

## Welcome to Seven Oaks!!!

If you are visiting with us, please take a moment to stop by the visitor table and fill out a visitor's card.

Are you looking for a church home? Please speak to an usher or one of the pastors for information on joining our family of faith or contact the church office [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net) or text/call 803 530 4866.

**Please let us know you are here this evening** by scanning the QR code using your phone's camera and include your name and those who attended with you in the link.



**Masked and Socially distanced seating:** There are two pews marked as reserved in the sanctuary to the far right front close to the side exit for those preferring masking and social distancing. If you need assistance please ask an usher. Masks are available in narthex/lobby.

**Hearing impaired equipment** available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

**Please note** the church office will be closed Monday, December 26, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023.

**There will** be no nursery during worship on Christmas Day, join us at 11 am for an information worship service.

### STAFF

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
[jana@sopc.net](mailto:jana@sopc.net)

**Volunteer Office Administrator:**  
Shelagh Wirth [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net)

**Director of Music Ministry:**  
Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington [sopcmusic@gmail.com](mailto:sopcmusic@gmail.com)

**Accompanist:** Mrs. Sharon Watkins  
**Building Superintendent:** Mr. Karl Thompson  
[ktompsonsc@yahoo.com](mailto:ktompsonsc@yahoo.com)

**Volunteer Financial Administrator:**  
Mrs. Sharon Staton [sharon@sopc.net](mailto:sharon@sopc.net)

**Nursery Coordinator:** Mrs. Amy Schwartz

### LIKE US ON...



Sevenoakspc sevenoakspresbyterian

### 4 WAYS TO GIVE!

IN PERSON	BY MAIL	ONLINE	BY TEXT
Offering baskets	530 St. Andrews Rd. Columbia, SC 29210	Sopc.net	Text 73256 to SEVENOAKS

530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210

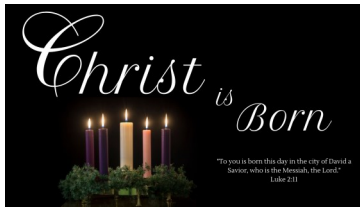
# Christmas Eve Worship



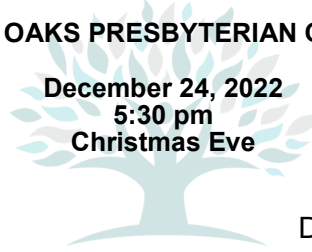
SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2022

5:30 pm



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Dr. Lloyd Pilkington  
Uehlein  
Bish  
McDonald  
Carter  
Uehlein  
Oines  
Uehlein  
Uehlein

PRESERVICE MUSIC  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem  
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear  
Angels We Have Heard On High  
The First Nowell  
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella  
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Joy to the World*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE *What Child Is This* Jason Payne

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

One: From the darkness of Creation, God brought forth Light!  
**All: That Light flooded over the waters of creation, sparkling, dancing!**  
One: From the fear and alienation, God sent forth a leading Pillar of Light!  
**All: That Light directed people who were on the path of freedom.**  
One: From the cries of the people, God offered the lights of Hope  
**All: Those lights beckoned people to God's presence.**  
One: From the yearning of the spirit, God's light was born again in a child  
**All: That Light shall never be diminished.**  
One: Tonight the light of Christ is given to us. Thanks be to God. AMEN.

\*CAROL # 123 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*  
**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King": the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold, when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH  
Michael, Lauren, Naomi, Olivia & Paul Michael Finnegan

\*CAROL # 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
**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.**

**O come, thou Key of David, come, open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Carol Griffith in memory of Joe Griffith.

Willie Hale in memory of Bob Hale.

Lou Ann Hilton in honor of Sue.

Molly Jackson in memory of Nan Gmelin Foster.

Mary & Mark Johnson in appreciation of Sharon Staton & Shelagh Wirth for all their hard work.

Ron and Sue Kesterson in memory of our parents: William and Grace Archer, Robert and Madeline Kesterson and our brothers Thomas Archer and Jeffery Kesterson.

Kathy & Bubba Locklair in memory of Elsie Tarrer, Bill Tarrer, Sr., Bill Tarrer, Jr., Joe and Joanne Locklair.

Melanie and Greg Mixon in memory of Bob and Lou Mixon and Bob Penland and in honor of Sonja Penland.

Kathy Morganelli in memory of Al Morganelli.

Janice Reiser in memory of her husband Tom Reiser.

Guy San Fratello and Judy Barnes in appreciation of God's beautiful creation.

Rev. Barry Shatzer in loving memory of Jay Shatzer.

Sharon and Chris Staton in appreciation of Amy Schwartz and in honor of their grandchildren: Beckett, Blythe & Merritt.

Charlotte & Monroe Swearingen in appreciation of their many blessings.

Nancy Taber in memory of Bill Taber.

