

## STAFF

### Senior Pastor:

The Rev. Jana Creighton - jana@sopc.net

### Parish Associate:

The Rev. Alice A. Odell - alice@sopc.net

**Director of Music Ministry:** Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington

**Office Manager:** Mrs. Criss Gray - sopc@sopc.net

### Children/Youth Director:

Miss Michaela Craven - michaela@sopc.net

### Volunteer Finance Administrator:

Mrs. Sharon Staton, sharon@sopc.net

**Building Superintendent:** Mr. Karl Thompson

**Accompanist:** Mrs. Sharon Watkins

**Nursery Coordinator:** Amy Schwartz

## SESSION MEMBERS

**2019:** Pat Byrne - Congreg. Care Chair

Marty Hilyer - Missions

Kathy Keane - Christian Education Chair

Jim Taylor - Good News Chair

Jim Wilhide - Clerk of Session

**2020:** Jeanne LeBoeuf - Christian Education

Tish Lowe - Missions Chair

Kathryn Morganelli - Worship Chair

Jack Noë - Good News

Mark Wishart - Fellowship

**2021:** Richard Brinkley - Administration

Linda Floyd - Worship

Fred Holbrook - Administration Chair

Melanie Mixon - Good News

John Whitfield - Missions

Shelagh Wirth - Building/Grounds Chair

**Trustees:** Janice Reiser, Lucretia Seigler

**Treasurer:** Hal Bowman

## THIS WEEK AT SOPC

### Sunday, December 9

9:45am Sunday School\*  
11:00am Worship Service\*  
6:00pm Prime Rib Dinner/Sing A-Long

### Monday, December 10

10:30am Bible Study

### Tuesday, December 11

7:00am Prayer Vigil  
11:00am Mary Martha Circle  
11:00am Presb. Communities Circle  
2:30pm Rachel Circle

### Wednesday, December 12

12:15am Chair YOGA  
6:30pm Choir & Handbell Christmas Party

### Thursday, December 13

10:30am Ruth Circle  
6:00pm Hannah Circle

### Friday, December 14

6:45am Lanterns

### Saturday, December 15

5:30pm Staff & Session Christmas Party

### Sunday, December 16

9:45am Sunday School\*  
11:00am Worship Service\*  
5:30pm Bootcamp/J.A.M./ Confirmation

## CONNECTION CORNER:

Seven Oaks would love to help you deepen your faith or share how you can become part of our church family.

We welcome you to speak with a Pastor after worship.

We also have many other ways of communication. If you are not receiving or have access to the various methods please contact the church office.

Realm Connect App - Member contact database

Daily - Facebook, Instagram or Twitter for daily news

Weekly - Friday E-Connect with weekend happenings

Monthly - The Leaf newsletter is mailed each month with ministry news and calendar events.

## LIKE US ON...



@sopc\_church



sevenoakspc



sevenoakspresbyterianchurch

## 4 WAYS TO GIVE!



IN PERSON

Offering plate during the worship service



BY MAIL

530 St. Andrews Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29210  
www.sopc.net



ONLINE

(click on the GIVE menu)



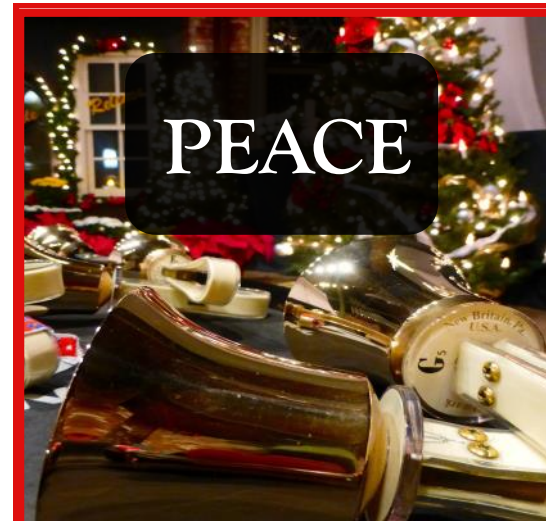
BY TEXT

Text SEVENOAKS to 73256  
text rates may apply

530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210

Church Office: 803-772-1761

Church Fax: 803-772-1787



# The Promised One!

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday Worship Service

December 9, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome to Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church.

We pray that you will truly experience  
God's love and grace as you worship!

