

# Service for the Lord's Day

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*In His Hands*

Ruth Rogers

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020 | 10:30 am Outdoor Worship Service



Masks are required for all adults and strongly encouraged for children over the age of two. Disposable masks are available at welcome table.



Please maintain at least 6 feet from others not in your party while sitting and standing.

Each worship service at St. Simons Presbyterian is an opportunity for growth in our relationship with God and others. We value all people and after the service invite you to safely introduce yourself to those around you and get to know them.

# WE GATHER TO PRAISE

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

## INTROIT

African American Spiritual

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

Rhonda Hambright, Soloist

## GATHERING WORDS

One: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Alan Dyer

*Welcome to outdoor worship with St. Simons Presbyterian Church. We are so glad that you are worshipping with us today. Please be sure to wear your mask throughout our worship time as well as silence your cell phones prior to the start of worship. As always, all **children are welcome** in worship. Following the assurance of pardon, children ages Preschool (3 years) to 2nd Grade are invited to go with Children's Ministry staff for KidZ Worship. Unfortunately, at this time, an on-site nursery is not available.*

## PRELUDE

arr. Pethel

*Wonderful Words of Life*

Amy Bishop, Pianist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin

One: The promises of the world are fleeting,

**ALL: But the promises of God are eternal.**

One: Worldly measures of success, wealth, and power tempt us;

**ALL: The commandments of Christ lead us into new life.**

One: Though we are swayed by the ways of the world,  
God calls our name.

**ALL: Jesus says, "Come to me, and I will give you rest."**

One: Enter this time of worship, leaving behind the desires  
of this world;

**ALL: May our desire be for God, and to love one another. Amen.**

\*HYMN (*found on page 4*)

LAND OF REST

*We Come to You for Healing, Lord*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ALL)**

Holy One, we confess that we never seem to have enough. We want to resist the ways of this world, but we also want to live. We want to provide for our loved ones and make sure our needs are met. The line between our needs and our wants is thin and blurred. Holy One, help us to redirect our focus and desire to You. Call us away from the temptations of worldly comfort, knowing that we cannot rest until there is true justice for all. Keep us on the path of right-living, knowing that we must care for one another's needs in order to care for our own. Hold us to Your all-encompassing love, knowing that in Your love and grace we find rest and healing, something the world cannot provide.

*Silence for Personal Confession*

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

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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.

**\*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.*

**WE SHARE OUR LIFE & GIFTS**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**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.

**ANTHEM**

American Folk Melody

*Poor Wayfarin' Stranger*

Frank Lea, Tom Haughney, Harlan Hambright, Fleming Martin,  
Bud Longley, Richard Hathaway, Fred Griffith

*Following the Anthem, children Preschool-2nd grade may leave with Ms. Frieda for KidZ Worship.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 15:11-24**

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. **(continued on next page)**

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SERMON

Rev. Alan Dyer

#### *Blessed Are... Poor In Spirit*

#### \*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. 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.

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

#### *Italian Hymn*

Amy Bishop, Pianist

arr. E. Broughton

## SUPPORT ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Ways to Give.** You can give your tithes and offerings electronically through text messaging or Venmo. Text the code “SSPC” and send to the number: 73256. Or give using Venmo by searching for @sspres. You can also mail or drop off checks or cash offering to the church office anytime M-F from 9A-4P (205 Kings Way)

## We Come to You for Healing, Lord 796



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of  
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and  
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through  
 4 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through  
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your  
 reached toward those in pain, we know you come a -  
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of  
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of  
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.  
 mong us still with power to heal a - gain.  
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.  
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.  
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.



Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, this text appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

EXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2002

IUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938

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usic Arr. © 1938, ren. The H. W. Gray Company (admin. Alfred Music Publishing)

LAND OF REST

CM

(alternate harmonization, 691)

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION AT ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN

## Mission

### Manna House

(start date TBD)

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

Chris Pippart at [cpipp109@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:thehathaways2@comcast.net).

### COVID Relief Fund

Direct assistance grants available to any resident of Glynn County financially impacted by the pandemic.

Annie F. Arvin at [annie@sspres.org](mailto:annie@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.

Annie Arvin at [annie@sspres.org](mailto:annie@sspres.org) or 638-2220.

## Children

### KidZ Crew (Preschool to Grade 5)

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

Wednesdays: Faith, fun, and music.

Meet on the playground veranda at 4PM.

Frieda Warner at [frieda@sspres.org](mailto:frieda@sspres.org) or 638-2220.

## Youth

### Middle School Youth

Sunday evenings at 6:30PM.

Location varies week-to-week.

### High School Youth

Monday evenings at 6:30PM.

Location varies week-to-week.

Annie Franklin Arvin at [annie@sspres.org](mailto:annie@sspres.org)

## Young Adults

### TGIF/Faith on Tap

Casual social gatherings for the 20s/30s/40s group. Location and dates vary. Kids welcome.

Ada Owens at [ada@sspres.org](mailto:ada@sspres.org) or 638-2220.

## Discipleship

### Sunday School

Begins at 9:00 AM via Zoom

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)

### Come & See (Discussion)

Frieda Warner at [frieda@sspres.org](mailto:frieda@sspres.org) or 638-2220.

### Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10AM via Zoom

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

John Matthews at [jhmatthews7@comcast.net](mailto:jhmatthews7@comcast.net).

### Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group

(start date TBD)

Thursdays at 10AM via Zoom

Gwen Mayberry [gwenmayberry@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:anneaspinwall@gmail.com) or 912-399-1101

Terri Simpson at [tsimp57@yahoo.com](mailto:tsimp57@yahoo.com) or 912-580-8754.