Jim and Elizabeth Taylor in memory of their parents: Mr. & Mrs. CJ Bethea and Mr. & Mrs. JP Taylor.

Brenda Turner in appreciation of her family and in memory of Richard Turner.

Jim Wilhide in memory of Joan Wilhide.

Shelagh Wirth in appreciation of Hannah Circle and in honor of Jana L. Creighton, Sharon Staton, Lloyd Pilkington, Sharon Watkins & Karl Thompson.

Mark and Marion Wishart in memory of their parents.

**\*If you purchased** a poinsettia, you may pick it up tonight, after Worship.



\*CAROL # 134

*Joy to the World*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

\*POSTLUDE

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

Jason Payne

## *Poinsettias*

The Beautiful Poinsettias in the Sanctuary were provided by the following people:

Hal Bowman in memory of Suzy Bowman.

Karan Bundrick in appreciation of her amazing parents, in memory of friends and family who have passed and in honor of her amazing boys, Finn & Eli.

John Carter in memory of Charlene Byars Carter.

Al and Margaret Charles in memory of their parents, Frances and Aldo Charles, Sr. and Claudia and Edward Andrews.

Anne Crook in thanksgiving for life's daily blessings and in memory of Clyde Crook.

Lauren Finnegan in memory of Mary Annttill.

Joe and Myrna Gause in appreciation of the SOPC Youth Group.

Myrna Gause in appreciation of her friend, Jeanne LeBeouf.



PREPARATIONS FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS Luke 2:1-5 Rev. Jana Light Creighton

\*CAROL # 121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

JESUS IS BORN

Luke 2:6-7

Elder Janna Simon

\*CAROL # 115

*Away in a Manger*

**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.**

**The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**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.**

JESUS' BIRTH IS ANNOUNCED TO THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2:8-14

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

\*CAROL # 119

*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!"**

**Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "glory to the newborn king!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Refrain**

**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 we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Refrain.**

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

CHRISTMAS READING

*One Solitary Life & Silent Night*

Elder Jim Wilhide

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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!**

One: Let us pray to the Lord ...

**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

The elements for communion are both prepacked, in the center or gluten free bread & juice on each side at the front.

Please come down by the center aisle & return to your seat by the outside aisle, we will partake of the elements together when everyone is seated.

THE SHEPHERD'S FIND BABY JESUS

Luke 2:15-20

Elder Janna Simon

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE LIGHT

Scout Troop 91

One: Worldwide community and international friendship are of special concern to Scouts and believers alike. The Peace we seek will only become a reality, as soon as each individual has their own peace, shares it with their community, then nation, and then world.

**All: The chain of lights is not only a symbol of actively lived charity but also frankness, warmth and family. By passing on the Peace Light from Bethlehem we want to help to overcome the darkness caused by hate, materialism and selfishness.**

One: The light is given from one person to another as a symbolic gift with reference to the meaning of Christmas and the wish for peace and forgiveness among all human beings.

**All: This light from Bethlehem has traveled far reminding us of the light which came to a dark and fearful world when He who is the Light of the World was born. It is our prayer that this light and all those lit from it will be a sign of hope and joy in our land, in cities, towns and villages. Receive this light, now as a sign of your willingness to be channels of peace, by our words and actions.**

One: The peace light is a living flame and a gift for you to use with hope for peace on Earth. It is...

**All: A light for Peace, A light for Fellowship, A light for those who help others, A light for the Needy. Amen.**

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

\*CAROL # 122

*Silent Night, Holy Night!*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!**

**Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light**

**Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;**

**With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

\*LITANY OF HOPE

Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

One: We thought we lived in the light, but the darkness of fear, anger, and alienation had taken over.

**All: We wondered where God was.**

One: God banished the darkness away in the light of the Christmas Star.

**All: God's light was found around a manger, a place where the Holy Child was given to sleep.**

One: God called to the shepherds through the voices of the angels whose first words were "Do not be afraid. There is Good News for you!"

**All: And in that instance, all the people who felt that God didn't care about them, had Hope.**

One: The star shone brightly and shines brightly in our lives. Now no darkness can shut it out.

**ALL: Go, Tell the Good News. Christ is Born! Praise be to God. AMEN.**

\*CAROL # 136

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

**Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching over silent flocks by night, behold, through out the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain**

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

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

The Offering you give tonight is in thanks for the Christ light in our midst. The ministries of Seven Oaks are changing the lives of many who enter our doors, changing one life at a time, bringing light to the homeless, the lost, the lonely, the poor, the hungry and the searching in our midst. If you would like to be part of these ministries of serving the least of these and being a light unto all, please contact the pastor or office for a conversation. Thank you for your generosity to God's work here in this place. Joy to the World, the Lord Has Come!

OFFERTORY

*O Holy Night*

Adams/ arr. John Turner

\*DOXOLOGY

**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.**