

OFFERING Offerings may be placed in the large wooden boxes with crosses at the main exit of the lobby.  
To give online, text Sevenoaks to 73256 or use the SOPC website with this link:  
<https://onrealm.org/SevenOaksPresby/-/give/now>

OFFERTORY *In the Bleak Midwinter* Victor Labenske

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
\*You are invited to the Lord's table to receive your elements, either prepackaged,  
on the left or gluten free bread and juice, on the right, and return to your seat to take communion.

COMMUNION Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

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 pray responsively together: We have come asking for the child —

**All: Wondering where that love might be born,**

One: Seeking that joy that might satisfy our thirst,

**All: Wandering through the darkness of so many mistakes.**

One: We have come to this place where

**All: Wise people and shepherds and young women met.**

One: We have come to this place called Bethlehem.

**All: To this place where our hearts rise like yeast.**

One: To this place where we meet our newborn hope.

**All: To this place where we taste our deepest joy.**

One: In Bethlehem, where we assumed the worst,

**All: Imagining that no good can come,**

One: We somehow missed its name.

**All: Bethlehem.**

One: Lehem meaning bread.

**All: Bethel meaning house.**

One: There is something here that will satisfy our hunger.

**All: No matter how long we have wandered,**

One: Here our hearts arise. Our light has come.

**All: In this bread and in this cup,**

One: We celebrate something we can't quite understand.

**All: Because God has made a house at this table.**

One: Because God satisfies our hunger in the most unlikely places.

**All: Because God comes to be with us.**

One: Now and always. It is with this expectation that we come to the table to taste and see that God is here.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Elder Jana Simon

**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

\*HYMN # 143 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* verse 1, 2, 4

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight over all the earth; you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth**

**Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!**

**Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching over your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: Refrain**

**All creations, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising, to the eternal Three in One: Refrain.**

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE *Joy to the World!* John Carter



## SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

11:00 am

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

PRELUDE

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

John Carter

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

One: How magnificent is all creation!

**All: God's love is poured throughout all God has created.**

One: God's love is poured out upon us each day.

**All: Praise be to God!**

One: Let your souls and spirits rejoice at the goodness of God.

**All: Let all the people praise God! AMEN.**

\*HYMN: # 147

*The First Nowell*

verses 1, 2, 3, 4

**The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

**Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Refrain.**

**And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Refrain.**

**This star drew nigh to the northwest; over Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Refrain.**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Janna Simon

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent; have mercy on us. Lord, forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Jana

We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to sit in the "Children's Corner" after the "Children's Message." An Adult will be sitting with the children, and age appropriate activities will be provided for children that go along with worship. Parents, please pick up your children after the service.

HYMN # 137

*He Came Down*

**He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 4: 7-8

1 Corinthians 9: 24-27

Proverbs 4: 1-13

Luke 6: 40

MESSAGE

Sermon Series: *New Year, New You Train, Don't Just Try*

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

## Sunday, January 1

Counters: Elizabeth and Jim Taylor  
Usher: Mary Johnson  
Greeters: Nancy Taber, Richard Brinkley  
Acolyte: Communion  
Children's Message: Pastor Jana  
Children's Corner: Karan Bundrick

## Next Sunday, January 8

Counters: Hal Bowman, Richard Brinkley  
Usher: Ron Kesterson  
Greeters: Carol Griffith, Stephanie Sampson  
Acolyte: Abby Dempster  
Children's Message: Sue Kesterson  
Children's Corner: Mary Johnson

## STAFF

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

**Office Administrator,** Mrs. 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  
[kthompsonsc@yahoo.com](mailto:kthompsonsc@yahoo.com)

**Volunteer Financial Administrator:**

Mrs. Sharon Staton [sharon@sopc.net](mailto:sharon@sopc.net)

**Nursery Coordinator:** Mrs. Amy Schwartz

## SESSION MEMBERS

\* indicates chair

**Clerk of Session:** Polly Robinson

### **Class of 2023:**

Karan Bundrick - Worship  
Mark Dillard - Congregational Care\*  
Banks Robinson - Fellowship\*  
Mark Wishart - Fellowship

### **Class of 2024:**

Hal Bowman - Administration  
Richard Brinkley - Buildings & Grounds  
Guy San Fratello - Buildings & Grounds\*

### **Class of 2025:**

Fred Holbrook - Administration\*  
Ed Keelen - Christian Education\*  
Sharon Staton - Missions\*  
Sharon Watkins - Worship\*

**ReShape Coordinator:** Ed Keelen

**Trustees:** Jim Wilhide, Sue Kesterson, Frank Sheppard

**Treasurer:** Hal Bowman

**Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW) -**  
Mary Johnson

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday - Thursday - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

### **This week at SOPC:**

#### **Sunday, January 1, 2023**

9:45 am - Adult SS Classes  
9:45 - Children/Youth SS Classes  
3:30 - 5:30 pm - Love Revolution

