

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**This Week**

Liturgist: Linda Stenhouse  
Ushers: Linda Stenhouse  
Gail West

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

**Next Week**

Liturgist: Jackie Koch  
Ushers: Jackie Koch

**Elder of the Month**

For November: Ronnie Storch, 864-627-8583 (H); 864-254-8861 (cell)

**SESSION MEMBERS**

Class of 2023

Barb Daugherty  
Bill Marshall (NS)  
Ronnie Storch

Class of 2024

Linda Stenhouse  
Jackie Koch  
Candie Vaitkevicius

Class of 2025

Barb Daugherty  
Bill Marshall NS  
Linda Marshall



Cover Art:

Provided by Google Images



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

510 East Curtis Street \* Simpsonville, SC 29681 \* (864) 963-8854

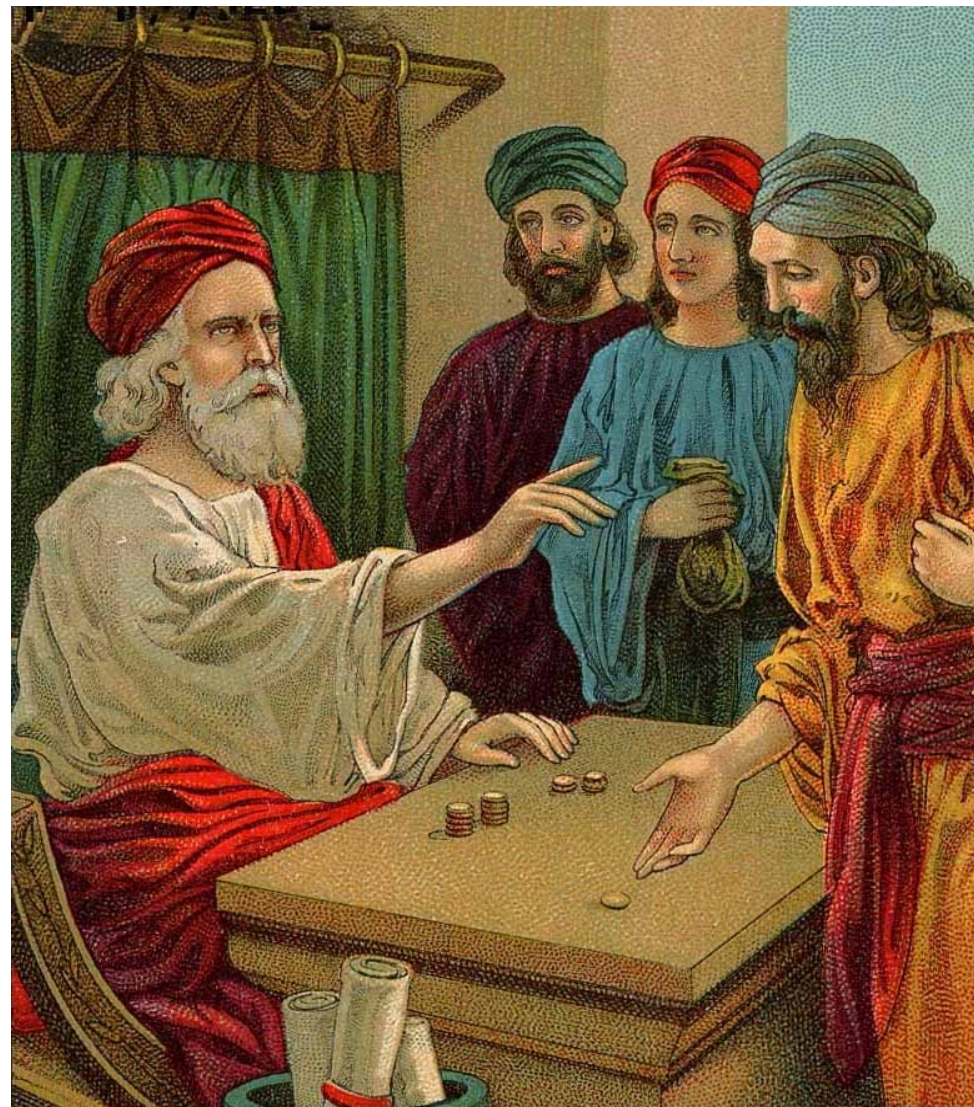
[www.simpsonvillepres.com](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com) E-mail: [office@simpsonvillepres.com](mailto:office@simpsonvillepres.com)

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.



**Sunday, November 19, 2023**

*Simpsonville Presbyterian Church*

Simpsonville, SC

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

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nov. 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

**Welcome, announcements**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch has office hours on Tuesdays from 9 a.m.—Noon. For an appointment, please call the Church office.**

**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 "With Quiet Thanksgiving" arr. Barrett

**\*OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Linda Stenhouse, Liturgist

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God!

**People: Worship God with gladness!**

Leader: Come into God's presence with song!

**People: Know that the Lord is God.**

Leader: God made us. We belong to God.

