



## **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, February 23, 2025  
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. David Johnson, Associate Pastor: [revjohnson@lowcountrypres.org](mailto:revjohnson@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 2025

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

### Class of 2026

Elaine Branda  
(843-816-2240)  
Chad Copenhaver  
(303-589-3816)  
Anne Redlus  
(843-705-6373)

### Class of 2027

Sandy Iams  
(843-814-9078)  
Eugenia Johnston  
(770-540-9488)  
Michael Koch  
(434-738-7835)

**Celebration of Worship**  
**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

**Silent Meditation**

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ... For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Ephesians 2:4, 8-10

**Prelude** *Blessed Assurance* arr. Joel Raney

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. David Johnson

**Introit** *Sing a New Song* Jay Althouse

**Call to Worship** (from Psalm 37) Scott Johnson

Leader: Trust in the Lord and do good;

**People: So you may live in the land and enjoy security.**

Leader: Take delight in the Lord;

**People: God will give you the desires of your heart.**

Leader: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently on God.

**People: Do not fret over anything.**

**ALL: The meek will inherit the land, and delight in abundant prosperity.**

**\*Hymn #436** *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*

**\*Invocation** Rev. Rebecca Albright

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Loving God, you command us to love you and to have no other gods. You command us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, and we fall short of your commandments. We find ourselves falling for the gods of materialism and wealth, privilege and exclusivity. We fail to recognize our neighbors, and we move away from those who are not like us. Transform us, O God, to love others reminding us of the love found in and through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

## Assurance of Pardon

Response #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (v. 1)

### \*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 # 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*

### Children's Moment

Rev. Johnson

(Children leaving for nursery or Sunday school will be escorted from the Narthex)

### Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Johnson

**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

*Hallelujah*

by Leonard Cohen

John Blevins, tenor saxophone

### \*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**

Rev. Johnson

**\*Hymn #819**

*Be Still, My Soul*

**Anthem**

*Can't Carry These Burdens Alone*  
John Blevins, tenor saxophone

Michael Barrett

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 6:27-38 (pg. 60)  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

**“The Golden Rule”**

**Rev. Rebecca Albright**

**\*Hymn # 769**

*For Everyone Born*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Overture*

by G.F. Handel

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**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.

**We welcome Rev. Rebecca Albright,** General Presbyter of the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery, as our guest preacher today.

**Thank you to John Blevins for the special music today.**

**The Caregiver Support Group** led by Rev. Johnson and Debbie Hager will meet following worship **today** in the back room by the nursery.

**LPC's monthly Grief Support Group** led by Rev. Johnson and Sue Ellen Johnson will meet **March 2nd** in the back room by the nursery following worship.

*Please remember with your prayers:*  
**Fran Casperson**

**The flowers today are to the Glory of God, given by Lois Johnson,  
in loving memory of Lewis Johnson.**

**The Ash Wednesday service including imposition of ashes will be at noon,  
Wednesday, March 5th.**

**Trivia Night, Wednesday, March 12th** at 6:00pm in Thomas Hall. Join us for an evening of trivia, subs and fun! Please bring your own beverage and enjoy a light dinner as you work with others to test your general and biblical knowledge. Donations are welcome at the door. Sign-up in the Narthex or online.

**Adult Sunday School** meets Sundays at 9:15am in the parlor. March 2nd, we will discuss Luke 9:28-45, Transfiguration of Our Lord. Come join us.

**Children's Sunday School** is on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month.

**Epiphanies: Recognizing God in our world.** Our winter Bible Study, held at 2:15pm and 6pm in Thomas Hall will conclude this Tuesday by looking at a vision given to Peter that changed the whole church. The 6pm class can be zoomed, contact the church office for a Zoom invite.

**Lenten Bible Study** - The purpose of Lent is to prepare us for Easter through the disciplines of prayer, fasting, repentance, charity, simple living, and self-denial. Our Lenten Bible Study, held at 2:15pm on Tuesdays in Thomas Hall, will begin on March 4 and continue for 6 sessions, concluding on April 8. Each standalone class will use different Bible stories to help us prepare for Easter. No prior knowledge of the scriptures is needed to participate in this study.

**Payne-ful Business:** Margaret Seidler's interest in her family's ancestral past uncovered the Payne-ful truth that her family's history included buying and selling slaves in Charleston. Ms. Seidler has published her story, believing that true healing can only happen when we own up to our past. She will share her family's story with us after worship on **March 16**. We hope you will plan to attend this important event. We also encourage you to join in reading her book, "Payne-ful Business: Charleston's Journey to the Truth." We will discuss it on Wednesday, **March 12**, at 4pm in the parlor and also schedule time with her after she speaks. Her book is available at [payne-fulbusiness.com](http://payne-fulbusiness.com).

**The Change Can Make a Change for February is designated for NAMI**, the National Alliance on Mental Health, who seeks to improve the quality of life for all those affected by mental health as they advocate and provide education and support programs. LPC supports this organization through our Mission budget and provide meeting space for their Family Support Group.

**Blessing Box for February** - Seeking donations of small bottles of detergent, cleaning solutions, individually wrapped toilet paper and individually wrapped paper towels, canned chicken, canned tuna, soups(preferably with pull tops); protein meals, Spam, corned beef hash, Manwich, and legumes (black beans, pinto beans, lentils and black eyed peas. Please place in the container in the Narthex.

**Agape Spring Food Drive - Sunday March 23 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**

Please help us stock Agape's shelves by bringing your food donations to LPC on Sunday, March 23rd between 11:30am and 1:00pm. We will unload your vehicle. If you are attending church that day, please drive through to unload after the service. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and filling our cars with your generous donations! Hoping for Spring-like weather. Most requested and needed items:

apples and oranges	sweet and white potatoes and onions
Maseca (flour to make tortillas)	dry and canned beans and rice
canned fruit and vegetables	peanut butter and jelly
canned chicken and tuna	baby food
cereal	

We hope to see you on March 23rd with your generous donations. Thank you for helping us support Agape! If you have any questions or would like to assist, please contact Jan Catanese at 248-766-0402.

**We continue to collect food items for Agape Family Life Center.**

Baskets/containers are located in the Narthex and across from the office.

**Call for Volunteers with the Lunch Program at Memory Matters.** They are seeking volunteers to assist with plating lunch for their adult day program participants in their Harmony Cafe. This is a rewarding opportunity with just a 2-hour commitment on Hilton Head. If interested or would like more information, call Memory Matters at 843-842-6688.

**Men of Purpose (MOP) meets Saturdays at 9am in the Parlor.** They started a new book study of "INSPIRED" by Rachael Held Evans. All are welcome to visit this discussion based group anytime. Contact Bill Walker at kamwheeling@gmail.com for more information.

**Upper Room Devotionals** are available in the Narthex, compliments of the Faith Formation Ministry Team.

**Dear LCP friends,** your outpouring of love, prayers and support sustained us through the last few weeks after my sweet mom, Marge, passed away peacefully on Jan 28th. She loved coming to church every Sunday, meeting new pew friends, enjoying the choir and special music, and always had a “good word” for our pastors' sermons! Thank you all for the warm embrace she felt. We continue to feel your comforting presence.

~~ Sue & Steve Higgins

**Thank you so much** for the prayers, cards, emails, flowers, texts, and calls! The journey through health challenges is rough, and your support raises my spirits and warms my heart. I am extremely grateful for this caring church family.

~Janit Maguire

**Sermon Notes:**