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE:

*He Shall Feed His Flock*

Handel/arr. Lyndell Leatherman

Piano and Organ Duet

\* GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS:

*Mark 1:2-3,7*

Rev. Jana Creighton

One: As it is written in the prophet Isaiah

**All: See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;**

One: The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

**All: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight**

One: John the Baptist proclaimed, "The One who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

**All: Lord, make us worthy. Let us prepare the way for the Lord.**

\* HYMN #106:

*Prepare the Way*

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH - The Light of Peace

Children and Youth Worship Team

1st Reader: We began Advent last Sunday by lighting the first candle, the candle of Hope.

We light it again today to remind us that Christ is coming to fulfill God's promises.

2nd Reader: Today we light the second candle, the candle of Peace. The prophet Isaiah said, "Comfort, comfort my people" to a nation anxious about invasion and exile, as he foretold the coming of the Prince of Peace. Our world is still filled with violence and abuse, where families are torn apart by war and children are used as soldiers. Isaiah's words continue to speak to us that Jesus will bring us to an everlasting peace.

1st Reader: Mary and Joseph found no room in the inn to give birth to Jesus, but we can heed John the Baptist's command to make room in our hearts. Wherever there is war or mistrust between people, families, or our own hearts, God is present and leading us to imagine new ways of living in peace.

2nd Reader: Christ is our only hope and our peace is found through Him. We light this candle to remind us of Jesus' life-giving peace to all who trust in Him. We light it in honor of those who live the Gospel truth that war does not make one great: the peace workers who risk much so that others may live free of fear.

1st Reader: Let us pray:



**All:** We're in trouble, Holy God. So many in the world do not know peace in their countries or in their hearts. We use weapons of steel and barbed words to wound one another. We seek balm for our restless hearts in things that only make us more wounded. Open our hearts to Jesus so we may have the peace of His holy presence and live it in our un-peaceful world. Save us from outside violence and inner turmoil. We need you. Come, peaceful God, come. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

ALL SING: "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

*Verse 1*  
**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*Verse 2*  
**O Come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
 who orderest all things mightily:  
 To us the path of knowledge show,  
 and teach us in her ways to go  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**THE PROMISED COMING**

SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 40: 1-5*      *The Way Prepared*      Rev. Jana Creighton  
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* - arr. Lloyd Larson      Covenant Ringers

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 1: 26-33*      *The Birth Foretold*  
*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* – Robertson/arr. Heather Sorenson      Chancel Choir

**THE PROMISED BIRTH**

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 1:46-55*      *Mary's Song of Praise*      Rev. Alice Odell

HYMN #121:      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
*In the Bleak Midwinter* – Brian Hanson      Chancel Choir

HYMN #110:      *Love Has Come*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.**

*Noel Peace Canon* – Ruth Elaine Schram      Chancel Choir

**PRAISING THE PROMISED ONE**

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 2:1-7*      *The Birth of Jesus*      Rev. Jana Creighton  
*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* – arr. Ron Mallory      Covenant Ringers

SCRIPTURE: *John 1:1-5, 10-14*      *Proclamation of Jesus*  
*Gaudete!* – arr. David Haas      Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 2:8-11*      *The Gift of Joy*      Rev. Alice Odell

**Sunday, December 9**

Greeters:  
 Mark and Marion Watson-Wishart, Bev Elbert, Beverly Hudson

Ushers:  
 Ron Kesterson, Frank Sheppard, Mark Wishart, Marion Watson-Wishart, Melanie Mixon

Attendance Sheets:  
 Mary Jane and Heyward Stuckey, Martha Hallbick

Counters: Jim Wilhide, Shelagh Wirth

Children's Church: Linda Floyd

Sound: Greg Mixon

Nursery: Amy Schwartz

Acolyte: Josie Werner

**Sunday, December 16**

Greeters:  
 Mary Lou Taylor, Johnadee White, Jim and Elizabeth Taylor

Ushers:  
 Guy San Fratello, Judy Barnes, Pete Spearman, Buddy Wilson,  
 Jacob Schwartz, Finn Creighton, Sandra Johnson

Attendance Sheets:  
 Robert Miller, Buddy Wilson, Brenda Turner

Counters: Mark Wishart, Richard Brinkley

Time With the Children: Judy Barnes

Children's Church: Beverly Hudson

Sound: Marty Hilyer

Nursery: Amy Schwartz and Betsy Kent

Acolyte: Sawyer Creighton

**Prime Rib Dinner**

Cashier: Pat Robosky

Set Up: Andy Robosky

Clean Up:  
 Kitsie and Robert Miller, Melanie Mixon, Maureen Clark,  
 Betty and Tom Shuler, Vern Rogers, Linda Floyd, Carol Griffith

Kitchen Linens: Betty Shuler

Table Cloths:  
 Cathy Keelen, Maureen Clark, Molly Jackson



## News and Announcements . . .

**During the Welcome and Announcements** please pass the Friendship Books to record your presence here today. You are invited to greet each other with the love of Christ after worship.

