



South Aiken Presbyterian Church

1711 Whiskey Rd.

Aiken, SC 29803

We welcome Rev. Dr. Edward T. “Terry” Wimberley

Edward T. "Terry" Wimberley is a retired professor, policy analyst, social worker, gerontologist, though still an active clergyman. Terry holds a B.A. in psychology from Stetson University, a M.Div. from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, an M.S.W. from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Social Work and a Ph.D. in Public Affairs from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. He has worked as a mental health and social service administrator in Arizona and Texas where he administered mental health centers for Samaritan Health Service in Mesa, Chandler and Apache Junction, Arizona. Thereafter, he directed the Department of Social Work at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston for 8 years.

Terry has also served as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow (1989-90) and worked on Capitol Hill in Washington in both the House and the Senate working on a variety of policy issues. He has also worked as a psychotherapist and social worker for 10 years at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine, served 8 years on the faculty of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch, 5 years as Director of the Gerontology Center and Chair of Mental Health and Human Services at Georgia State University in Atlanta and 25 years on the faculty of public affairs, social work and ecological studies (serially) at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) in Fort Myers, Florida where he also served as the founding Dean of the Colleges of Education and Public and Social Services as well as being the first faculty person hired at the university. Terry retired from FGCU in May of 2020 as Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Wimberley is the author of 4 books and more than 40 professional journal articles. Beyond his academic work, Terry has served as pastor of three rural churches in Pennsylvania (Pine Creek Presbyterian Church and Hanover Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania and Barnwell Presbyterian Church in South Carolina), served as assistant minister at Bower Hill Community Church in Pittsburgh and Riverside Church in New York, and has served for 19 years as Chaplain at Moorings Park (a retirement community) in Naples, Florida. Terry now serves on the staff of First Presbyterian Church of Aiken, SC as a parish associate.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 11, 2021

8:45 am and 11:00 am

(Please stand, if able when indicated by an *) (PA=Pulpit Assistant)

Prelude

Scott Chappell

Welcome & Announcements

Paul Ebel

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

Introit

Be Strong in the Lord

Tom Fettke
& Linda Lee Johnson

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**Call to Worship (Psalm 85: 8-13) (Responsively):*

One: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people,

Many: to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

One: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Many: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

One: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

Many: The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

ALL: Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

**Hymn #410*

God is Calling through the Whisper

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
Through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder, hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
Through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needling, strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear?

God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
Through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling - and we hear! God is calling - and we hear!

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*):

Gracious God, we confess that our connection to you is not always visible to the world. Sometimes we allow threats to unity to enter the church, making it hard to see that we are your community. We act as though we do not need each other. We do not always love one another. We do not know and bear one another's burdens. We fail to build each other up. We do not always give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another. Forgive us, and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us.

(in silence confess personal sins).

PA: Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

PA: As the water is poured into the font, let us remember we belong to God.

Let us allow the Holy Spirit to direct us as we walk by faith.

The Font (*pouring of the water*)

The Peace (*Responsively*) (*8:45 am and 11:00 am*)

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Children's Moment (*8:45am and 11:00 am*) "*Celebrating VBS*"

Michelle Lorio

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem

Enough
with I Need Thee Every Hour

Chris Tomlin & Louie Giglio
arr. Richard Kingsmore

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Amos 7:7-15

Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:5-6

One: Hear what the Spirit says to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Plumb Crooked"

Rev. Dr. Terry Wimberley

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

***Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*): A Brief Statement of Faith (*excerpt*)**

In life and in death we belong to God. 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. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession (*Church, world, our nation, communities, individuals, the future*)

Offering of Gifts (*online or place your gifts in the plates in the Narthex*)

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 #765**

May the God of Hope Go with Us

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

***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.**

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

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SAPC STAFF

Rev. Jason Hammersley, Pastor: 648-9574: ext. 104

cell: 910-987-7230; revhammersley@gmail.com

Michelle Lorio, Director of Children's Ministry/Kindergarten Director: 648-9895: ext. 107

Phillip Hare, Director of Music

Scott Chappell, Pianist/Accompanist

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

Sandy Haines, Secretary: ext. 100, secretary@southaiken.org

Cissy Kelley, Assistant Kindergarten Director/ Childcare Coordinator:
648-9895 ext.110, cell (803) 270-5808