#### **Monday, January 2, 2023**

**Office Closed**  
7:30 pm - NANA

#### **Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

4:30 pm - PW CT - Session Room  
7:30 pm - NANA

#### **Wednesday, January 4, 2023**

5:30 pm - CMT Meeting  
5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion  
6:30 - Choir Practice  
7:30 pm - NANA

#### **Thursday, January 5, 2023**

**Friday, January 6, 2023**  
6:45 am - Lanterns

#### **Saturday, January 7, 2023**

**Stay connected! If you would like to receive emails and/or texts from SOPC, please text the letters SOPC to the number 84576.**

*If you have information to be included in the weekly bulletin or newsletter, please have it to the church office (sopc@sopc.net) no later than 10:00 am Tuesday the week of publication. Thank you!*

If you learn  
self-control,  
you can master  
absolutely  
ANYTHING.

**January**  
Word of the Month  
**Self Control**

### **LIKE US ON...**



Sevenoakspc sevenoakspresbyterian

### **4 WAYS TO GIVE!**



IN PERSON

Offering  
baskets



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Sopc.net



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Text 73256 to  
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530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210  
803-772-1761

## Welcome!

**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.

**Nursery:** A nursery is available in Building A during Sunday School and Worship for ages 0 - 4. If you have any questions please see an usher.

**Worship bags:** Parents can pick up worship bags in the Children's Corner before the worship service, for ages 3 - 5th grades. (sanctuary near the restrooms).

**Guests are invited to stop by the Guest Table** in the narthex. Please leave your information, when you take a goody bag, as a reminder of God's love.

**The Fellowship Sunday School Class** will begin back with Proverbs this Sunday, January 1, 2023. Beginning with Proverbs of Solomon and finishing up with a summary and conclusion on February 12, 2023. Come fellowship around 9:30-9:45ish and class begins at 10:00. Choir members, ushers and greeters can leave at 10:30. All are welcome!!

**ReShape -** The newly created ReShape Adapting Action Group meets for the first time on January 3. Please be in prayer for them as they discern God's will for our church. (Optional addition) The Group has assumed responsibility for all communications related to ReShape. We want to thank Hal Bowman, who has served in this capacity since the beginning of the program.

**A BIG Thank you** to Sharon Watkins for her musical leadership this morning.

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### **In our continued prayers...**

Dave Allen	John Anderson
Edith Blanchett	Al Charles
Joe Gause	Myrna Gause
Jo Groce	Nealy Jordan
Ed Keelen	Kathy Morganelli
Jim Mullins	Rev. Barry Shatzer
Rebecca Taylor	Patricia Williams
Kirk Wirth	Tara and John Whitfield
Our Ukraine Family	
Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (missionaries)	
Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz	

**If you would like someone to be added to the prayer list please contact the church office.**

## Announcements

**Please let us know you are here today by scanning the QR code using your phones camera and include your name and those who attended with you in the link.**



**Love Revolution:** Ashland UMC will host today, Sunday, January 1. You are invited to come from 3:30 - 5:30 pm. for fellowship.

**Youth:** No meeting this Sunday, January 1. Youth meets again Sunday, January 8 at SOPC at 5 pm, dinner will be provided.

**Annually we receive** a gift on Epiphany of a Star Word. You are invited on January 8th to our Epiphany worship celebration to receive a star word. Share a story about how your star word has unfolded in 2022 by submitting to [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net) or [Jana@sopc.net](mailto:Jana@sopc.net)

**Why Star Words?** Theologically why do we do this??  
- The Magi followed a star, which ultimately led them to Jesus. Therefore, we too use all the resources we have available to us—including creative prayer practices and intention words for the new year—to move closer to Jesus.  
- We trust that God uses multiple ways to guide us and speak to us. Star words are one such lens that might provide us a way to look for God in our midst, both actively and in hindsight.  
- We trust that it is often easy to miss God in our daily midst. Having an intention word to consider both in present days, as well as to reflect on at the end of the year, allows for us to see God in ways we may not have seen God before. This is the greatest gift.  
- We know that the most common prayer practice for many involves speaking to God as opposed to silence or contemplation. We believe that star words invite a new prayer rhythm of reflection and review that can be a powerful new way to connect with God.  
Traditionally, by not looking or sorting through the star words at their selection, we practice the spiritual task of receiving. It is not we who are in control in this moment. Instead, we trust that God is present, and we let go of our desire to cultivate or control. This Epiphany You are invited to select a star word to carry with you into the new year.

**New Year, New You:** Our January sermon series is for all who wish to begin the New Year with a renewed focus on walking with God. No matter where we are in our faith life, our intentional new year/s resolutions will provide a footing for growing and learning to run the 'good race'. No matter if you are new to the faith, struggling in faith, questioning God or feeling alone during this season of life, this sermon series is for you. Come be a part of a faith body studying to walk faithfully with God in the year 2023!

**Reminder:** Karl is on leave the month of January to recover from surgery. We welcome Juan Bravo who will be helping us out for the month.