**People: Give thanks to God! Bless the name of the Lord!**

**\*OPENING HYMN: #559 "We Gather Together"**

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**God of abundance, you have given us so many gifts. You bless us with talents, resources, skills, and knowledge, and yet we hide them under a bushel. We hoard these gifts instead of following you and sharing with those in need. We have been poor stewards of all you have given. Forgive us, and help us grow what we are given, that it might be returned in service to you. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is our God:

**All: Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

**All: We are forgiven, rescued and redeemed. Alleluia! Amen.**

## CHRISTMAS AT THE CLINTON PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY:

The Holidays are approaching fast and the Presbyterian Women's Group will be collecting articles for the residents at the Clinton Presbyterian Community (CPC) once again this year. The Chaplain of the CPC, Rev. Debby Plumstead Marshall, has requested that the gifts should be unwrapped so that their "elves" on staff can make individual selections specifically for each resident. They will be delivered to the CPC on November 29th.

The donated items can be left in the decorated Christmas box located in the lobby. I've seen the faces of some of the residents at the Community when Bill and I took the gifts to them last year and it was of pure joy; some even "peeking" to see what was being given. It was like kids at Christmas snooping to see what "Santa" brought and it brought such joy to our hearts.

A recommended list is included in the bulletin, so please review it and any items you feel you can purchase would be very much appreciated.

Coming Next Sunday:

Scripture: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24/Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon: "Goats"

**SESSION MEETING:** The Session of SPC will meet tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 20th, at 1:30 p.m. at the Church.

**CARDS:** Join us for card playing on Wednesday, Nov. 22nd, at 11 p.m. at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING:** Volunteers are needed to help decorate for Christmas after worship on November 26th.

**THORNWELL THANKSGIVING OFFERING:** Today's bulletin contains an envelope for contributions to benefit Thornwell. Thornwell's mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect, building and strengthening families, and support healthy communities in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Please support this worthy mission if you are able;

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** If you'd like to purchase a lovely poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the order form (located on the back table). The cost remains at \$10.00. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary throughout the advent season. Please indicate if you would like to take your flower(s) home or if it is a donation only. Deadline to order is November 26th. You may put the forms in the offering plate or give them to Jackie.

**CHRISTMAS GATHERING:** Join us for our annual Christmas gathering on Friday, Dec. 8th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having a Christmas trivia competition and a Chinese gift swap in addition to great food and fellowship. A main course meats will be provided; attendees are asked to bring side dishes, salads, or desserts. Friends and family are welcome. A sign-up sheet is located on the back table. Please bring a wrapped, unsigned gift for each attendee.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who gave toward gifts from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog on World Communion Sunday. With Session matching the congregation's offering, we were able to send \$713 to purchase 1 Mzuzu Drill, 2 Sewing machines, 1 pair of goats, 2 families of chickens, 1 pack of Moringa tree seeds, 2 sets of jerry cans, 1 set of farming tools, and 2 teacher training kits.

**RESPONSE: "Thank You, Lord"**

*Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul  
Thank you, Lord, for making me whole  
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me  
Thy great salvation so rich and free*

**HYMN # 554 "Let All Things Now Living"**

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Judges 4:1-7/Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON: "Good and Trustworthy Servants" Rev. Dr. Mary Ann Welch

**\*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 “Because I Have Been Given Much” arr. Smith

**\*The Doxology** (Note: original words)

***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 #551 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”**

\*BENEDICTION

**\*RESPONSE: “ Share His Love”**

***Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you  
Share His love by sharing of your faith  
and show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you  
every moment, every day!***

POSTLUDE “We Ploy the Fields and Scatter the Good Seed” Schulz

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR A SHORT REDEDICATION SERVICE.

**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 Linda Stenhouse. 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.

**PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK:** Paula Ely, Sharon Flesch

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** Hector Medina (11/23)

### LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Jean Kirkland, Bill Marshall (PA); Sue Marshall’s mother, Linda Moseley (granddaughter of Jean Kirkland); Kitty Shealy, the Vaitkevicius family; Marilyn Hastings (friend of Jimmy Cheeks); Jessica Marshall (daughter-in-law of Bill & Linda); Everett (sister of Donnett); Bob Marshall (Bill Marshall (PA)’s father); ; Nicole Plante; the Ramsdell family (family of Ronnie); Hector & Susan Medina; Scott Hatfield (son-in-law of Candie & Joe); Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Helen Guthrie; 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 November are cereals. 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.simpsonvillepres.com](http://www.simpsonvillepres.com). Click on “Videos” in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

Dec. 2: Gap Creek Singers Christmas Concert: 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Dec. 8: Congregation Christmas Gathering (see write-up for details)

Dec. 9: Greenville Chorale Christmas Concert—see poster in Narthex

Dec. 17: Lessons & Carols

Dec. 24: Morning worship @ 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 7 p.m.

**CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED:** Jimmy Cheeks is seeking people interested in singing with a new choir made of up our congregation and two others for a special joint Advent service. Please contact Jimmy if you are interested (864-208-5586 ). We hope to start rehearsals for Christmas program in November 30 mins after service on Nov 12th, 26th & Dec 10th.