

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

Elder Sue Kesterson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3: 13-17, 4: 4  
Joshua 1: 8

MESSAGE

*Chewing on Scripture*

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

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

*The King Shall Come/Twas In the Moon of Wintertime*

Sylvia Oines

LITANY

Light of God, illumine the path that leads us to healing, hope and salvation.  
Glory of God, fill this sanctuary and expose the darkness that stalks our souls.  
Light of God, shine with such brightness that we marvel in awe.  
Glory of God, fill each of us with the Holy Spirit present today.  
Light of God, Glory of God, we welcome you into our hearts.

SOPC Children

\*HYMN # 151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* verses 1, 2, 3, 5  
**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder start.**

**Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. Refrain**

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense own a deity nigh; prayer and praising gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. Refrain**

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies. Refrain.**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE

*O Thou of God the Father*

J. S. Bach



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord - Epiphany

January 8, 2023

11:00 am

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

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

MOMENT FOR MISSION

ReShape

Elder Ed Keelen

PRELUDE

*Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne*

James Southbridge

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

One: The Magi waited and watched, knowing something wondrous would be happening.  
**All: We waited for the birth of Jesus; now something wondrous is about to take root.**  
One: The darkness that invaded all lives was banished by the light of that star.  
**All: The darkness that surrounds us is gone!**  
One: Let us celebrate the bright shining of God's love in our lives.  
**All: Let us become those who will bring the light of God's love to others. Arise, Shine people of God!**

\*HYMN: # 145

*What Child Is This*

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; hast, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word if pleasing. Nails, spear, shall pierce him through, the cross be born for me, for you. Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby. Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Janna Simon

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of living light, we hear the story of the Magi and tie it together with our warm Christmas celebration. It feels comfortable to us. Break those bonds of comfort and help us to realize the risk of witness and discipleship for those who follow your light. Shine brightly in us and through us. Forgive the blindness we so often offer to you. Give us vision of what you would have us be and do in the Light of Your Love. AMEN.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Light has come to you. Your light has come and it has erased the darkness. Now we can walk and work in the light. You are loved by God and called to God's service. AMEN.

\*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.**

### **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

### **Next Sunday, January 15**

Counters: Mark Dillard, Carol Griffith  
Usher: Guy San Fratello  
Greeters:  
Acolyte: Kaelin Pilkington  
Children's Message: Julie Bussells  
Children's Corner: Kathy Keane

### **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\*

**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 8, 2023**  
9:45 am - Adult SS Classes  
9:45 - Children/Youth SS Classes  
2:00 pm - Emmanuel Baptist Fellowship - FH  
3:30 - 5:30 pm - Love Revolution  
5:00 pm Youth - SOPC

**Monday, January 9, 2023**  
7:30 pm - NANA

**Tuesday, January 10, 2023**  
9:30 am - Staff meeting  
2:00 pm - Rachel Circle  
7:30 pm - NANA

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023**  
5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion  
6:30 - Choir Practice  
7:30 pm - NANA

**Thursday, January 12, 2023**  
6:30 pm - Hannah Circle

**Friday, January 13, 2023**  
6:45 am - Lanterns

**Saturday, January 14, 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!*



January  
Word of the Month  
**Self Control**

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



Sevenoakspc sevenoakspresbyterian

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

 IN PERSON Offering baskets	 BY MAIL	 ONLINE Sopc.net	 BY TEXT Text 73256 to SEVENOAKS text rates may apply
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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 any of our volunteers with a name badge in the Narthex.

**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.

**Music Notes:** Due to the currently high Covid infection rate in our area, the Chancel Choir will not rehearse or sing together in worship. As the Covid rates moderate, the choir looks forward to resuming weekly rehearsals and its ministry in worship. This morning's prelude is based on a hymn by E. S. Elliot that traces Jesus' life from his lowly birth to his triumphant return. This hymn's refrain is, "O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee." The King Shall Come looks forward to the return of our ruling and reigning King. The opening verse is, "The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes - not as of old a little child to bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky."

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

Dave Allen	Sam 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: SOPC** hosts today.. You are invited to bring a dish and come from 3:30 - 5:30 pm for fellowship & to serve our neighbors in Christ. We need you!!!

**Youth:** Will gather at SOPC tonight, Sunday, January 8 at 5:00 pm, dinner will be provided.

**ReShape -** The Adapting Action Group met for the first time last Tuesday. We all recognized that it was a momentous occasion and that it was no accident that God had called us together to help the Session discern and enact the ReShape process in innovative ways. We spent a lot of time discussing our individual strengths and skill sets that we bring to the group as we begin the process of gelling as a team. Our written set of recommendations goes to the Ministry Chairs, who meet monthly and will collaborate with each other to determine which of the recommendations will be put before the Session.

**Sharing God's Love:** Please bring any of the following: Items: Grocery Bags, Grits, Oatmeal, Pancake Syrup, Jelly, Ravioli, SpaghettiOs (Lunch Can), Elbow Pasta, and Pasta sauce. Please leave them in the Missions' closet or in the black baskets in the Narthex! See October 13th newsletter for more details.

**Ladies Luncheon** on January 16th will be at the Bonefish Grill, 1260 Bower Parkway. If attending, please notify Margaret Royals, [mroyals952@gmail.com](mailto:mroyals952@gmail.com), or 803-957-0430

**Presbyterian Women** are taking nominations for the 2023 Honorary Life Membership, if you want to nominate someone please send their name and bio to the church office no later than January 31.

**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!

**Star Words** On Epiphany Sunday we honor the wise men's journey. Following the light of the great star, they fall at Jesus's feet and bring gifts of great meaning to the life of our Savior, the light of the World. For us, we honor this tradition by receiving our own gift of a star to light the way for the coming calendar year. You are invited to come to the table and select a star that calls to you, take it home and research the meaning. In this tradition the star word comes to life throughout the coming year in our day to day and bigger life experiences. It shines a light on how God is working in, through and around us. Receive this gift as a light in your life and talk about it around the dinner table with friends and family!