



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 Simonsville Rd
Bluffton, SC 29910***

***1st Sunday in Advent
November 27, 2022***

LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10 Simonsville Road, Bluffton, SC 29910

Church Office: (843) 815-6570

Fellowship Hall (843) 815-6575

E-Mail: office@lowcountrypres.org

Web Page: www.lowcountrypres.org

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

STAFF

Rev. Chris Herrin, Pastor: revherrin@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 2022

John Abernethy
(843-757-8099)

Carol Bogle
(843-356-5268)

Debbie Hough
(843-815-2884)

Karen Couser
(843-422-2473)

Class of 2023

Diane Mikkelson
(843-368-6865)

Larry Tremitiere
(843-208-2107)

Class of 2024

Sandy Benninger
(843-705-5233)

Jerri Hanna
(843-645-0610)

Carolyn Marshall
(805-522-8346)

Anne Redlus
(843-705-6373)

Celebration of Worship
1st Sunday in Advent
November 27, 2022

Silent Reflection

We long to hear your Word in fresh ways, O God of our ancestors. Open our eyes to the dawn of new possibilities among us. Move us from desire for self-gratification to eager anticipation of Christ's coming into our lives. Fill us with expectation and hope. Amen.

Prelude *Come Thou Almighty King* arr. Karen Ball

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Chris Herrin

Introit (10:30) *Come, Come Emmanuel* Hymn #91

Call to Worship (Unison) (8:30) Mike Manning (10:30) Stephen Ball
Rejoice, for today is a new day, and the beginning of a season to celebrate!
Today we begin a journey, a journey to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son. Let us set our minds on the God of Love, and prepare our hearts for God's great gift.

***Hymn #347** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ
our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the shadows clear away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high!"**

***Lighting of the Advent Candle and Invocation**

(8:30) Alane Peragallo (10:30) Mark and Marie Pendleton

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom for we have lived casual lives, often pursuing our own agendas, rather than the well-being of all your children. Forgive us the sins that come from our self-concern, and hear now our silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Pardon

Response:

Hymn #121

*“O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.”*

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Herrin

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

Emmanuel

arr. J. 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 #104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart’s delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
in love, all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.

You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill,
to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation we live for that great day
when your renewed creation your glory shall display.

Anthem (10:30)

Come, Let Us Sing and Give Thanks

Stacy Nordmeyer

Scripture Reading

Matthew 24:36-44 (pg. 26)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Are You Ready?”

Rev. Chris Herrin

Reception of New Members (10:30)

John Abernethy

Rev. Herrin

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

Rev. Herrin

**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.**

***Hymn #82**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Victory

by L. Strickland

****Please stand if you are able.***

Welcome to all who worship today. 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 4 years old during worship is provided in the nursery during the 10:30am service.

Today during the 10:30am service we will welcome into membership 16 new members! See the new member directory inserted in this bulletin.

Hanging of the Greens—today following 10:30am worship. All volunteers welcomed and rewarded with pizza.

Christmas Fellowship Dinner and Sing Along - Join friends both new and old in Fellowship Hall on December 7th beginning at 6pm. Enjoy spiral ham and rotisserie chicken as a main course. Bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert to share. There will be no cost for this event. Dinner will be followed by singing of carols to get you in the holiday mood. Sign-up in the Narthex or on our website.

Memorial Poinsettia order forms are on the counter in the Narthex. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, please fill out the form and place it in the offering basket or the church office. Plants are \$15 each. Make checks payable to LPC and note poinsettias. Place your order by December 5th.

The Angel Tree is back! There are 36 angels on the tree with names of books for the children that meet in our Fellowship Hall M-Th with the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) after school program. **Please chose an angel, purchase the book requested, Christmas wrap the book, put the angel on the outside and return to the Angel Tree table no later than Sunday, December 11.** (All books are between \$8.00 and \$12.00)

Don't forget that the Change Can Make a Change for November for the Angel Tree will be used to purchase \$25 Walmart gift cards for Agape families and seniors too.

