



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, January 19, 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

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

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 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, January 19, 2025 - 10:30am

Silent Meditation

Come to worship, leaving behind the worries and cares of life to join the celebration of God's people. Come to worship, leaving behind all that weighs us down, all that we'd rather not admit, and drink in the extravagant grace of God. Come to worship and let God's spirit strengthen your spirit for all that you will face in the coming week. Come.

Prelude

He Hideth My Soul

arr. Karen Ball

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Chris Herrin

Introit

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak Hymn 722 (vv. 1 & 2)

Call to Worship

Wendy MacCarthy

Leader: How do we remain calm when chaos surrounds us?

People: As people of faith, we carry in us God's spirit of peace.

Leader: Where do we turn when crisis looms or disaster strikes?

People: As faithful people, we turn to God who is our source of strength.

Leader: How can we celebrate in the midst of trouble and tragedy?

People: Our faith gives us hope, so that we take joy in God's extravagant grace.

Leader: As faithful people, come in peace, strength, and joy to worship.

***Hymn #366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***Invocation**

Rev. David Johnson

Unison Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you have given us this world, with all its abundant resources, but too often we fear that we won't have enough and hoard what we have for ourselves. You have gifted us with skills and talents for the work of ministry, but we can be guilty of using them for our own gain. You have given us our days and years in this life, but sometimes we are too busy with our own schedules to serve others. You have created us for joy, O God, but many of us let fear and anxiety dominate our decisions. Forgive us these and all of our sins, and give us a clean slate and a new heart. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response:

#144 (v. 4)

“What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.”

***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

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

The Solid Rock

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**

Rev. Herrin

***Hymn #716**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Anthem *Let There Be Peace on Earth* arr. Keith Christopher

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7 (pg. 163)
John 2:1-11 (pg. 87)
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon “The Life of the Party” **Rev. David Johnson**

***Hymn #379** *We Shall Overcome* (vv. 2, 4, 5)

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *Intrada* by Ovid Young

* 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.

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship on **January 26th** to receive the Annual Report, to vote on changes in terms of call for Rev. Johnson, to elect at large members to serve on the Nominating Committee and to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Rev. Herrin (see back page).

Congratulations to our newest class of elders who were ordained and installed during worship last Sunday. Please support them with your prayers, interest and where possible, help with their work. Class of 2027, Sandy Iams (Missions), Gigi Johnston (Congregational Care) and Mike Koch (Administration and Finance); Class of 2026, Anne Redlus (Missions).

Souper Bowl Potluck - All members/visitors are invited to join us in Thomas Hall on Wednesday, January 29 at 6 pm for a potluck of soups/chili, salads, bread, and dessert. Sign-up in the Narthex, online, or call the church office. Wear your favorite NFL or college jersey if you like. Enjoy some football trivia & games. Deadline to sign-up is noon Monday, January 27.

Please remember with your prayers:
Dede Bush Elaine Branda Joann McElravy

**The flowers today are to the Glory of God, given by Laura Phillips
in loving memory of Carl Smith.**

Adult Sunday School meets Sundays at 9:15am in the parlor. Next Sunday, January 26th we will discuss Luke 5:1-11, in which Jesus calls fishermen to fish for people. Every lesson is stand alone. 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 on Tuesdays in Thomas Hall continues through March 4th. Epiphanies are moments when the ordinary becomes extraordinary, when God's presence is revealed or recognized in a tangible way. Each stand alone class will use a different Biblical story to help us see God's presence in our lives today. This Tuesday we will discuss Moses and the burning bush. No prior knowledge of the scriptures is needed to participate in this study.

The January CCMAC will give support to Hopeful Horizons. HH is a children's advocacy, domestic violence and rape crisis center that works to create safer communities by changing the culture of violence and offering a path to healing. The organization provides safety, hope and healing to survivors of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault through evidence-based practices, outreach, prevention and education. They serve Beaufort, Allendale, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties. Your donations will support Hopeful Horizons Client Assistance Fund. Thank you for your generosity for the monthly CCMAC projects.

