



## *Candle of Hope*

**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!

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

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Michelle Green (Pulpit Assistant, PA)**

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

**\*Introit**

**“Come, Emmanuel”**

**Twila Parris**

## **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**\*Call to Worship** (*Read responsively*):

Leader: We come from a world of darkness

**All: Into Christ’s world of light**

Leader: We come from a world of weariness

**All: Into God’s strength and hope**

Leader: We come from a slumbering world.

**All: Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.**

**\*Lighting of the First Advent Candle**

*Jennifer Chase  
Lyn VanDervort*

**\*Hymn #88**

**“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

**Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*): **We confess, Gracious God, that we have not always turned to you for guidance. At times, we have allowed the world’s time to dominate your time. Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience. Forgive us when we have slumbered instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for you. Forgive us for allowing the world’s fears to become our fears. Shine upon us this Advent season so that we may be restored unto you. Guide us into your time. As we call upon your name, hear our prayers and give us life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.**

*(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.

**Many: 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: *As the water is poured into the baptismal font, let us remember we are forgiven in Jesus Christ and we show our gratitude in action.*

**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**

**“An Advent Credo”**

**John M. Martin**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lessons:**

**Old Testament :** **Isaiah 2:1-5** *(page 631 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible)*

**New Testament:** **Matthew 24:36-44** *(page 27 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)*

*Go to page 7 to take notes*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**“Finding Joy in the Waiting”**

**Rev. Beth Yarborough**

## LIVING OUT THE GOD'S MESSAGE

\*Hymn #336

“We Gather Together”

\*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.*)

**Offertory**

\*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 OF  
JESUS CHRIST TO SHARE**

**\*Hymn #367**

**“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”**

**\*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** (New Revised Standard Version):

*As Pastor Beth reads Matthew 24: 36-44 scripture lesson, fill in the blank with the word you hear.*

**The Day and Hour Unknown**

<sup>36</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven, nor the Son,<sup>[a]</sup> but only the \_\_\_\_\_. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of \_\_\_\_\_, were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the \_\_\_\_\_, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day \_\_\_\_\_ entered the ark; <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the \_\_\_\_\_ came and swept them all away, so too will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two men will be in the field; one will be \_\_\_\_\_ and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>42</sup>“Keep aware therefore, for you do not know on what \_\_\_\_\_ your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the \_\_\_\_\_ had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed \_\_\_\_\_ and would not have let his house be \_\_\_\_\_ into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be \_\_\_\_\_, for the Son of Man is coming at an \_\_\_\_\_ hour.



## November Collection (Soup)

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!

### 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](mailto:roger-elsie@bellsouth.net)

### SAPC Youth Program

*\*Remember flocking?* We are going to be "gnoming" people starting next month as a fundraiser for Youth.

- \* \$10 to remove gnomes from your yard,
- \* \$10 to send gnomes somewhere,
- \* \$20 to remove and send somewhere,
- \* \$30 to buy insurance so they don't come to your yard.

*We'll be collecting donations this week in the Narthex.*

### Calling all Knitters and Crocheters!

Our prayer Shawl Ministry started back up on September 8th after taking the summer 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.

## 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](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org). After office hours please contact Emily Lockard at 649-0473 or at [emilybim@bellsouth.net](mailto: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

## **BOX TOPS for EDUCATION**

### **Bring your Sales Receipt & Help SAPK!**

SAPK participates in the Box Tops for Education program. The easy way to help the school buy what it needs **has changed.**

**Receipts** with Box Top items on them are worth 10 cents for each item, and they quickly add up. **So, please bring your receipts** when you see the Box Tops for Education logo. You may drop receipts off at either the school or church office. Or download the Box Tops App to your phone and scan them yourself at home. You have 14 days from date of purchase to scan your receipts. 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)

## **Help the Salvation Army!**

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

*Please drop donations off at 322 Gayle Ave.*



**Sanctuary flowers for this Sunday's Service were given by Greg & Kathy Peterson in memory of Lee Peterson & Betsy Peterson**

*Sanctuary flower sign ups are located in the hallway on the bulletin board outside of the library.*



## **The Chapter Chat Book Club**

Each participant selects any book related to Christmas & gives a short report on it.

**Thursday, December 1st, at noon  
At the Village Café**

*Call Maureen Dunn (803) 443-8681 for more info.*

## **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 through December 12, 2022.*

### ***When can I join?***

*This cycle of GriefShare started on September 19, but **you can join anytime**--you don't have to wait for the next cycle to begin.*

### ***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](http://griefshare.org).*

## A New Way to Donate

### We now have our own QR code!

Our online donations have had an upgrade! You can now choose to donate to specific fundraisers, organizations, and other initiatives directly when donating through our website. You can also choose to offset the online donation fees with your gift on the second page of the donation page! Register an account or donate as a guest. Simply find our "Online Donations" tab on [southaiken.org](http://southaiken.org), or scan the QR code here with your phone.



