim Darrah

Rhodes Family

Jeff, John, Jack, and Mary Ellis Shiver.....Mary Margaret Shiver

Jeff and Mary Margaret Shiver.....John, Jack, and Mary Ellis Shiver

Carolina, John Cannon, And Sarah Wessel.....Our Grandparents



COASTAL CHATS
WITH STEPHANIE CHEWNING

Come join us for an educational moment with Onehundredmiles to learn more about our barrier island dynamics. **NO SIGNUP NEEDED. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

WED, APRIL 15 | 4:45PM | UPPER RM



GO GENTLEMEN'S QUARTET
presented by Golden Isles Live

TRY SOMETHING NEW
CONCERT
plus dinner cutting

APRIL 17 DINNER | 5:30 PM
SHOW | 7 PM
only 19 tickets available | \$20/pp

RSVP REQUIRED
SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS



COASTAL OUTREACH SOCCER
bonus day of SERVICE!

APRIL 18 | 9-12PM
SSPRES.ORG/EVENTS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your time makes a lasting difference in helping our children grow in faith.

NURSERY • KIDZ CHURCH • YOUTH
No Weekly Commitments

Call the church office at 638-2220
or Signup Online sspres.org/children

Summer, 2026
SUMMER CAMPS

Registrations Now Open!

June 10-12 VBS	Rising Pre-K - 6th
June 14-19 CAMP DOGWOOD	Rising 2nd - 12th
July 5-12 CROSS MISSIONS	Rising 9th - 12th
July 19-25 MONTREAT CONFERENCE	Rising 9th - 12th

signup at sspres.org/events

This Week | April 5 - 10

Sunday, April 5

- 6:30 am **Easter Sunrise Service** - SSI Pier
- 8:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 10:30 am **Worship Service** - Sanctuary
- 11:30 am **Easter Potluck Luncheon** - Social Hall
- 12:30 pm **Easter Egg Hunt** - Church Lawn

Monday, April 6

Office Closed

- 9:00 am **Manna House** - 1408 G Street
- 6:30 pm **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law

Tuesday, April 7

No Activities Scheduled for this Date

Wednesday, April 8

- 5:00 pm **Mission Committee** - John Law
- 5:00 pm **Chancel Bells** - Bell Room

Thursday, April 9

- 9:00 am **Congregational Care Team** - John Law

Friday, April 10

Office Closed

Chancel Flowers: If you purchased an Easter Hydrangeas, please feel free to take one home with you after the worship service.

Announcement: We will hold a Congregational Meeting immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service on April 26, 2026. The purpose of this meeting is for the Congregation to formally elect new officers of the church.

Guest Pastor: Today we welcome The Rev. Dr. Michael Jinkins to our pulpit. Michael served as President of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary from 2010 until his retirement in 2018, following many years of teaching and leadership as Professor of Pastoral Theology and Academic Dean at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), he has also served congregations in both the United States and Scotland.

In retirement, he continues to serve the church through preaching, teaching, and interim ministry, including as Interim Senior Pastor of St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans. He is also an artist, and his paintings have been featured in galleries in and around St. Simons Island, where he and his wife, Debbie, make their home.

We are delighted to welcome Michael and Debbie today and look forward to the word he will bring.

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 Hambright

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)