## Music

### Choir, Handbells and Other Instrumentation

Choirs for all ages, 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](mailto:rhonda@sspres.org) or 638-2220.

Suzanne Morrison at [suzanne@sspres.org](mailto: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. Alan Dyer 937-623-7963

Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin 828-443-0299

Kate Buckley 912-222-1757



**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. We would love to get to know you better.



**Safety.** For the safety of all during this pandemic, we require that all adults wear masks throughout worship and strongly encourage masks for all children over the age of two. Please refrain from hugs, handshakes, or physical touch with other non-family members in attendance at today's worship. Extras masks and hand sanitizer are available for your use at the welcome station tables.



**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](http://sspres.org/prayer).



**Sermons Online.** To hear sermons online, visit [www.sspres.org/sermons](http://www.sspres.org/sermons).

Savannah Presbytery's  
**ONLINE SCHOOL  
 OF THE LAITY**  
*"David, Kingship, and the Idea of the Messiah"*  
 Taught by Dr. Dan Pioske  
**WEEK 1 - OCTOBER 2-3**  
**WEEK 2 - OCTOBER 10**  
 Info & Registration at [sspres.org](http://sspres.org)

ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN  
**74th Church  
 Anniversary Weekend**  
**SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2020**



**Fri. 7PM KEYNOTE WITH DR. BRIAN BLOUNT**  
*Protestantism, The Reformed Faith, Slavery, and Race*  
 VIA ZOOM

**Sat. TBD SEASON OF SERVICE**  
 MORE INFO COMING SOON

**Sun. 8:30AM LIVE STREAM WORSHIP**  
 WITH GUEST PREACHER, DR. BRIAN BLOUNT

**9:00AM ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 LED BY DR. BRIAN BLOUNT

**10:30AM IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT FREDERICA**  
 REV. ALAN DYER PREACHING

**MORE INFO AT [SSPRES.ORG](http://SSPRES.ORG)**

**KidZ CREW**



**WEDNESDAYS**

meet on the veranda  
**SEPT 16 - NOV 18 | 4-6PM**  
 BRING A MASK!

Save the Date

**Season of  
 Service**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020  
 more info coming soon

# This Week | September 20 - 25

## Today, Sept 20

- 8:30 am **Live Stream Worship** - Online
- 9:00 am **Combined Sunday School** - Zoom
- 9:00 am **Britt Class** - Online
- 10:30 am **Outdoor Worship** - Frederica Academy
- 6:30 pm **Middle School Youth** - 2208 Bruce Dr

## Monday, Sept 21

- 9:00 am **Chancel Ensemble** - location TBD
- 6:30 pm **High School Youth** - 509 Palm Harbor Rd

## Tuesday, Sept 22

- 9:30 am **Staff Meeting** - Upper Room

## Wednesday, Sept 23

- 10:00 am **Men's Bible Study** - Zoom
- 4:00 pm **KidZ Crew** - Veranda
- 5:00 pm **Chancel Choir** - Zoom

## Thursday, Sept 24

**No Activities Scheduled for this Day**

## Friday, Sept 25

**No Activities Scheduled for this Day**

**Source:** Parts of today's liturgy are adapted from Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell.

## blessed be...



BEATITUDES IN THE TIME OF COVID

WORDS BY KATE BUCKLEY+  
 SKETCHES BY TERESA LACKS

A set of 27 unique blessing cards with envelopes. Cards will be made available after outdoor worship on Sundays and in the church office M-F from 9-4PM.

Suggested donation \$15

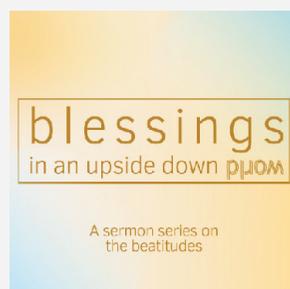
To Ponder Prayerfully

# Nothing & Everything

“I BELIEVE WE FIND IN SCRIPTURE THAT WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE SPIRITUAL POVERTY HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH MATERIAL POVERTY - AND ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING. POVERTY OF SPIRIT, AS JESUS LEARNED, AS THE PSALMISTS WROTE, AND AS THE RABBIS TAUGHT, IS NOT A REJECTION OF THINGS PER SE BUT A REPUDIATION OF THE POWER THEY HAVE TO CONTROL OUR LIVES, TO DICTATE WHO WE ARE.”

-Erik Kolbell

Told through the lens of the beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, our "Blessings In An Upside Down World" sermon series is an invitation to adjust our own vision for how we understand blessing as followers of Jesus Christ. In our day to day lives, the word "blessing" or "blessed" is most often used to describe some achievement or comfort or high point of our day (e.g., think all those pictures of sunsets and puppies and smiling faces on social media tagged #blessed). But throughout the scriptures we find that the word blessing is often turned on its head from what we might expect. Where do we find God's blessing in our lives? And where are we called to share that blessing with others?



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 Hambricht**

Music Director  
[rhonda@sspres.org](mailto:rhonda@sspres.org)

**Jeannine Torbert**

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[jeannine@sspres.org](mailto:jeannine@sspres.org)

**Judy Cauley**

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

**Rev. Annie Franklin Arvin**

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**Frieda Warner**

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**Leslie McCracken**

Clerk of Session

**Molly Macaulay**

Chair of Deacons

**Kate Buckley**

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[kate@sspres.org](mailto:kate@sspres.org)

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[suzanne@sspres.org](mailto:suzanne@sspres.org)

**Ada Owens**

Dir. of Communications  
[ada@sspres.org](mailto:ada@sspres.org)

**Bob Harper**

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

