

Baptism of the Lord



*South Aiken Presbyterian Church, dedicated to Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, will deliberately foster an **inclusive, intergenerational congregation**. We will extend **revolutionary, Christ-Like hospitality** to everyone we encounter, embrace **diverse styles of worship**, and utilize a **tech-based relational outreach**.*

South Aiken Presbyterian Church
1711 Whiskey Rd.

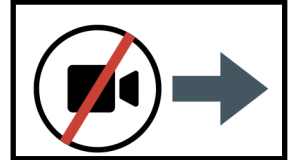
Welcome!

Welcome to God-Encountered worship at South Aiken Presbyterian Church! We are thankful that you have been called to worship with us this morning. We believe all people are children of God. We believe that the redeeming grace of God can transform our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe all people are loved with a love that has no end in Jesus Christ.

Today, may you encounter Jesus Christ through Spirit-inspired worship including dynamic preaching, specific prayers, and beautiful music. May the blessings of the triune God give you joy and hope that can only come from God with us. Let us

Please Note: *God may be calling you, but probably not on your cell phone! Please turn off or silence your devices during worship. We also ask for your support in keeping the aisle open; kindly place any walkers in the pew to keep walkways clear.*

All SAPC services are recorded for release on our YouTube channel. If you do not wish to be recorded during services, please sit in the video free zones, designated by this sign. Contact media@southaiken.org for more details and to confirm your privacy request.



Announcement: *Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 18th immediately following Sunday's Worship to vote on the Pastor's Terms of Call and the presentation of the 2026 budget.*

January 11, 2026

Baptism of the Lord Sunday/1st Sunday of Epiphany

10:00 am

(Please stand, if able, when indicated by an *)

Prelude

“Joy Has Dawned”
Olga Kuzmenkova, Pianist

Tornquist

Welcome and Announcements

Lyn VanDervort (Pulpit Assistant, PA)

The Chiming (Handbell is rung three times, for God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.)

Introit

“We Are Standing on Holy Ground”
We are standing on holy ground
And I know that there are angels all around;
Let us praise Jesus now
We are standing in His presence on holy ground.

Geron Davis

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship (Psalm 29: 1-4) (responsively):**

One: All you angels in heaven, honor the glory and power of the Lord!

ALL: Honor the wonderful name of the Lord, and worship the Lord most holy and glorious.

One: The voice of the Lord echoes over the oceans. The glorious Lord God thunders above the roar of the raging sea,

ALL: and the Lord’s voice is mighty and marvelous.

***Hymn #613**

“How Majestic is Your Name”

Written by Michael W. Smith

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the Earth.

O earth. O Lord, we praise your name.

O Lord, we magnify your name: Prince of Peace,

Mighty God; O Lord God Almighty

Prayer of Confession (Together): Almighty God, you have welcomed us into the body of Christ through the sign and seal of baptism yet sometimes we think this is an ending instead of a beginning of faith. We sometimes think growing in understanding and faith in you stops when a season ends or a calendar year turns to the next. O God, forgive our complacency and may we adopt a growth mindset through Jesus Christ.

(Pause and confess your personal sin in silence to God)

PA: Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsively):

One: Who is in a position to condemn?

ALL: Only Jesus Christ. Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ rules in power for us, and Christ prays for us. Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone, the new life has begun. Know we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

One: As you see and hear the water being poured into the font, remember you belong to the Lord and you are a new creation.

The Baptismal Font (*water poured into the font*)

Responsive Hymn #582** ***“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Holy Interruption** (aka, Passing the Peace) (*Responsively*):

PA: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with

ALL: And also with you. (*share fist bumps, high fives, hugs, and other signs of forgiveness and peace to each other.*)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Children’s Moment

Emily Martin

(Children are invited to come to the stage steps for a small lesson, then walk together to Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.)

Anthem

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Arr. By Mark Hayes

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading (*New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, NRSVUE*):

Old Testament Reading: **Isaiah 42: 1-9** (*pg. 670 of the Old Testament*)

Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 3: 13-17** (*page 3 of the New Testament*)
(fill-in the blanks on page 7)

One: Hear what the Spirit says to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Not the Ending, But the Beginning”

Rev. Jason Hammersley

*Hymn #488

“I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

*Affirmation of Faith *(Together)*: **The Brief Statement of Faith *excerpt***

We trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Intercession *(prayers for the Church, the world, the nation, the community and our loved ones.)*

Offering of Gifts

Offertory

“Bring a Torch”

Jeanette, Isabella, Hayes

*Doxology: Hymn #606 *“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

*Prayer of Thanksgiving *(with 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

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #539**

“We Will Go Out with Joy”

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude Hymn #743**

“O God, You Are My God”

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise You.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise You.

