



South Aiken Presbyterian Church
1711 Whiskey Rd.
Aiken, SC 29803

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 worship God!

January 8, 2023

Baptism of the Lord

10:00 am

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Paul Ebel (Pulpit Assistant, PA)

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

Introit

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Cindy Berry

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship** (*Psalm 29*) (*Responsively*):

One: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

ALL: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

One: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

ALL: May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

***Hymn #488**

“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry”

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*): **Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.**

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

PA: Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness *(Responsively)*:

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

ALL: We declare God's promises, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

One: May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness,

ALL: And by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

PA *(Responsively)*: As you see and hear the water being poured into the font, let us remember Christ is Emmanuel. God with us .

The Font *(Water is poured as a visual sign of the washing away of sin and the bonding to Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.)*

***Responsive Hymn #581**

"Glory Be to the Father"

**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.**

***Passing the Peace**

PA: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

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

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Moment

Michelle Lorio

Anthem

"My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness"

**Keith Getty &
Stuart Townend**

Prayer for Illumination

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

Old Testament Lesson: **Isaiah 42: 1-9** (*page 670 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible*)

Epistle Lesson: **Galatians 3: 26-28** (*page 188 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*)

Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 3: 13-17** (*page 2 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*)
(fill-in the blanks on page 7)

One: Hear what the Spirit of God says to the Church!

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Let It Be So Now...”

Rev. Jason Hammersley

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***Hymn #288**

“Spirit of the Living God”

***Affirmation of Faith** (*Unison*):

The 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.**

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

Offering of Gifts

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

**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 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 WITH THE GOOD NEWS

***Hymn #300 “We Are One in Spirit”**

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant**

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I’ll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.**

Sermon Scripture Activity (NRSVUE):

As Pastor Jason reads Matthew 3: 13-17 , fill in the blank with the word(s) you hear.

The Baptism of Jesus

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



Help the Salvation Army!

Donate sweat pants, T-shirts, and underwear for men and women.

Please drop donations off at 322 Gayle Ave.

Calling all Knitters and Crocheters!

Our prayer Shawl Ministry will start back up on January 12th after taking the holidays off. We are meeting every second and fourth Thursday in the library at 1:30 pm. Besides shawls, we also make lap afghans, hats, baby blankets, etc.

If you don't know how to knit or crochet but want to learn, we would love to teach you!

We have both knitting needles and crochet hooks donated to us as well as *LOTS* of yarn and patterns, *so just come!* If you have questions, please contact Mary Bunch at (803) 270-5599.

Seeking Usher Volunteers

The church continues to need volunteers to serve as Ushers.

If you are interested in serving as an Usher, please contact Elsie Worpell at roger-elsie@bellsouth.net



PRAYER PARTNERS

Prayer is a powerful force for those in need of healing, comfort, strength, and encouragement. It is often as much of a blessing for those offering the prayers. If you have a prayer request during office hours (Monday-Friday 9am-1pm) please contact the church office at 648-9574 or at secretary@southaiken.org. After office hours please contact Emily Lockard at 649-0473 or at emilybim@bellsouth.net.

Has your Address Changed?

If so, we kindly ask that you provide us with your updated address and/or phone number so that we can update our Church records. Thank you

**Join the Membership and Mission
Team Ministry!**

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month, 11:00am.
For more information, please email
[weimerchrystie@gmail.com!](mailto:weimerchrystie@gmail.com)

**Are you interested in obtaining a name
plate with the SAPC logo, so that you can
wear it to church functions?**

You will need to get in touch with Trophies
Unlimited at 803-648-8444 to put
an order in.

The cost for this plate is \$12.50.

*Please Note: A magnet is used with this name
plate. Because of this, this should not be used if
you have a pacemaker.*



**Sanctuary flowers for this Sunday's
Service were given by Bonnie Hayes in
honor of their children.**

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.

**GriefShare
Grief Support Ministry**



What is GriefShare?

A weekly faith-based support group for those grieving the death of a loved one.

Where does it take place?

GriefShare meets in the SAPC Library (in the hallway behind the sanctuary).

When does it take place?

Each Monday from 5:30-7:30 PM.

When can I join?

The current sessions of GriefShare began on January 2, 2023.

Do I have to be a member of SAPC to participate?

No, all those who are grieving the death of a loved one are welcome.

Where can I find more information about GriefShare?

Visit the GriefShare website at griefshare.org.

Upcoming!

Congregational Meeting

January 22nd,

Immediately following Sunday's Worship



*Voting will be on
the Pastor's
Term of Call
and
Presenting the 2023 Budget.*

Note: The scheduled **Bethel Study** will follow immediately after this meeting.



