



## **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, September 24, 2023  
10:30am**

# LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**10 Simmonsville Road  
Bluffton, SC 29910**

**Church Office: (843) 815-6570**

**Fellowship Hall (843) 815-6575**

**E-Mail: [office@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:office@lowcountrypres.org)**

**Web Page: [www.lowcountrypres.org](http://www.lowcountrypres.org)**

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

## STAFF

Rev. Chris Herrin, Pastor: [revherrin@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:revherrin@lowcountrypres.org)

Office/Christy James: [office@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:office@lowcountrypres.org)

Dr. Robin Lind, Music Director: [rlind@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:rlind@lowcountrypres.org)

Dr. Karen Ball, Organist—[kball@olivet.edu](mailto:kball@olivet.edu)

## The Session

### Class of 2023

Karen Couser  
(843-422-2473)  
Diane Mikkelson  
(843-368-6865)  
Larry Tremiere  
(843-208-2107)  
Janit Maguire  
(845-527-6409)

### Class of 2024

Sandy Benninger  
(843-705-5233)  
Jerri Hanna  
(843-645-0610)  
Carolyn Marshall  
(805-522-8346)  
Anne Redlus  
(843-705-6373)

### Class of 2025

Jan Alpert  
(843- 837-2177)  
Kevin MacCarthy  
(609-462-3903)  
Pam Davis-Webb  
(607-215-2289)  
Dale Wilkes  
(207-299-6693)

**Celebration of Worship**  
**Sunday, September 24, 2023 - 10:30am**

**Silent Meditation**

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”Isaiah 55:8-9

**Prelude** *The Lord's Prayer, As the Deer* arr. Karen Ball

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. Chris Herrin

**Introit** *Song of Gladness* Joseph M. Martin

**Call to Worship** Stephen Ball

Leader: Come, long-time people of God, there is more work to do in God's kingdom.

**People: We hear God's call and continue to share God's love wherever we are.**

Leader: Come you who are new to the faith, come and join God's work in the world.

**People: We hear the invitation to join the ministry of Jesus and follow in his ways.**

Leader: Come, people of God; come to worship and receive God's generous grace.

**\*Hymn #36** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

**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 safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.**

**In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.**

**In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.**

**For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.**

**For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Generous God, we give thanks that you seek us out and invite us into your family of faith. We hear your call and offer ourselves in service to our world. Forgive us when we view your grace as something we have earned. Forgive us when we think we deserve more of your grace than others and the sins we commit as a result. Forgive us and set us free to serve others and to live for you with joy. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Response #649**

***“The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.”***

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**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 sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
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.**

**\*Gloria Patri # 579**

***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.***

**Children’s Moment**

Rev. Herrin

(Children 4 years old and up may leave for Sunday School)

**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.**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings and Change Can Make A Change**

**Offertory**

*Lamb of God, Higher Ground*

arr. Joel Raney

**\*Doxology**

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #435**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

**There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgment given.**

**For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful,  
we would gladly trust God's Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving  
for the goodness of our Lord.**

**Anthem**

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

arr. Molly Ijames

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 145: 8-17 (pg. 549)

Matthew 20: 1-16 (pg. 20)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

**“It's 5 O'clock Somewhere”**

Candidate

**\*Hymn #761**

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

**Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.**

**Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old, blending  
human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words  
of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new  
power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Faith*

by Felix Mendelssohn

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**Welcome to worship.** All visitors are welcome to LPC, where we seek to love and serve Christ with all that we are and in all that we do. Let us know of your visit using the visitor card in the pew rack and dropping it in the offering baskets. Care for infants through 5 years old during worship is provided in the nursery. Worship bags with activities for elementary age are in the Narthex.

**A Children's Moment** is offered during the 10:30am service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, along with Sunday School after for children ages 4 and 5.

**The Session has called a congregational meeting today** following the 10:30am service to hear the report of the Associate Pastor Nominating committee to elect their recommended candidate and to vote on his terms of call. Biographical information and terms of call will be provided at the start of the meeting. Reception to follow.

**Stewardship Dinner - Tuesday, October 17th at 5:30pm outside on the patio.** Join us as we continue our campaign: "Honor the Lord with all that you have." Following a meal from Jim N' Nicks famous barbeque, special guest speaker Rev. Dr. John Wall will lead a discussion entitled "All In". The cost is \$15 per person to be paid that evening. Sign-up by October 10th in the Narthex or on our website [lowcountrypres.org/news-events](http://lowcountrypres.org/news-events).

**The flowers today are to the glory of God in appreciation for the work of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.**

**Adult Sunday School:** Join us from 9:30am – 10:10am in the Parlor next Sunday, October 1 for a discussion of Psalm 113 as we continue our congregation-wide reading and study of the Psalms through our *Seasons of Psalms* initiative.