There is a container in the Narthex to collect donations for the Blessing Box located on our church campus across from Thomas Hall. Each week, a member of the Blessing Box Team watches over the box refilling as needed. Each month we will post a different category of items to be donated for the Blessing Box. January we are asking members to support the Blessing box with Toiletries and Cleaning Products: Suggested list for Toiletries: shampoo/conditioner, Bar soap/liquid Body soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, deodorant and small packages of tissues. Suggested list for Cleaning Products (smaller sizes so they fit in the Blessing Box): dish soap, All purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, disinfectant wipes, laundry detergent, and (individually wrapped) paper towels and toilet paper. Also, we are looking for one more member to join our Blessing Box team. Contact Anne Redlus at 843-705-6373 if interested.

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 Bound Together Book Club's next read is "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See. All are welcome to join us to discuss the novel on January 23rd at 2pm. The book club is led by Alane Peragallo and Betty Smith, with assistance from Rev. Herrin. Sign-up in the Narthex or online.

MLK Walk in Bluffton - The social witness ministry invites you to help LPC support the vision and life of Dr. Martin Luther King by walking in the MLK Parade and picnic. The parade begins at **2pm Tomorrow** outside the May River Theatre on Pritchard St., and finishes with a picnic at Oyster Factory Park. This year's theme is "Protecting Freedom, Justice, and Democracy in the Spirit of Nonviolence365". Other events can be found on the Bluffton MLK Observance Committee facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BlufftonMLK/>). Please contact Rev. Johnson if you plan on walking with us or have questions (revjohnson@lowcountrypres.org).

The church office will be closed Monday, January 20th in observance of MLK day.

Congratulations to Rev. Herrin who has accepted a call to Evergreen Presbyterian Church in Dothan, Alabama. More information will be coming shortly on how the congregation will honor and send her off on her last Sunday, February 16th.

Kirkin' O' the Tartan - February 9th at 10:30am

LPC will be celebrating its Scottish heritage with a Kirkin' O' the Tartan during a special service of worship on February 9th at 10:30 am. Kirk is the term in Scotland for church and kirking is considered a blessing. The tartan is a symbol of love and togetherness, no matter what our heritage. The Kirkin' O' the Tartan service at LPC will include a ceremonial procession of tartans, hymns and bagpipe music as we remember ancient times while asking God's help and blessings in the future. Following the service, enjoy Scottish shortbread and tea during hospitality time. Be sure to mark your calendar and wear your tartan on February 9th!

Men of Purpose (MOP) meets Saturdays at 9am in the Parlor. They have just begun 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.

The Session and Mission Ministry would like to thank the congregation for the many contributions in December: World Central Kitchen - \$3,396.00; Joy Offering - \$2,040.00, Presbyterian Giving Catalog - \$3,868.00 and Angel Tree - \$6,264. Families at Agape Family Life Center and students at NOC as well as those two organizations benefited from the Angel Tree Giving. The 2024 Presbyterian Giving Catalog was supported by 26 church members who donated 79 items from the catalog for a total giving of \$3,868. You have surpassed last year's giving. A sincere thank you from the Mission Ministry Team.

The Finance Team has made 2025 monthly giving envelopes available in the Narthex. If you are used to giving weekly, you can combine your weekly checks in the monthly envelope or write one check for your monthly contribution. Online options are also available at lowcountrypres.org under "Ways to Give".

These Days Devotionals are available in the Narthex, compliments of the Faith Formation Ministry Team.

My many thanks to this kind, warm, loving congregation who showered me with encouraging cards, a poinsettia, yummy meals, and your prayers. Also, a big thanks to Chris and Dave who called often to check on me. I can't thank you enough as I continue with my healing. I am starting therapy for my arm and shoulder and am nearly over the remnants of pneumonia. You were a bright light in my recovery. Thank you! Ann Warren

To My LPC Family, Thank you all so much for the lovely flowers! They continue to brighten my days. And my thanks as well to Chris too for her visit. Happy new year everyone. Love, Judy Wells

The January/ February edition of the newsletter is available in the Narthex and on our website: lowcountrypres.org.

Sermon Notes: