



MERCY



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 16, 2020

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

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Once worship begins, please do not unmute yourselves. Zoom is very sensitive to sounds coming from our computers and to provide for the most fluid and clear worship experience for everyone, this is a small thing you can do to celebrate this worship opportunity!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jana Creighton

PRELUDE

Be Alert, My Soul

arr. Pilkington

OPENING PRAYER

You have drawn us together this day from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, hopes, and dreams, Lord. Be with us as together we experience your presence and your healing love. Open our hearts and our spirits to receive strength, encouragement, and peace. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Jana Creighton and Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

One: Though we come from different circumstances

All: the Lord will make us one in worship.

One: Though we have traveled different paths of struggles and successes,

All: the Lord will make us one in healing.

One: Though each one of us has struggles and strife, as well as joy,

All: the Lord will make us one in hope. Let us worship the Lord.

HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (verses 1, 4, and 5)

Hymn 265

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we always want to "capture the moment" when something special happens. We have multitudes of photographs that remind us of special times, but they cannot truly capture the feeling in our hearts. We hunger and thirst for your loving touch and your presence. We sometimes think that we should be the only ones who receive these blessings, and we turn our backs on those in need, either by refusing to help or by pretending that the needs do not exist. But you have heard the cries of all who are in need, and you turn to each one with your healing love. Forgive our selfishness and stubbornness. Heal us and turn us again toward pathways of compassion for all your people. For we offer this prayer in Christ's Name, (moment of silent confession) AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You have reached out for the Lord, seeking God's healing power. It is given to you through God's awesome love. Receive the love of God. Reach out to others with that same compassion. AMEN.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Count Your Blessings

arr. Pilkington

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 56:1-8

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. ² Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast, who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil. ³ Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say, "The LORD will surely separate me from his people"; and do not let the eunuch say, "I am just a dry tree." ⁴ For thus says the LORD: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, ⁵ I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. ⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

MESSAGE

Dealing with Pride

Rev. Jana Creighton

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

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.

HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Hymn 435

**There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.**

**For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.**

CLOSING PRAYER

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go in peace!

POSTLUDE

Praise Ye the Lord!

Rincl/arr. Pilkington

MOMENT OF HOLINESS

Please remain after worship to greet one another in breakout rooms in fellowship of the Spirit!

In our prayers this week...

Students and teachers returning to school

In our continued prayers...

Edith Blanchett	Nan Foster	Barb Schneider	Tom Falls	Janice Holbrook
Linda Floyd	Scott Wilhide	Jake Fogle	SOPC Covid Task Force	
Daniel and Elizabeth Turk		Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, Cuba		



Please join us on Wednesdays at Noon via Zoom for our Prayer Meeting.

New Sermon Series starting August 23! The book of Exodus explores issues that we are now facing in the world of Covid: politics, fear and salvation. Quite frankly, we are in a period of what many describe as Exodus. Come, be a part of our sermon series where we hope to uncover how we can learn ways to respond and grow in today's tumultuous climate!

Music Notes: The prelude is based on a German hymn, which has inspired composers for over three centuries. This arrangement gives the hymn followed by two short variations, and is performed on a Celtic harp and harpsicord. *Count Your Blessings* reminds us that no matter what challenges we face, we can always count our blessings, and rejoice in all that God has done! The postlude is a setting of the hymntune *Lobe Den Herren*, and is arranged here for two organs.



The sanctuary is open for **Prayer on Thursdays** between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Please feel free to come between those hours to pray. Your temperature will be taken before you are allowed in, you must wear a mask, and social distancing will be observed!!! If you feel ill, have a temperature. or have been near someone with Covid 19, please do not come to the sanctuary on Thursday. No appointment is needed to attend.

Children and Youth News: This past week we hosted a wonderful virtual VBS with children both from our church and the community. It was a week full of learning and fun science experiments! This week we will be learning about the story of the Ark and the Tent with the children and the youth will be studying the story of Jesus reattaching a severed ear! We will have children's check in and Sunday school at 5 p.m. Sunday night. If any teachers, children, or youth would like to be part of a special back to school video, please let Michaela know at michaela@sopc.net!

From the Administration Ministry: Giving statements for the first 7 months of 2020 were sent out last week. If you have not received your statement, please contact Sharon Staton at sharon@sopc.net or 803-730-8480. Many checks and on-line donations were received this past week. Many thanks to everyone who caught up on their pledge!

This Week at SOPC

Sunday

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/508111743?](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUplnlhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09)

[pwd=WUplnlhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUplnlhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09)

Meeting ID: 508 111 743 Password: 046739

By Phone: 1(646)558-8656 508111743 #

Sunday Service at 11:00 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/743754044?](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

[pwd=bWIHWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

Meeting ID: 743 754 044 Password: 072863

By Phone: 1(646)558-8656 743754044 #

Children's Check-In and Sunday School at 5:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/97349616349?pwd=](https://zoom.us/j/97349616349?pwd=R28reFBhbjB6cE94UXV1WmhuUnVmQT09)

[R28reFBhbjB6cE94UXV1WmhuUnVmQT09](https://zoom.us/j/97349616349?pwd=R28reFBhbjB6cE94UXV1WmhuUnVmQT09)

Meeting ID: 973 4961 6349 Password: 505967

Wednesday

Lunch & Prayer: Wednesday at Noon

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTlvd0U3WnZwNmhnZz09)

[pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTlvd0U3WnZwNmhnZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTlvd0U3WnZwNmhnZz09)

Meeting ID: 897 0511 3395 Password: 300498

By Phone: 1(301)715-8592 89705113395#

Friday

Lanterns: Fridays at 7:30 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/549066835?pwd=](https://zoom.us/j/549066835?pwd=RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09)

[RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09](https://zoom.us/j/549066835?pwd=RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09)

Meeting ID: 549 066 835 Password: 168424

By Phone: 1(646)558-8656 549066835 #