



## SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 13, 2020

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

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Zoom Worshipers: 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

*In Dulci Jubilo* (Good Christians, Rejoice)

Michael Bach

GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Jana Creighton, Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

One: We come to worship Christ

**All: Who proclaims good news to the poor, binds up the broken-hearted, frees the prisoner and comforts those who mourn.**

One: We come to worship Christ

**All: Who bestows a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.**

One: We come to worship Christ

**All: Who rebuilds ancient ruins and restores broken places. Let us worship the Lord.**

HYMN

*Away in a Manger* (verses 1 and 3)

Hymn 115

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.**

**The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.**

**Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

DECK THE HALLS

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 & John 1:6-8, 19-28

Elder Fred and Janice Holbrook

**Reader One:** We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

**Reader Two:** The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, "God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit." No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

**Reader One:** We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

**Reader Two:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

*What Child is This*

Virtual Choir

The virtual choir anthem can be found at: <https://youtu.be/LbbZEzME7cA>

SCRIPTURE READING

*John 1:6-8; 19-28*

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>19</sup> This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup> Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup> He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>24</sup> Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup> the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup> This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

MESSAGE

*Who Are We?*

Rev. Jana Creighton

OFFERING/SPECIAL MUSIC

'Silent Night, Holy Night'

Youth Video

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

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.**

HYMN

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heaven born Prince of peace! Hail the son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth:  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

*J.S. Bach*

MOMENT OF HOLINESS

Zoom worshipers, please remain after worship to greet one another in breakout rooms in fellowship of the Spirit!

**In our continued prayers...**

Edith Blanchett	Nan Foster	Rosemary Falls	Ed Keelen
Al Charles	Linda Floyd	Scott Wilhide	SOPC Covid Task Force
Joe Gause	Daniel and Elizabeth Turk		
Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz			

Tom Falls entered the Church Triumphant on December 7, 2020. Please keep Rosemary and the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

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



**Music Notes:** The prelude is based on the carol, Good Christian Friends, Rejoice. This carol has been sung by Christians in celebration of Jesus' birth since the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The virtual choir anthem can be found at: <https://youtu.be/LbbZEzME7cA> . The postlude comes from the 17<sup>th</sup> century hymn whose opening verse is: "Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light, and usher in the morning. O shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning. This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be; the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making."

**Youth, children and parents** are invited as we gather on December 20th, at 4 p.m. and meet at Wal-Mart parking lot to the Left side of the Wal-Mart. We will be Christmas shopping for the children housed at William Hall Psychiatric Hospital this Christmas Season. Wear Masks, Bring \$20-30 per family and lets share the joy of Christ with those who need it most. Some may choose to eat outside at Salsaritas following shopping, please bring money if you would like to participate in this activity.

**Join SOPC Sunday**, December 13, for our Carols of Christmas Virtual Service at 7:00 p.m.

**Join SOPC** for our virtual Candle lighting Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.

**Poinsettias** will be in the sanctuary on December 20 for our virtual services. You may pick up your poinsettia on Tuesday, Dec 22 or Wed Dec 23 between 8 & 1. Any poinsettias left after 2 pm will be taken to Bryan Center by Karl. Please contact him if you need to make other arrangements for your poinsettia 803 237 4519

**Thank you** to all those who participated in the Traveling Advent Wreath.

**The church** office will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

**OFFERING:** Text Sevenoaks to 73256 or use the SOPC website with this link:  
<https://onrealm.org/SevenOaksPresby/-/give/now>

## This Week at SOPC

### Sunday

Adult Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/508111743?](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09)

[pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09)

Meeting ID: 508 111 743 Password: 04673911743 #

Sunday Service at 11:00 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/743754044?](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

[pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

Meeting ID: 743 754 044 Password: 072863

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

Children's Check-In and Sunday School at 1:30 p.m.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84573328620?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84573328620?pwd=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWmI0dz09)

[pwd=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWmI0dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84573328620?pwd=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWmI0dz09)

Meeting ID: 845 7332 8620 Password: 237447

Sunday Evening Service at 7:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/743754044?](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

[pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

Meeting ID: 743 754 044 Password: 072863

### Wednesday

Lunch & Prayer: Wednesday at Noon

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTVld0U3WnZwNmhnZz09)

[pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTVld0U3WnZwNmhnZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTVld0U3WnZwNmhnZz09)

Meeting ID: 897 0511 3395 Password: 300498

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

### Friday

Lanterns: Fridays at 7:00 a.m.

<https://meet.google.com/gei-nbcw-upo>