**I will seek you in the morning, and I will
learn to walk in your ways.**

**And step by step you’ll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.**

Sermon Scripture Activity (NRSVUE):

As the Scripture is read (Matthew 3: 13-17) fill in the blank with the word(s) you hear.

The Baptism of Jesus

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be _____ by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the _____, suddenly the _____ were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my _____, the _____, ^[a] with whom I am well pleased."

Reflective Questions:

- 1. How does God's Spirit continue to descend upon us today?*
- 2. What do you think "voice from heaven" sounded like?*
- 3. What did you learn or take away from this scripture about baptism and Jesus?*
- 4. What did you learn about God from this scripture?*
- 5. What will you apply in you life this week from this scripture?*

Upcoming Youth Activities Corner

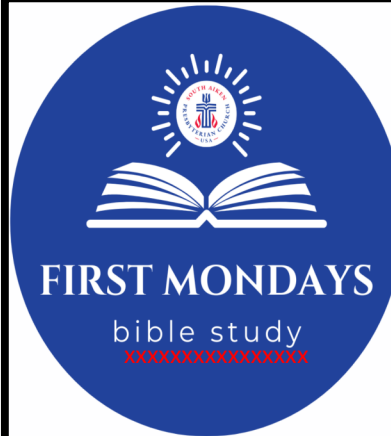
Are you or your child 6th-12th grade?

Our spring youth group calendar is now out! Reach out to Anthony Williamson at youth@southaiken.org for more information."



Reserve your date by visiting the new "Sanctuary Flowers" web page found under the Worship menu tab, or call the Secretary's office at 803-648-9574.

The youth group is looking for **adult volunteers** to help with Sunday activities. Don't miss out on this inter-generational opportunity for faith, fellowship, and fun (plus food)! Scan the QR Code to sign up today."



Coffee at 8:45am
Study at 9:00am

All are welcome!

**We will be meeting in the
Church Library!!**

Do you like to run? What about being challenged? Join the youth in a 5K Spartan Sprint in Atlanta on March 14th. It is \$130 per person with carpooling where possible. **Sign up ASAP** before spots are gone and get to training! If you want to know more about the specific race, go to Spartan.com.



SAPC

Talent Show

WE NEED YOUR TALENT!

February 28th, 5pm



Sign up with Kim at families@southaiken.org






KIDS FIRST TRAINING
YEARLY OFFICER REQUIREMENT!

Sunday, February 1st - After the Service
Anyone interested in volunteering with children is invited to attend

Our **Sunday School** is growing and we are in need of additional **volunteers** to help cover our group of children. If you are interested in being a teacher/aide please contact Kim Goetter, at families@southaiken.org. Currently we are on a 5 week rotation. The more volunteers we get, the longer our rotation period will be.





SAPC CHILI
COOK - OFF

• **& CORNHOLE COMPETITION** •

JAN. 25TH, 11AM

Sign up today at families@southaiken.org!

Living in Faith Together (LIFT)

(Women's Small Group)

When: January 20th, at 5:30pm

Where: Kinder Closet (Rm F207)

Everyone will bring their own dinner.

Please let Lynn know if you need child-care. To join our group on Facebook, scan this QR Code.



January Collection

(Peanut Butter & Jelly)



ACTS collection baskets are located in the narthex by the church entrance and across from the church office. Monetary donations may be made by placing a check made out to SAPC in the offering plate and noting 'ACTS' on the memo line.

Thank you!

Online Donations

available on our website, or by scanning this QR code with camera.



PRIVACY OF CONTACT INFORMATION

If you wish for your phone number and/or address to be withheld from any printed publication which may be seen by the public, please contact Monica at secretary@southaiken.org or (803-648-9574) to let your wishes be known.

The church email address is:

secretary@southaiken.org

Prayer Requests

Anderson Family - season of grief.

Stephens Family - season on grief.

Pateracki Family - season of grief.

MacCrum & Tyler Family season of grief.

Graham T (Chery M.'s great grandson) for healing & recovery.

Jim M. (Alex M's father) for health concerns.

Gordon C. recovery

Judy D. for comfort & recovery.

Donna B. for healing & recovery.

Sonni C. for healing & recovery.

Suzan M. for health concerns.

Owens G. (Cissy K) for health & strength.

Michael & Jennifer H. (friend of Linda W.) for health and strength..

Carina M. for health & strength.

Nancy & Andrew G. for health & strength.

John K. (Donna B's brother) for comfort & healing.

AJ B. (Donna B's relative) for comfort and healing.

Debbie E. (niece of Linda B.) comfort and healing.

Myra & Brooke R. (friends of Jimmy B.) health concerns.

