

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**This Week**

Liturgist: Jackie Koch  
Sound:  
Ushers: Jackie Koch  
Joe Vaitkevicius

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**Next Week**

Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse  
Sound:  
Ushers: Linda Stenhouse  
Joe Vaitkevicius

**Elder of the Month**

For May: Candie Vaitkevicius, 864-631-1010 (H); 630-247-9507 (cell)

**SESSION MEMBERS**

Class of 2023

Barb Daugherty  
Bill Marshall (NS)  
Ronnie Storch

Class of 2024

Linda Stenhouse  
Jackie Koch  
Candie Vaitkevicius



Cover Art:  
Google Images

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

*Simpsonville Presbyterian Church*

Simpsonville, SC

*"Growing Together in Faith - Loving and Serving in the World"*



Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 8:30-10:30 a.m.

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[www.simpsonvillepres.com](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com) E-mail: [office@simpsonvillepres.com](mailto:office@simpsonvillepres.com)

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch, Pastor

Darrell Johnson, Pianist

Jackie Koch, Office Administrator

The WiFi Identity is FPCS-Guest and the password to connect is Grace4all.

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 21, 2023

7th Sunday of Easter

Welcome, announcements

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch will be out of the office from Sunday, May 14th through Sunday, June 4th. Please note that the wearing of masks during service and singing hymns is optional. NOTE: This service may be video recorded.

Please stand if you are able where asterisk.

PRELUDE "Who Is On the Lord's Side?" arr. Smith

**\*OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Jackie Koch, Liturgist

Leader: Today is Ascension Sunday when we celebrate Christ's return to God.

**People: We look up in wonder as he is lifted from us into heaven!**

Leader: But this is not a time to gaze upward. There is work to be done.

**People: Jesus has entrusted the ministry of God's love to us.**

Leader: Let's get to work!

**People: Let's make our hearts ready for the task ahead with prayer and praise!**

**OPENING HYMN: #142 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"**  
**"Glorify Thy Name"**

*Father, we love You  
We worship and adore You  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth*

*Jesus, we love You  
We worship and adore You  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name  
Glorify Thy name in all the earth*

## PULPIT SUPPLY PASTORS:

May 28: Rev. Jim Caprell

June 4: Rev. Pressley Cox

## LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch; Jean Kirkland, Marsha Johnson (sister of Darrell); Kitty Shealy, Sue Marshall's mother, Everett (sister of Donnett); the Stenhouse and Clark families; Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall's brother); Bob Marshall (Bill Marshall (PA)'s father; the May family; Debbie Ramsdell (sister-in-law of Ronnie); Hector & Susan Medina; Scott Hatfield (son-in-law of Candie & Joe); Candie's cousin Greg; Dan Mills (brother of Barb Daugherty—Missionary to Papau New Guinea); Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Helen Guthrie; the Grooms family; The Bell family; Roger Edney (relative of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office ([office@simpsonvillepres.com](mailto:office@simpsonvillepres.com)) about any pastoral concerns.

## SCHEDULES AND EVENTS

**FOOD PANTRY:** Your continued prayers and giving hearts allow us to keep this mission to our neighbors going. Suggestions for the month of May are child friendly items such as juice boxes, small packages of cookies or candy, etc. As always, we are grateful for all donations.

**VIDEO RECORDINGS:** Video recordings of services that have been previously recorded are available on the Church's website: [www.firstpressimpsonville.com](http://www.firstpressimpsonville.com). Click on "Videos" in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right."

**NOTE:** Rev. Dr. Mary Anne will be off beginning Sunday, May 14th through Sunday, June 4th for surgery. Pulpit supply pastors will be preaching for those four Sundays. She will also not have office hours during this time.

**CARDS:** Join us for card playing Wednesday, May 24th, at 11 a.m. at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

**DINNER AND A SHOW:** A great evening of food and entertainment was enjoyed by all who attended Friday evening.

**MAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** Candie and Joe Vaitkevicius will host the May dinner on Wednesday, May 31st at 5 p.m. The main course will be a chicken and stuffing casserole. Guests are asked to bring salads and desserts. A sign-up sheet is on the back table.

*Spirit, we love You*

*We worship and adore You*

*Glorify Your name in all the earth*

*Glorify Thy name*

*Glorify Thy name*

*Glorify Thy name in all the earth*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

**CONFESSION OF OUR SIN** (unison prayer)

**Christ our Savior, as you ascended, you left the work to us. You called us to keep the movement going, to witness to the ends of the earth, to pray, to heal, to glorify you through our thoughts, words, and deeds, to show the world a glimpse of the goodness you have given us. We have fallen short of this call. We have hidden ourselves in fear, sought our own comfort, and resigned ourselves to the status quo. Forgive us and strengthen us to do your will, that we may be signs of your coming reign. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: We are God's people

**People: Created, loved, and forgiven.**

Leader: The God of all grace has called us by name.

**People: God will restore, support, strengthen and establish us.**

Leader: It is good news to celebrate.

**People: We are forgiven!**

**RESPONSE: "Lord, Send a Revival" (chorus)**

*Lord, send a revival; Lord, send a revival;*

*Lord, send a revival; And let it begin with me.*

**HYMNS #482**

**"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"**

SILENT PRAYER: A few moments of silent communication with God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Luke 24:44-53

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayer of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

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,  
The power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER (the offering plate is located on a back table in the sanctuary just inside the back double doors.)

OFFERTORY

"Amazing Grace"

arr. Innes

**\*The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION****\*CLOSING HYMN #145****"Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"****\*BENEDICTION****\*RESPONSE: "The Lord Bless and Keep You"**

*The Lord bless and keep you,  
The Lord make his face to shine on you  
And be gracious, gracious.*

*The Lord bless and keep you,  
The Lord lift his countenance on you  
And give peace, give you peace.*

*Amen, Amen.*

POSTLUDE "How Gracious Are Thy Mercies, Lord" Tune KINGSFOLD

**WELCOME TO SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN!** Whether you are a long-time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to learn more about the Simpsonville Presbyterian community, we invite you to contact us through our website [www.simpsonvillepres.com](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com), or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND REFRESHMENTS** today are given by Gail West. Thank you.

**BIBLE STORY BAGS** are available for children during worship. See an usher if you would like one for your child to use. Please return the bag to an usher after worship.

We welcome to our pulpit today Rev. Jim Caprell. Jim is now retired after having served as Chaplain to the Clinton Presbyterian Community, and churches in South Carolina and Tennessee. He serves as Moderator of the Board of Trustees for the South Carolina Inn in Montreat, NC. Married to Holly, they have two adult sons and daughters-in-law and two adorable grandsons. And a dog.

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK:** Jan Johnson, Jean Kirkland**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** None