**Faith Formation invites you to a Bible Study entitled "Discovering the Gospel of Mark's Subtle Messages"** led by Rev. Rob Blumer, Thursdays, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the sanctuary. This study will equip attendees to discover new depths in the Gospel of Mark before we hear more of it next year from the pulpit, as it will be the lectionary gospel text. Rev. Blumer grew up in the Carolinas, with degrees from Furman University and Columbia Seminary, and served multiple congregations before retiring recently to Beaufort. Please register on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or online. We invite you to attend one or all as your schedule permits. Contact Elder, Dale Wilkes with any questions, [dalewilkes207@gmail.com](mailto:dalewilkes207@gmail.com).

**Youngish Adults will meet Tuesday, September 26th at 6pm.** The Youngish Adult Group, in their 30's to 40's, single and married, meets monthly for pizza and faith discussion led by Chris Herrin. Childcare is provided. Let Chris know so we have enough pizza and childcare.

**Yes, we all get a little slack in the summer.** It's ok if you have fallen behind in our **congregation-wide reading of the Psalms**. It does not take long to catch up. Pick up a reading schedule on the table under the monitor in the Narthex and look for upcoming study opportunities through Adult Sunday School and with Rev. Herrin in November. Or check out our *Seasons of Psalms* page on the LPC website for a schedule and helpful study hints. <https://www.lowcountrypres.org/seasons-of-psalms>

**It is time for our Family Promise host days** to provide meals. We still need someone to prepare or purchase meals for 2 families (2 adults and 4 children) on Thursday, October 12. See the eblast for more specifics. More detailed plans will be provided for volunteers. To sign up or get more information contact Diane Mikkelson at 843-368-6865 or dianemikke@aol.com.

**Change Can Make a Change for the month of September** will be to support the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbytery of the Pacific response to the deadly fires on Maui. An initial response grant has been disbursed to address emergency needs, and PDA will be present through the long-term recovery phase. Emergency needs include but are not limited to food, shelter, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), medicine and more. Please continue to pray for those impacted by the fires.

**NOC needs after-school tutors to work with the children in our building** and are flexible on dates and times. A number of LPC members currently volunteer. Sandy Iams is one of them and would be happy to help you connect with them. Leave a message for her at (843) 814-9078 or you can contact the two women who run the program directly: Gaby 786-872-5885 or Nelly 843-415-7331.

**Backpack Buddies** - Thirteen members of LPC came together to pack 167 bags of food on September 12th. Distribution of the food will take place on each Friday during the month of September. Fifty food insecure children at Prichardville Elementary School will be the recipients of the food.

**Our next Highway Clean-up Day is September 29th at 9am.** Join LPC members to collect trash along Simmonsville Rd. Necessary supplies and coffee and donuts will be provided. Questions? Contact Dave Casperson.

**As a way of acknowledging participation yesterday in the 2023 Walk for Water** to benefit Water Mission, the LPC Water Walkers Team members were encouraged to wear their shirts today. Ask them about the Walk and thank them for “walking so others don’t have to”—a daily task for women and children throughout the world to collect water from unclean sources. Water Mission is changing lives!

**The next New Member Class** will start October 1st and will continue the two following Sundays, from 3pm to 5pm. Meet others new to the church and enjoy conversation about faith and the meaning of membership led by Rev. Herrin. Contact the church office by September 25th, or simply come to the first class. Accommodation can be made for missed classes, but attendance at all three is encouraged.



**Dine Around for November through April!** Groups of 8 (singles and couples) meet for a meal once a month; Sunday brunch or dinner during the week at a restaurant. Members of the group rotate picking the place. Sign-up in the Narthex by October 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lowe at [felo33@yahoo.com](mailto:felo33@yahoo.com). Members and visitors are invited to participate.

**There are openings in October for the Sunday chancel flowers.** Please sign-up on the flower chart in the Narthex.

**Thank yous**

I am grateful and blessed to be a member of such a caring congregation. Thank you so much for all of the wonderful cards and prayers.

Gigi Johnston

Dear Members, thank you for your prayers and support. Bud & Pat Woodard

**Financial Highlights**

	August		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Receipts	\$ 40,265	\$ 44,925	\$ 382,224	\$ 359,400
Disbursements	\$ 49,212	\$ 48,636	318,277	390,973
Surplus (deficit)	\$ (8,947)	\$ (3,711)	\$ 63,947	\$ (31,573)

The congregation continues to give generously this year to the general fund, missions and the fellowship hall renovations. Thank you from the Administration and Finance Ministry.

## **Sermon Notes:**