Linda S. (friend of Scott M.) healing.

Ethel (mother to Steve H.) comfort.

Pat M. (Linda B's sister) health concerns.

Leslie C. health concerns.

Doug M. (Linda B.'s nephew) healing and comfort.

Ray P. (cousin of Sarah S.) healing and strength.

Lynn S. comfort.

Dot M. for healing & comfort..

Steve & Linda H. comfort.

Lois V. sister of Lyn V., increased mobility

Barbara K. for transition.

Anita & Bob P. comfort and discernment.

Homebound Members

Email secretary@southaiken.org to change information or removal of name.

Volunteers Today

Pulpit Assistant: Lyn VanDervort

Ushers: Linda Poulson, Bill Poulson,
Elaine Barnes, Cheryl MacCrum

Sound: Steve Kuhl

Video: Anthony Williamson

JaM Director: Lyn VanDervort

Volunteers Next Week

Pulpit Assistant: Paul Ebel

Ushers: Mary Barber, Jim Barber,
Susan Seldon, Elizabeth Barringer

Sound: Alex McGee

Video: Kelly Frontroth

JaM Director: Lyn VanDervort

Upcoming Schedule for Sunday School

January 11th (*Ski Resort, Ski Lift*)

Teacher: Kim Goetter

Assistant Teacher: Madison Wooten

Aide: Elsie Worpell

January 18th (*Ski Resort, Bunny Slope*)

Teacher: Mary Bunch

Assistant Teacher: Jim Bunch

Aide: Sandy Erwin

January 25th (*Ski Resort, Slalom*)

Teacher: Susan Glenn

Assistant Teacher: Katie Moler

Aide: Paul Ebel



SAPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 11th

- 8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
- 9:05a JaM Practice (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Worship Service
- 11:00 Mission & Membership Meeting (Library)
- 2:00p Admin Subcommittee Meeting
- Pickleball (Gym)
- 6:00p Youth Group Meeting (Youth Rm in FLC)

Monday, January 12th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 5:00p SAPK Board Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)
- 6:30p Christian Education (FLC, Youth Rm)

Tuesday, January 13th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 4:30p Belles Canto (Music Room)
- 6:00p Carolina Flight Basketball (Gym)
- 6:30p HOA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00p Scouts Meeting (F205 in FLC)

Wednesday, January 14th

- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 5:30p Worship & Music Team Meeting (Library)
- 6:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00p Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, January 15th

- 8:50a SAPK Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)

Friday, January 16th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 4:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)
- 6:00p Carolina Flight Basketball (Gym)

Saturday, January 17th

- 8:50a ACTS Senior Food Dist. (340 Park Ave)
- 11:30p Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)
- 1:00p Volleyball Clinic (Gym)

Sunday, January 18th

- 8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
- 9:05a JaM Practice (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Worship Service
- 11:00a Diaconate Meeting (Library)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 3:00p Admin & Stewardship Meeting (Library)
- 6:00p Youth Group Meeting (Youth Rm in FLC)

* *FLC - Family Life Center*

** *PCR - Pastor's Conference Room*

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office: 803-648-9574

Rev. Jason Hammersley, Pastor/Head of Staff: ext. 112

pastor@southaiken.org

SAPK: 803-648-9895

Fax: 803-648-7972

Web Site: www.southaiken.org

Email: secretary@southaiken.org

Find our SAPC page on Facebook at **@SouthAikenPresChurch!**

Also with Instagram at: **southaikenpc**

SAPC STAFF

Office Ministry Staff

Monica Grindle, Secretary: ext. 100, secretary@southaiken.org

Mary Bunch, Interim Treasurer: ext. 103, treasurer@southaiken.org

Music Ministry Staff

Phillip Hare, Director of Music, philliphare@hotmail.com

Olga Kuzmenkova, Pianist/Accompanist, okvwarren@gmail.com

Communication Ministry Staff

Carina McGee, Communications Specialist, ext. 105 media@southaiken.org.

Office Hours: Upon Request

Family and Children Ministry Staff

Kim Goetter, Children and Family Ministry Coordinator, families@southaiken.org

Youth Ministry Staff

Anthony Williamson, Youth Programs Coordinator. youth@southaiken.org

Facility Ministry Staff

Kirk Callan, Sexton (Custodian): kirkcallan@gmail.com

Church & School Mission Staff

Jennifer Huntley, Kindergarten Director:

803-648-9895: ext. 107. sapkdirector@southaiken.org

Cissy Kelley, Assistant Kindergarten Director/Childcare Coordinator:

803-648-9895 ext.110, cell 803-270-5808. [sapkasst_director@southaiken.org](mailto:sapakasst_director@southaiken.org)