



LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Surrounded by God's grace, we are a family of faith
joined together through Christ, offering meaning and
hope to all by the way we worship, serve and live.**

**10 Simmonsville Rd
Bluffton, SC 29910**

**Sunday, October 11, 2026
10:30am**

The Golden Calf

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ² Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." ⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;

⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, October 11, 2026 – 10:30am

Silent Meditation

The God who promised that Abraham and Sarah's descendants would bless the world, invites us to be blessed in worship today. The God who spoke dramatically to Moses and led the Hebrew people to freedom, invites us to listen for a word from God in worship today. The God of our ancestors is active still--blessing, freeing, speaking, covenanting, leading us through the wilderness of our days.

Prelude

Morning Has Broken
Jubilate Ringers

arr. Malcom C. Wilson

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. David Johnson

Call to Worship

Janis Lakin

One: God's promises to Abraham and Sarah were extravagant and sure:

**All: A Promised Land, inhabited by descendants too numerous to count,
accompanied by blessings enough to share.**

One: God's promise continually faced threat from inside and out:

**All: Facing hostile powers, hunger and thirst, and the difficulty of trusting
what could not yet be seen, allegiance faltered and faith wavered.**

One: The covenant God offers requires our primary allegiance.

All: As God's people, we claim God's promises and worship God alone.

***Hymn #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***Invocation**

Rev. Johnson

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that there are times, even seasons when we struggle to trust you. Forgive us. And forgive us when we seem unable to honor our promise to make You our first priority, and to love our neighbor and the strangers in our midst. We give thanks that You remain faithful, even when we are unfaithful. Go before us and lead us, O God, even when we struggle to follow. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response Hymn #36 *For the Fruit of All Creation* (v. 1)**

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

Children's Moment

(Children may leave for Children's Church)

Special Music

King of Love
Jubilate Ringers

arr. Karissa Dennis

Scripture Reading

Exodus 32: 1-7, 9-11, 13-14 (pg. 75)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Left Unsupervised"

Rev. David Johnson

***Hymn #65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Welcome of New Members

Vicki Melton

***Affirmation of Faith**

From the Confession of Belhar (10.5)

We believe that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, and that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

***Gloria Patri # 581**

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

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Daniel de Beer

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

Stewardship Moment

Scott Johnson

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings and Change Can Make a Change

Offertory *Come, Let Us Sing and Give Thanks* arr. Stacey Nordmeyer
Chancel Choir

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication** Rev. de Beer

***Hymn #687** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* (vv. 1 – 4)

***Benediction** Rev. Johnson

***Postlude** *Toccata on “St. Anne”* by Michael Helman

*** Those who are able, please stand.**

**** *For the Fruit of All Creation* - Words by Fred Pratt Green**
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Welcome to worship! All visitors are welcome to LPC where we seek to love and serve Christ. Let us know of your visit using the visitor card in the pew rack and dropping it in the offering basket. Care for infants through 6 years old during worship is provided in the nursery. Activity bags for elementary age children are available in the Narthex.

Friendship Pads - We extend a warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today and invite you to sign the friendship pad in your pew. Please include your name and contact information you'd like to share. After signing, pass the pad along and greet those around you. After all have signed, return it to its original place, remove the signed sheet, and place it in the offering basket during the offertory.

New members joining today – Allan Barnitt, Mary Ann Burgeson, Bob & Gail Dylewski, Sheryl Inglefield, and Matt & Catherine Meeker. John Metz is joining in absentia. Contact information is available on the counter in the Narthex. Their bio information will be in the next newsletter coming in November.

Please remember with your prayers:
Rev. de Beer Jerri Hanna Judy Wells
John Rea Pat Woodard

**The flowers today are to the Glory of God, given by
Sue Dason in loving memory of her husband and her parents.**

Adult Sunday Class meets in the parlor at 9:15am.

Children's Sunday school is the 2nd and 4th Sunday following the Children's Moment.

Our Tuesday Bible Study meets at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Join us as we study the Lord's Prayer.

The short story reading and discussion group will meet October 29th at 4pm in the parlor. All are welcome to participate for one or more of the sessions (normally on the 3rd Thursday). Contact Rev. Dave for a copy of the book. We will discuss chapter 4 "A Small Good Thing".

Daily devotionals for October, November and December are available in the Narthex.

Women of Faith - Come join the conversation! Women of Faith meets **Tuesday, October 13th, at 11:00am in the parlor.** All LPC women and friends are welcome for a relaxed time of fellowship, friendship, and exploring God's Word together. We're currently reading *A Year of Biblical Womanhood* by Rachel Held Evans—and *it's easy to jump in anytime!* For October 13th, please read *pages 210–223, "Submission."* Questions? Contact Pam Davis-Webb (psdw44@gmail.com) or Venus Holland (reidallenholland@gmail.com) for more information.

Our annual Kirkin' o the Tartans Service will be held on February 7, 2027 - It will include a procession/recession of Tartan (Clan) banners. If you are interested in ordering a banner to participate or to donate for use in the service, please contact: Pam Davis-Webb at psdw44@gmail.com. **Orders must be placed by October 26th** for delivery in time for the service. The approximate cost of a banner, including shipping is \$115.00.

Look for more information closer to the date of the Kirkin' on our eblasts and website!

October Change Can Make a Change will support the Thanksgiving Dinners at Bluffton Community Kitchen and the Thanksgiving Food Box distribution at Agape Family Life Center. On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, 500 dinners containing turkey or ham will be prepared at the Bluffton Community Kitchen for local distribution. At Agape Family Life Center on Saturday, November 14th, 400 -500 families will be able to pick up bags of food containing a protein such as turkey or ham and a variety of fresh produce, dairy items, fruit, and canned goods through their Feed the Hungry Program. This will be a staple meal for Thanksgiving that can feed a family of 4-5 people. Through your monetary donations this month, our congregation can support the costs incurred with these two programs.