**Nursery:** A nursery is available in building A for ages 0 - 3. If you have any questions please see anyone of our volunteers with an "ASK ME" badge.

**Children:** All children are invited to sit together in the balcony after the Lighting of the Advent Candles.

**A Guest Reception Table** is available in the Narthex. If you have any questions please see a volunteer with an "ASK ME" badge.

**Hearing devices & large print hymnals** are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance.

**Worship CD's of services.** Contact the church office, ask a Sound System Volunteer in the balcony, or listen/download to podcast at [www.sopc.net/sermons](http://www.sopc.net/sermons).

**Children's Worship:** Worship Bags for wiggly children "or adults" ages 4-12 are hanging on the coat rack in the Narthex.

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Marilyn O'Mellan's sister, Patricia Zmary, entered into eternal rest on Saturday, Dec. 1st. She lived in San Diego, California and had 1 adult child and 2 granddaughters. Please continue to keep the family in your prayers.

**Flowers:** The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given by Linda Floyd to the glory of God in memory of Dale and in honor of her children.

**Missions Collections:** Canned Hams for Sharing God's Love, pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House & Box Tops for Education for SOES.

**Giving Tree:** Please look for the Giving Tree in the narthex today and Dec. 16. Our SOPC church family will provide Christmas gifts for the men at Providence Home again this year. These men are striving to improve their lives as they renew their faith. Some are trusting Jesus for the first time as new Christians. Let's show them we care! Our gifts will be delivered in time for Christmas with your help. Please give prayerful consideration to helping with this Christmas project. Thank you.

**Prime Rib Dinner and Round the Table Sing along** is at 6:00 p.m. tonight. This night will include a special presentation by Barbara Howse-Diemer. Plan to join us now for a merry night of music!

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:** The Worship Committee has met and conferred that Christmas Eve Worship will be held on Dec. 24 at 5:00 p.m.

**The Worship Committee** is looking for men to join our Time With the Children team. A script is provided for you and your turn on the rotation should happen every three (3) months or so. Training is provided. This is a simple and easy way to share God's love with the children of our church. Please contact Janice Holbrook if interested.

**Prayer Vigil:** We will have a Prayer Vigil here on Tuesday, Dec. 11th from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Our focus will be our vision and growth here at SOPC for 2019 and beyond.

**PRAYERS:**

Marjorie Claytor, Nan Foster, Kim Kent, Kathy Killian, Asher Noë - Mellitz, Dick and Barbara Schneider, Patricia Williams.



## RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: *Joy to the World* – arr. Joel Raney  
Piano & Organ Duet

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #606**

**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**

CONGREGATIONAL ANTHEM: *Holy Jesus, We Adore You* Ferguson/arr. Pilkington  
Chancel Choir & Congregation

(Congregation join on *O Come All Ye Faithful*)  
**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!**

Refrain: **O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

Refrain: **O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

*\*Congregation please stand*

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing!**

Refrain: **O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

*Sussex Carol* – arr. Elaine Hagenberg Chancel Choir

## A PROMISE SHARED

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 2: 12-20* *Sharing the Good News* Rev. Jana Creighton  
*Go, Tell It On a Mountain* – arr. Benjamin Harlan  
Children's Worship Team & Chancel Choir

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE: *Ye Nations All, On You I Call* – arr. Douglas Wagner

*\* Please stand in body or in spirit*





## Music Notes

**He Shall Feed His Flock:** This excerpt from Handel's Messiah is based on the texts from Isaiah 40:11 and Matthew 11:28-29. The song is a promise that all who are weary and heavy laden will find rest and safety in the bosom of the promised Good Shepherd.

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel:** Three Advent/Christmas tunes (*Veni Emmanuel*, *Personent Hodie* and *Hyfrydol*) combine in this musical call to prepare for our Savior's birth.