## Secret Santa Update



We have matched children with Sponsors for Secret Santa and have sent out emails notifying the Sponsor! Currently we are in need of four additional Sponsors. Our 2nd shopping day has been moved to Thursday, December 1st and as a reminder, Saturday, December 3rd, is the wrapping of gifts. If you have any questions, reach out to the Secret Santa Hotline at (803) 648-1214, or email [secretsantasapc@gmail.com](mailto:secretsantasapc@gmail.com)

## Prayer Requests

**Parnell Family** - in a season of grief  
**Baker Family** - in season of grief.  
**Jane J** - in season of grief  
**Susan M.** (William S.'s niece) for health concerns  
**Bob R.** recovering from open heart surgery  
**Kari & Roger M.** for health concerns.  
**Mary Louise S.** (Mary S.'s granddaughter) for health concerns.  
**Jean W.** 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.  
**Georgia L.** for healing.  
**Alex P.** (Phillip H.'s nephew) for improvement.  
**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 P.** for healing.  
**Delilah W.** infant daughter of Meghan W.

### Homebound Members

*Email [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org) to request removal of name*

## Volunteers Today

**Pulpit Assistant** - Michelle Green

**Ushers:** Gary & Margie Hamman Scott & Debbi Reboul

**Sound:** Dale Stephens

**Video:** Angela Clifford

## Volunteers Next Week

**Pulpit Assistant** - Linda VanDervort

**Ushers:** Jenny Chase, Elaine Barnes, Linda Blake, Maureen Dunn

**Sound:** Darrell Pluff

**Video:** Haley Culp

## Young At Heart Seniors



Young At Heart Seniors activities being planned for the near future. Sign-up sheets are available in the back hall:

**December 2 – 4:** 2 night trip to Myrtle Beach with show. *Our annual trip to Myrtle Beach will be held on these dates. The price includes 2 nights, 2 of their delicious breakfasts, 2 shows, (CORRECTION "one" show) the Alabama Theater (\$135.00 per person for 2 nights). All meals except your breakfasts will be additional. Of course, there will be the usual stop at the Outlet Mall when we arrive on Friday. Saturday will be a free day for shopping, resting, swimming, walking on the beach, etc. The show will be on Saturday night. We will have our usual delicious fish meal on Saturday night. Fee to ride our bus is \$20 per person, considering the cost of gas.*

**December 9 – 8 PM:** Newberry - Christmas with the Celts

*Tickets are limited for each event, SO, sign-up early!*

## *SAPC THIS WEEK*

### Sunday, November 27th

- 9:00a - Jeremiah Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conference Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Secret Santa Gift Drop Off
- 4:00p - Session Monthly Meeting

### Monday, November 28th

- 12:00p -Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines (Gym)
- 5:30p - GriefShare (Library)

### Tuesday, November 29th

- 12:00p -Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines (Gym)
- 4:30p - Belles Canto (Music Room)
- 6:00p - Mighty Warriors of God (Gym)
- 7:00p - Scouts Meeting (Upstairs Scouts classroom)

### Wednesday, November 30th

- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 12:00p - Chapter Chat Book Club (Village Café)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines (Gym)
- 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

### Thursday, December 1st

- 8:50a - SAPK Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 12:00p -Bible Friends (Gym)
- 3:30p - Aiken Kinderchoir (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30p - Aiken Coin Club (Fellowship Hall)

### Friday, December 2nd

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

### Saturday, December 3rd

- 8:00a - Secret Santa Wrapping (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - New Officer Training (Library)

### Sunday, December 4th

- 9:00a - Jeremiah Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conference Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Bethal Study (Fellowship Hall)

## **CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Church Office:** 803-648-9574

**SAPK:** 803-648-9895

**Fax:** 803-648-7972

**Web Site:** [www.southaiken.org](http://www.southaiken.org)

**Email:** [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@southaiken.org)

**Secretary:** ext. 100, [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org)

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

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**Anthony Williamson**, Youth Programs Coordinator. [youth@southaiken.org](mailto:youth@southaiken.org)

**Phillip Hare**, Director of Music, [philliphare@hotmail.com](mailto:philliphare@hotmail.com), cell (803) 221-8613

**Scott Chappell**, Pianist/Accompanist, [scottchappell57@icloud.com](mailto:scottchappell57@icloud.com), cell (803) 640-5102

**Robin Coward**, Treasurer: ext. 103, [treasurer@southaiken.org](mailto:treasurer@southaiken.org)

**Kirk Callan**, Sexton: [kirkcallan@gmail.com](mailto:kirkcallan@gmail.com)