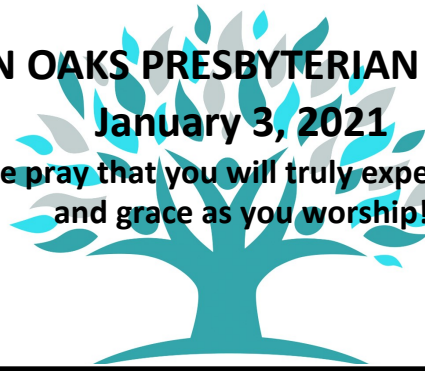




SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 3, 2021

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. Dr. Barry Shatzer

PRELUDE

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Emily Elliot

GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Ed Keelen

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

One: Like sages from afar, come and behold your Christ!

All: Let us fall on our knees in his honor! Let us lift our voices in praise of his name!

OPENING PRAYER

God of our hopes, Christ of our faith, Spirit in our hearts, we come to worship you with joy and gladness. Your goodness knows no limits of generation or gender, of condition or citizenship. You are kind to all, and we worship you in all sincerity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Congregational Carol:

As With Gladness Men of Old

**As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.**

**As they offered gifts most rare at thy manger, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ to thee, our heavenly king.**

**Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 3:7-8

Elder Ed Keelen

⁷ These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.

⁸ I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

MESSAGE

The Door Of Hope

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

OFFERING

Text Sevenoaks to 73256 or use the SOPC website with this link:

<https://onrealm.org/SevenOaksPresby/-/give/now>

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Sky*
**Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar in my heart appear.**

**Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiance divine; scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.**

SEALING THE WORD: The Eucharist

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE TAKING OF THE VINE

CLOSING PRAYER

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

O Christ, we know that the gifts of our hands are no substitute for the loyalty of our lives. As we leave this worship space, enable us to serve your creation as we have worshiped you, with ourselves as well as our gifts, welcoming the new year with the hope and promise of a new year.

POSTLUDE

Brightest and Best

James Harding

MOMENT OF HOLINESS

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

Music Notes: The prelude is a hymn contrasting Jesus' divine glory and the humiliation He endured during His time on this earth. The first two stanzas contrast the mansions of heaven with the stable and manger that first sheltered the newborn King (Luke 2:7). The final stanza is an anticipation of Christ's Second Coming. The postlude is based on a hymn written by an Anglican bishop in celebration of Epiphany. The opening verse is "*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning; dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid. Star of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*"



Epiphany Star Words: Epiphany falls on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. The wise men who traveled great distances to offer their gifts to the newborn Christ-child were responding to the gift first given to them. They received God's gift, then offered their gifts to God. As we commemorate the arrival of the wise men and remember their offerings, we delight in this paper reminder (A Star Word) that symbolizes God's generosity in our lives.

Why would such a simple gift take on such deep meaning? What is it about receiving a word on a piece of paper that touches people? Especially this year, we are all yearning for tangible, clear signs of God's presence. Seven Oaks is filled with compassionate people who spend hours baking for sales, cooking meals for shut-ins, writing cards to the sick, providing transportation to the homebound, calling on people in hospitals and nursing homes, praying for those in need, stretching the church budget by giving what they can, and hosting church suppers. Our congregation is good at being busy and "doing" for God. This Epiphany Sunday celebration, people are offered the opportunity to "be still" in the presence of God and to receive God's gifts. This is not because we have done anything to merit such attention, but simply because of God's abundant generosity.

This Epiphany Sunday celebration you have a choice in how you will receive your star word. Please go online to this website to receive a digital random Star word:

<http://www.wordoftheyear.me/?fbclid=IwAR2F3-D3705P0FABIDEHwujdw6APRsNcP7MjxtKdWLRaPlxo7ami8fUlh84>

Or stop by the office to choose your own from a wide selection of words. Those receiving mailings in the mail will be randomly chosen a word and mailed accordingly.