January Collection (Mac & Cheese)

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. Thanks for sharing with others!

Also needed are plastic grocery bags in order for ACTS to bag up food to be donated.

Prayer Requests

Weeks Family - for comfort

Parnell Family - in a season of grief

Baker Family - in season of grief.

McCrum & Bielnell Family - in season of grief

Bob R. recovering from open heart surgery

Kari & Roger M. for health concerns.

Mary Louise S. (Mary S.'s granddaughter) for health concerns.

Leslie C. for health concerns.

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

Kelli W. in her season of grief.

Peg M. (sister of Kit M.) successful surgery.

Ray P. (cousin of Sarah Scott) for healing and strength

Lynn S. - for comfort and wisdom after recent diagnosis.

Scott Family - in season of grief.

Dot M. - for comfort.

Gail (friend of Kitt M.) for healing as her treatments have changed.

Joyce & Jeff (Jayne B.'s best friends) mourning the loss of their son, Patrick.

Ethel H., Steve H.'s mother for relief from pain.

Steve & Linda H. for comfort.

Bob A., for comfort and strength

Georgia L. for healing.

Glady C. for healing.

Ron D. (Cyndy D's brother-in-law) for healing.

Debbi R. as new health issues emerge.

Phil L. for resolution of health issues.

Lois V., sister of Lyn V., for continuing improvement.

Peg P. for comfort.

The Linda E. Family for continued healing.

Jim and Shirley S. for healing.

Richard E. as he receives treatment.

Jayne B. confronting 2 health issues.

Barbara K. for healing.

Anita & Bob P. for healing.

Homebound Members

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

Volunteers Today

Pulpit Assistant - Paul Ebel

Ushers: Mary Snyder, Maureen Dunn, Martin McCrum, Julie McCrum

Sound: Dale Stephens

Video: Kelly Frontroth

Volunteers Next Week

Pulpit Assistant - Shirley Colburn

Ushers: Scott Martin, Barbara Knapp, Andrew Goslen, Elaine Barnes

Sound: Scott Reboul

Video: Anthony Williamson/Sam Jacobs



Have you recently (or not so recently) lost something in the church or perhaps in the church Administration building?

If so, we have a "Lost and Found" basket which is located in the church secretary's office.

Please stop by or call (803-648-9574) to see if we may have it.

SAPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 8th

- 9:00a - Ezekiel Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conf. Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Bethel Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00a - Mission/Membership Meeting (Library)

Monday, January 9th

- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 5:00p - SAPK Board Meeting
- 5:30p - GriefShare (Library)
- 6:00p - Christian Education Committee (High School Room)

Tuesday, January 10th

- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:00p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 4:30p - Belles Canto (Music Room)
- 6:00p - Mighty Warriors of God (Gym)
- 6:30p - Worship & Music Committee (Library)
- 7:00p - Scouts Meeting (Upstairs Scouts classroom)

Wednesday, January 11th

- 11:00a - Admin & Stewardship Meeting (F101)
- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, January 12th

- 8:50a - SAPK Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 1:30p - Prayer Shawl (Library)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)

Friday, January 13th

- 10:00a - Ukulele Fellowship (Music Room)
- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)

Sunday, January 14th

- 9:00a - Ezekiel Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conf. Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Diaconate Meeting (Library)

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office: 803-648-9574

SAPK: 803-648-9895

Fax: 803-648-7972

Web Site: www.southaiken.org

Email: secretary@southaiken.org

Please turn off your phone during the service

Follow SAPC activities on Facebook

<https://m.facebook.com/SouthAikenPresChurch/>

Twitter: @SAPChurch and Instagram: southaikenpresbyterian4

SAPC STAFF

Rev. Jason Hammersley, Pastor: 648-9574: ext. 112

cell: 910-987-7230; pastor@southaiken.org

Secretary: ext. 100, secretary@southaiken.org

Robin Coward, Treasurer: ext. 103, treasurer@southaiken.org

Phillip Hare, Director of Music, philliphare@hotmail.com, cell (803) 221-8613

Scott Chappell, Pianist/Accompanist, scottchappell57@icloud.com, cell (803) 640-5102

Carina McGee, Communications Specialist. media@southaiken.org. cell: (803) 629-1070

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

Kirk Callan, Sexton: kirkcallan@gmail.com

SAPC KINDERGARTEN STAFF

Michelle Lorio, Director of Children's Ministry/Kindergarten Director:

648-9895: ext. 107. sapkindergarten@gmail.com

Cissy Kelley, Assistant Kindergarten Director/ Childcare Coordinator:

648-9895 ext.110, cell (803) 270-5808. cissyksapk@yahoo.com