Please remember with your prayers:

Kathy Crist

**The flowers today are to the glory of God given by
Laura Phillips in honor of her grandchildren.**

Children's Sunday School for ages 4 and 5 meets during worship in the back room near the nursery every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Adult Sunday School - Join us at 9:35am in the parlor to further explore and extend the Take 5 readings, It is not necessary to be current on the readings.

Don't Forget to Take 5! - We will complete 2nd Peter and Jude this week, and also begin Revelation, the final book in our Take5 journey!
You can find helpful overview video from the bibleproject.com.

Advent Study, led by Rev. Becky Albright - Mondays, December 5th and 12th, 6pm. Each Gospel gives us a distinct perspective of the birth of Jesus and over the two weeks, participants will have a chance to have an overview of each. Sign-up in the Narthex or on our website.

Gifts for those who have enough already! Through the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue you can make a donation in honor of a loved one and someone in a third world country will benefit. Optional gift areas are Kits and Tools, Water, Livestock, and Agriculture. Selections start at \$15.00. Pick up a catalogue in the Narthex, fill out the order form, enclose a check payable to LPC, place in the envelope provided and drop in the offering basket, or mail or bring to the church until the end of the year. Questions? Visit the info table after worship or contact Anne Redlus, Elder for Missions Beyond (843-705-6373).

Family Promise Meals - Our Family Promise weeks to prepare meals for up to 4 families is November 28th - December 8th. We are asking volunteers to prepare meals. More complete information will follow in the E-blasts and bulletins or call Diane Mikkelson @ 843-368-6865.

Charleston Atlantic Presbytery work trip to Puerto Rico, March 4 to 11, 2023. The team made up of congregants from our Presbytery will work in partnership with local PC(USA) churches to help provide relief from lasting hurricane damage. The projects will be led by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Contact Jeff Taylor jefftaylor1954@yahoo.com or Allison Hubbard ahubbard@jamesislandpc.org if you are interested in joining this team or getting more information. Cost: \$800 + purchase of flight (Land travel, accommodations, and meals included). The LPC Missions Team would be happy to subsidize a portion to any who might like to go but need financial assistance. Don't let the cost stand in the way of this mission opportunity. Contact Anne Redlus, Elder for Missions Beyond.

Advent Devotional Guides with daily readings for Advent are available in the Narthex, compliments of the Faith Formation Ministry Team.

Join us for the presentation of the Christmas Cantata on December 11th during the worship services.

Stewardship Update: We have now received 116 pledges, with over 50% of them showing increases over their 2022 pledges. It's not too late to turn in your pledge. Extra stewardship packages including pledge cards and pledge cards alone are available in the Narthex. Place your card in the offering baskets, drop them by the office or mail them. Thank you!

Our third annual Kirkin' O' Tartan service celebrating our Scottish Heritage will include a procession/recession of Tartan (Clan) banners and bagpipes. If you have a banner and would like to participate in the procession, please notify Debbie Hough at hougha@bellsouth.net or the church office at office@lowcountrypres.org . It will be necessary to attend a practice, Saturday morning, February 18th. If you are interested in ordering a banner to participate or any other clan accessories such as ties, scarves and shawls, please contact Fran Parker at 843-757-8181 or frannieparker38@gmail.com . She will provide a list of items available and the cost. **Orders must be placed by December 20th** for delivery in time for the service. Look for more information closer to the date on our eblasts and website. Invite a friend(s).

The Community Thanksgiving Service last Tuesday evening is available to be viewed on the YouTube channel for Church of the Palms. Dr. Lind conducted the combined choir, Dale Wilkes offered a reflection and Rev. Herrin offered a Thanksgiving Prayer. You might want to watch and listen.

Difficulty Hearing? While we enjoy a beautiful sanctuary, it is acoustically challenging! If you can't hear clearly, be sure to try one of our hearing devices, kept in a basket in the Narthex or try sitting at different spots in our sanctuary and balcony. Because of the generosity of the congregation, a new sound system will be installed this year!

Large print hymnals are also available in the Narthex near the hearing devices.

Cough drops are available in the Narthex for your comfort.