Blessing Box Collection - If you would like to support the Blessing Box, we are collecting the following items: Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Laundry Detergent, Dishwashing Soap (**smaller sizes of these items...easily found in the Dollar Store**), and deodorant. Suggested canned items include Soups, tuna, chicken, beans, pasta and canned pasta sauce. There is a container in the Narthex to collect your donations. In advance, the Blessing Box team thanks you for your support.

You're invited to the Family Promise "Gather and Give" October 15th at the New Riverside Barn at 30 Red Barn Drive to celebrate their newly expanded services. There will be Hors d'oeuvres, drinks, dinner and live music and silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$200 and space is limited. If interested, call Family Promise of the Lowcountry at 843-815-4211 or visit the website at fp-lc.org.

Walk for Water Celebrates another successful year – LPC joined participants from across the Lowcountry for this year's Walk for Water. Thanks to you, a historic high of over \$100,000 was raised, providing safe water to communities in desperate need of a most basic resource.

Our next book group discussion is Tuesday, October 27th at 2:30pm in the classroom. We will discuss *Whistler* by Ann Patchett. It is a story about two adults looking back over choices they made, and choices that were made for them. It is about bravery, memory, and often small yet consequential moments that define our lives. Ultimately it's about how love endures, and the feeling of being known by one other person, even for a short time, can change everything.

Men of Purpose meets Saturdays at 9:00am - They are studying the book "Unwavering Faithfulness" by Walter Brueggemann and Brent A. Strawn. All men are invited. Books are available for \$15. Questions? Contact: Bill Walker – kamwheeling@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed for the Caring Meals Ministry - If you are interested in helping to make meals for those who are sick, recovering surgery, or had a loss of a loved one, please contact Marie Pendleton (419-575-2268) to be a part of this ministry.

Update on Rev. Robert Gamble - His open-heart surgery date has been changed to October 5th. Please continue to pray for a successful surgery and patience for the long recuperation he will face. Please hold off on sending cards until after October 19th. His home address is 567 Bee Tree Road, Swannanoa, NC 28778. In addition, please continue to pray for This Child Here Ministry in Izmail, Ukraine while he and Oli are here in the United States.

Temple Oseh Shalom cordially invites you to join Rabbi Ken Kanter's monthly Saturday Discussion group October 17. The topic will be the New York Times Best Seller "The Future is Peace" by Israeli Maoz Inon and Palestinian Aziz Abu Sarah. This remarkable book brings together two voices shaped by profound loss and conflict yet committed to choosing a different path—one grounded in dialogue, reconciliation, and the possibility of peace. Their story invites us to consider not only what peace might mean, but what it asks of each of us. Study group is from 10:00am to 12 noon in the classroom on the side of Thomas Hall. Please RSVP for this first class by October 14 to: Ruth Moroknek ruthmoroknek@gmail.com.

Temple Oseh Shalom also invites you to Movie Time – Sunday, October 18th at 3pm in LPC sanctuary. The film, *Hester Street* follows a Russian Jewish woman who arrives in New York in 1896 and the culture clashes she must face. RSVP to Ruth Moroknek, 843-705-2380 or ruthmoroknek@gmail.com.

Thank you – I would like to thank everyone for all the beautiful birthday cards helping me to celebrate my 100th birthday. I am so thankful that I belong to a congregation of wonderful and caring members.

Many blessings, Virginia Durham

Dear LPC Family, The bouquet of flowers were a lovely surprise! Thank you all for your thoughtfulness and concerns for my health. I am working on getting stronger and hope to see you all soon.

Sincerely, Judy Wells

How wonderful is our congregation at LPC? I found out firsthand when I shattered by femur. The cards, the visits, the phone calls, the flowers, all combined to encourage me on my path to recovery. I still have a long way to go but feel the love each day from my LPC family!

Thank you! Dede Bush



LPC is an Earth Care Congregation!

Earth Care Tips:

Try a Meatless Meal

Consider starting “Meatless Mondays” this month. It’s a simple way to care for our planet without making a major change to our everyday lives.

Producing meat—particularly beef—requires more land, water, and energy and produces more greenhouse-gas emissions than producing plant-based foods.

Replacing even one meat-based meal with beans, lentils, vegetables, whole grains, or other plant-based foods can reduce your environmental footprint.

One meal a week may seem small, but small choices multiplied by many people can make a meaningful difference.

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**10 Simmonsville Road
Bluffton, SC 29910**

Church Office: (843) 815-6570

E-Mail: office@lowcountrypres.org

Web Page: www.lowcountrypres.org

Office hours: Mon-Thu: 8:30am-4:00pm;

Friday: 8:30am-Noon

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Daniel de Beer, Transitional Pastor: daniel@lowcountrypres.org

Rev. David Johnson, Associate Pastor: revjohnson@lowcountrypres.org

Office/Christy James: office@lowcountrypres.org

Dr. Robin Lind, Music Director: rlind@lowcountrypres.org

Dr. Karen Ball, Organist—kball@olivet.edu

The Session

Class of 2026

Elaine Branda
(843-816-2240)

Anne Redlus
(843-705-6373)

Bill Walker
(843-816-0884)

Pam Davis-Webb
(607-215-2289)

Class of 2027

Jan Alpert
(843- 837-2177)

Sandy Iams
(843-814-9078)

Eugenia Johnston
(770-540-9488)

Class of 2028

Kathleen Casey
(732-740-7496)

Don Hamburger
(843-729-7136)

Vicki Melton
(843-338-8735)

Patti Rozonkiewicz
(630-841-1935)

Janit Maguire, Clerk
(845-527-6409)