

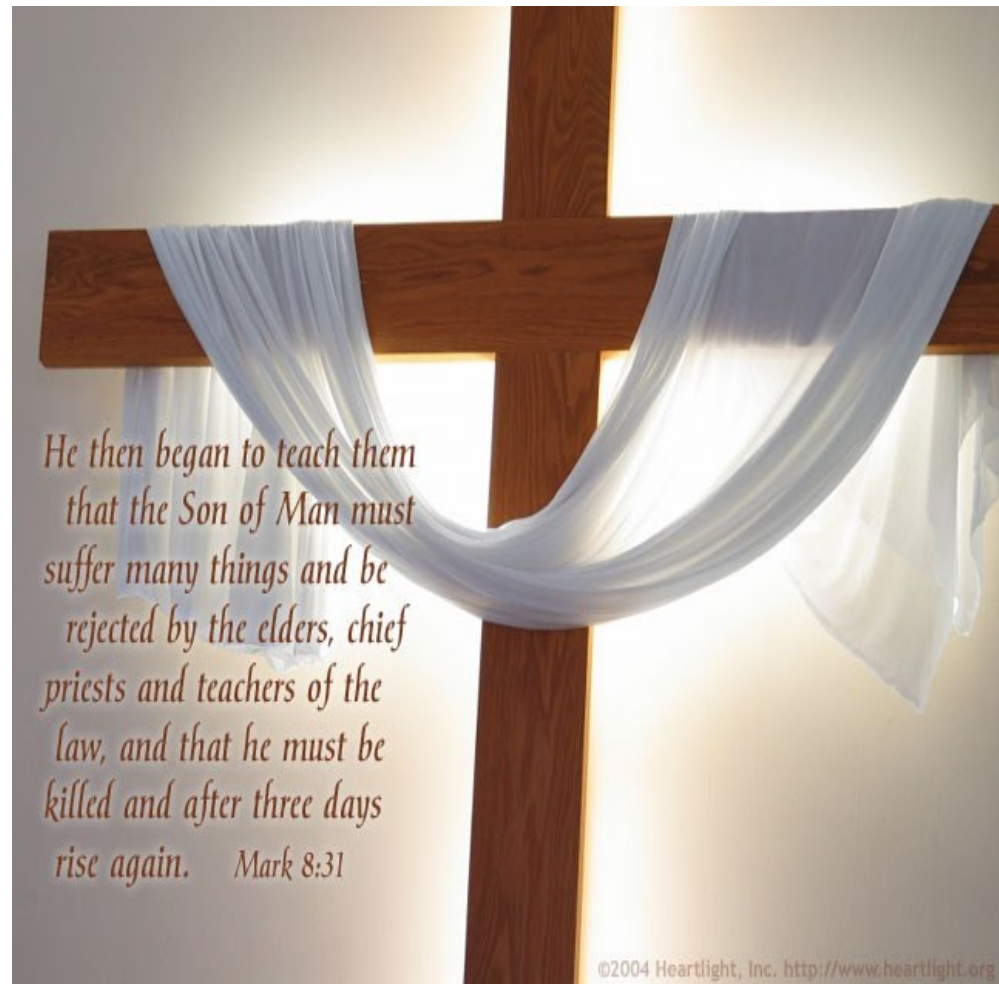
SERVING THE CHURCH This Week Liturgist: Linda Marshall Ushers: Jackie Koch Linda Stenhouse	SERVING THE CHURCH Next Week Liturgist: Judy Rainey Ushers: Candie Vaitkevicius Joe Vaitkevicius
Elder of the Month For February: Bill Marshall (NS), 864-967-9855 (H), 864-230-5268 (cell)	
SESSION MEMBERS	
<u>Class of 2024</u> Linda Stenhouse Jackie Koch Candie Vaitkevicius	<u>Class of 2025</u> Barb Daugherty Bill Marshall NS Linda Marshall

2 Cents-A-Meal
Next Week!

Cover Art:
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Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 8:30-10:30 a.m.
 510 East Curtis Street * Simpsonville, SC 29681 * (864) 963-8854
www.simpsonvillepres.com E-mail: office@simpsonvillepres.com
 Rev. Dr. Mary Anne Welch, Pastor
 Darrell Johnson, Pianist Jackie Koch, Office Administrator
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Sunday, February 25, 2024

Simpsonville Presbyterian Church
Simpsonville, SC

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 25, 2024

2nd Sunday in Lent

Welcome, announcements

Prayers 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 "The Old Rugged Cross" arr. Page

*OUR CALL TO WORSHIP Linda Marshall, Liturgist

Leader: Let us not be ashamed of our Savior. Let us sing and praise our God out loud.

People: In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you. In our community, we will bear witness to our faith.

Leader: Let us set our minds on divine things.

People: Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.

*OPENING HYMN: #276 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

Savior God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in faith and not bold to proclaim. Your story saves, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our reticence of faith. Forgive the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight, held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God does not forsake us.

All: Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

838 Standing on the Promises

1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,
2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fail,

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of "stand" and "promise(s)," the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (see no. 353).

EASTER FLOWERS: As is our tradition, Easter lilies will decorate our sanctuary during the Easter season. If you would like to purchase a lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one or special person, the cost is \$10.00 per lily. You may list more than one honoree or memorial for the bulletin. You may elect to make a donation only or to take your flower home on Easter Sunday. An order form is included in today's bulletin. Extras are on the back table. Place your form and payment either in the offering plate or give to Jackie. Deadline to order is Sunday, March 10th.

CARDS: Join us for card playing on Wednesday, Feb. 28th, at 11:00 at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

DEVOTIONALS FOR LENT are available on the table by the front door. Lent runs from Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) through Easter Sunday (March 31). Please take one if you wish.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER: Bill & Linda Marshall will host the next fellowship dinner at their home on Friday, March 8th, at 5:30 p.m. The main course will be pulled pork. Those attending are asked to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table. Bill & Linda's address is 303 Pioneer Court, Simpsonville, in the Wagon Creek community.

Coming Next Sunday: Communion
Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-11/John 2:13-22
Sermon: "Spring Cleaning"

RESPONSE: "We Are Forgiven"

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

HYMN #393 "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 8:31-38/Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

SERMON: "El Shaddai" 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 "Abide With Me" arr. Whitworth

***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 "Standing on the Promises" (bulletin pg. 7)

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: "May the Grace of Christ Our Savior"

*May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.
Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys which earth cannot afford.*

POSTLUDE "Forty Days and Forty Nights" Attr. Herbst

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, or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND REFRESHMENTS today are given by Ron & Judy Lundy. 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: Jeff VandeWeghe, Eddie Watson

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: None

LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER CONCERNS: Donnett Hanson; Jean Kirkland, Bill Marshall (PA); Sue Marshall's mother; Linda Moseley (granddaughter of Jean Kirkland); the Vaitkevicius family; family of Linda Russell (friend of Jimmy Cheeks); Everett (sister of Donnett); the Medina Family; Debra Datko; Bob Marshall (Bill Marshall (PA)'s father); Scott Hatfield (son-in-law of Candie & Joe); Lisa Shelf; Hazel Cain (aunt of Linda Marshall); Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Roger Edney (relative of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office (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 February are canned fruits and fruit cups. 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. Click on "Videos" in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right.

BIBLE STUDY: Love God, Neighbor, Enemy. The Bible Study began today in the back classroom. If you wish to attend one or more sessions and have not signed up, please just come. We welcome all.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The annual Congregational Corporate Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 10th, immediately following worship. The Annual Report for 2023 will be presented and we will be seeking two people from the congregation to be on the Nominating Committee to seek Session members for the class of 2026.