**Come Thou Long Expected Jesus:** Charles Wesley's traditional Advent text is set to an energetic 21<sup>st</sup> century tune. This carol identifies Jesus as Israel's strength and consolation, as the desire of every nation, the hope of all the earth, and as the joy of every longing heart!

**In the Bleak Midwinter:** This carol began as a poem by Christina Rossetti. In its carol form, it has been voted as one of the best Christmas carols. The text moves from describing a birth in the cold bleakness of winter to the closing question, "What can I give Him, poor as I am?" The answer is, "Give Him my heart."

**Noel Peace Canon:** A canon is a melody sung at different times by different voices. This anthem brings together *The First Noel*, a 16<sup>th</sup> century carol, and the traditional prayer for peace, *Dona Nobis Pacem*. Together they create a beautiful musical canon and moving prayer for peace.

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice:** God's love was revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. That good news is something people of every age, race and time can rejoice in. This carol's tune name is *In Dulci Jubilo* (In Sweet Rejoicing). Handbells, choichimes and a variety of ringing techniques combine in this arrangement, creating an energetic call to rejoice this season with Christians everywhere!

**Gaudete:** Gaudete simply means, Rejoice! Christians from every time and place rejoice in Jesus' birth. The music we use as we rejoice has certainly evolved over the centuries. Gaudete brings together a medieval carol melody, dance-like rhythms and choral harmonies common to later centuries. This song first appeared in a Finnish/Swedish collection of sacred songs.

**Joy to the World:** No other carol announces Christmas in such a joyful and inspiring way. Isaac Watts based the words on Psalms 96, 98 and Genesis 3. This keyboard arrangement combines the well-known tune with flourishes proclaiming the wonders of His love, and calling us to repeat the sounding joy!

**Holy Jesus, We Adore You:** For Christians, Christmas foreshadows Lent, and Lent foreshadows Easter. Jesus' birth marks the beginning of the path leading decades later to his redemptive sacrifice. This anthem celebrates the birth of God's Son with the singing of O Come All Ye Faithful; and then calls us to look ahead to Jesus' suffering and death, with the choir's arrangement of *Ah, Holy Jesus*. This is a congregational anthem, so please join the choir in singing O Come All Ye *Faithful* when indicated.

**Sussex Carol:** The words to this popular British carol came from Luke Wadding, a 17<sup>th</sup> century Irish bishop. This arrangement celebrates Jesus' birth with changing meters and voicings. The middle verse asks, "Why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer came to make us glad."

**Go Tell It On the Mountain:** The shepherds heard the angel chorus, they saw the Christ Child, and then they spread the good news! We have heard the story of Jesus' birth, worshipped him with our songs of adoration. Now it's time to do as the shepherds. It's time to go and tell! It's time to spread the good news of Jesus' birth north, south, east and west. It's time to fill the mountains and valleys with the truth of God's redeeming love!

Many thanks go to all the dedicated musicians sacrificially sharing their talents to minister to us in worship today, as they share their faith through song!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord...



### Chancel Choir:

<i>Soprano</i>	<i>Alto</i>	<i>Tenor</i>	<i>Bass</i>
Fran Brannon	Karan Bundrick	Mark Johnson	Ed Billings
Janice Holbrook	Julie Bussells	Ed Keelen	Ernie Bussells
Tish Lowe	Molly Jackson	John McCulloch	Fred Holbrook
Kathy Morganelli	Roni Klemick		Andy Robosky
Tina Pilkington	Charlaine Pilkington		
Pat Robosky	Sarah Robinson		
Polly Robinson			

**Chancel Choir Accompanist:** Sharon Watkins

**Children's Worship Team Leaders:** Janice Holbrook, Dallene Smith

**Children's Worship Team:** Eli Bundrick, Finn Bundrick, Sawyer Creighton, Abigail Dempster, Lucy Park Kaelin Pilkington, Weston Pilkington, Josie Werner

**Youth Worship Team:** Finn Creighton, Ewan Park, Megan Schuler, Thomas Taylor, Max Werner

**Covenant Ringers:** Ed Billings, Karan Bundrick, Ernie Bussells, Julie Bussells, Mary Hilyer, Fred Holbrook, Janice Holbrook, Christal McTier, Alice Odell, Tina Pilkington, Dallene Smith, Sharon Watkins

**2018**

**ADVENT WORSHIP**

Sunday, Dec. 16  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, Dec. 23  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, December 24  
4:45 p.m. Prelude of Carols  
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Church Office will be closed  
Dec. 25th and Dec. 26th