As you reflect on last year's word, we want to hear from you. What was your word and what did it mean to you during 2020? Did it take on new meaning? Did God speak to you through this word in particular? You are encouraged to write us a story and mail it (or email) it to the office. We want to know what God is doing in our midst, especially how God has spoken during the reality of the pandemic around us. Epiphany Blessings to you. Pastor Jana.

To honor our season of rest this January, there will be no children's SS, official youth programs, small groups, and a variety of servants leading worship throughout this month. We will resume in February with the joy and experiences of discerning God's call for the new year, together over Lent!



Staff meetings will continue each Tuesday at 9:30 am via zoom.

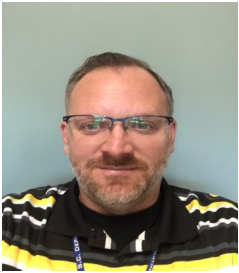


In our continued prayers...

Edith Blanchett	Nan Foster	Ed Keelen	Al Charles
Linda Floyd	Scott Wilhide	Joe Gause	SOPC Covid Task Force
Banks Robinson	Loretta (Hadessah) Demko		
Daniel and Elizabeth Turk		Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz	

Prayer Meetings will continue with Rev. Dan Loffredo!!! Please join us on Wednesdays at Noon via Zoom for our Prayer Meeting.

Prayer Buddies for our youth and children are invited to take some time this month to text, call, email, or inquire how your student is doing in the new year once school has begun. This new school year brings new challenges. How can you be in prayer for one another? Thank you for being a buddy to someone- your love means the worlds to our young people!



Please welcome Reverend Dan Loffredo!! Dan has been a Presbyterian Minister since 2008. He has served three churches in Miami, FL; Americus, GA; and Gulf Breeze, FL as Associate Pastor, Solo Pastor, and Pastor / Head-of-Staff. In January of 2018, he started working as a Clinical Chaplain at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. During this time, he saw the words of Jesus from Matthew 25 come alive: *“Whatever you did unto the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did unto me.”* In March 2020, Dan was promoted to a Clinical Chaplain III with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health where he works at the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute for Children and Adolescents. Dan enjoys showing the love of Christ to the hurting teens and kids he works with at the hospital.

Dan is passionate about mental health and recovery ministries, missions, evangelism, and youth ministry. Dan has three children. Joshua is 11 and loves Pokemon and swimming. Becca is 8 and loves soccer and Jojo Siwa. Hannah is 5 and loves Play Doh and gymnastics. In his spare time, Dan enjoys watching UCF football, the Miami Dolphins, and the Miami Marlins. He also enjoys fishing and playing golf. He is unashamed of his love for his minivan (aka “The Daddy Wagon”) and its magical automatic doors.

Contact information for our parish associate interim and youth minister Dan Loffredo:

For church business and pastoral needs:

Cell: 850-736-3621

Email: dannyloffredo@hotmail.com

Contact for parish associate Barry Shatzer: For any pastoral needs:

Home: 803-661-8257 (preferred); Cell: 803-381-4184

Email: jbssc@yahoo.com

This Week at SOPC

Sunday

Adult Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/508111743?](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUJpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09)

[pwd=WUJpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUJpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3l0YU8yZz09)

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=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVVlaE41dz09)

[pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVVlaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFR4UG1zQkZuRVVlaE41dz09)

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=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWml0dz09)

[pwd=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWml0dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84573328620?pwd=dkVUQWZMaUx5QitMZ1RLYUdCWml0dz09)

Meeting ID: 845 7332 8620 Password: 237447

Wednesday

Lunch & Prayer: Wednesday at Noon

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89705113395?pwd=d3JZSTROa3RFVTIvd0U3WnZwNmhnZz09)

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Meeting ID: 897 0511 3395 Password: 300498

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

Friday

Lanterns: Fridays at 7:00 a.m.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81316561956?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81316561956?pwd=eHVpcHdtNEkvUEExOc0hmbWpaNnhsZz09)

[pwd=eHVpcHdtNEkvUEExOc0hmbWpaNnhsZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81316561956?pwd=eHVpcHdtNEkvUEExOc0hmbWpaNnhsZz09)

Meeting ID: 813 1656 1956 Passcode: 168424