

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1-41

READERS THEATRE

Elders Jana Simon/Jim Wilhide/Hal Bowman

MESSAGE

Life in Christ: Vision

*A HOLY LENTEN CREED

Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child. We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. 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

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

arr. Molly Ijames

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Janna 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.

*HYMN: # 649

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE

Little Prelude in G minor

Paul Taylor

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March
Word of the Month
Holy Spirit



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

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

MENT FOR MISSION

MORE Justice

ReiQuan Richards

PRELUDE

There Is a Fountain

arr. Don Hustad

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Elder Janna Simon

One: The Lord is our shepherd; we will have all that we need; we are released from fear.

All: The Shepherd guides us in fruitful living, giving us healing and pardon.

One: Even though difficulties and dangers may lie ahead, we do not need to fear.

All: God's love and strength are as a rod and staff for us.

One: God will give us abundantly from God's own love.

All: Surely this goodness and mercy will be with us all of our days, and we will dwell in God's loving care forevermore. AMEN.

*HYMN # 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my early bliss? My comfort still in this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound: may Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: my Jesus Christ be praised!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Janna Simon

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Healing God, We have chosen to hide in darkness in order to avoid reaching out and risking acceptance. We are afraid of the light, and yet we crave it. In your light, there is healing and hope, restoration and transformation. Forgive our lack of faith and our fearfulness. Give us courage to reach out, work for peace, justice and reconciliation in your name. May our lives be transformed by your mercy. AMEN.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elder Sue Kesterson

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me
Chancel Choir

arr. Nolan Williams Jr.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Sunday, March 19

Counters: Banks Robinson, Judy Barnes
 Usher: Guy San Fratello
 Greeters: Sue Kesterson, Brenda Turner
 Acolyte: Mia Freeman
 Children's Message: Sue Kesterson
 Children's Corner: Julie Bussells

Next Sunday, March 26

Counters: Guy San Fratello, Polly Robinson
 Usher: Fred Holbrook
 Greeters: Robert Miller, Kitsie Miller
 Acolyte: Eli Bundrick
 Children's Message: Julie Bussells
 Children's Corner: Mary Johnson

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jana Light Creighton
jana@sopc.net
Office Administrator, Mrs. Shelagh Wirth:
sopc@sopc.net
Director of Music Ministry:
 Dr. Lloyd R. Pilkington sopcmusic@gmail.com
Accompanist: Mrs. Sharon Watkins
kthompsonsc@yahoo.com
Volunteer Financial Administrator:
 Mrs. Sharon Staton 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, March 19, 2023

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

Monday, March 20, 2023

6:30 pm - Session Meeting - Zoom
 7:30 pm - NANA

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

9:30 am - Staff meeting
 7:00 pm - Yoga - Fellowship Hall
 7:30 pm - NANA

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

5:30 pm - Koinonia Dinner/Bible Study - FH
 5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion
 7:30 - Choir Practice
 7:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, March 23, 2023

2:00 pm - Care Givers Meets - Fellowship Class

Friday, March 24, 2023

6:45 am - Lanterns

Saturday, March 25, 2023

12:00 pm - Cuban Feminine Project - FH
 12:00 pm - Mary Kay Training - Youth Room

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!

LIKE US ON...



Sevenoakspc sevenoakspresbyterian

4 WAYS TO GIVE!

IN PERSON	BY MAIL	ONLINE	BY TEXT
Offering baskets		Sopc.net	Text 73256 to SEVENOAKS text rates may apply

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 for help.

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.

Flowers: The beautiful silk flower arrangements in the sanctuary today were donated for use when the church does not have fresh flowers. If you would like to put live flowers in the sanctuary, please call the office for details, 772-1761. **Thank you to the Goff family** for the beautiful arrangements in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 12, following Robert Goff's funeral.

Music Notes: *There Is a Fountain* draws our attention to the cross and the cleansing, redeeming power of Jesus' blood. The choir's anthem is a spiritual song frequently sung during Lent. It is a song that has thrived for more than two centuries, has its roots in camp meetings, and comes from an English folk song.

MORE Justice Nehemiah Action will be March 27 @ 6:30 pm at the Township Auditorium. We need YOU as we fight for food and security! Carpooling is available, call the church office.

EASTER EGG Hunt following Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 26. Meet in Fellowship Hall.

In our continued prayers...

John Anderson Al Charles
 Joe Gause Myrna Gause
 Jo Groce Nealy Jordan
 Jim Mullins Ron Kesterson
 Charlotte Swearingen
 Kirk Wirth Tara and John Whitfield
 Our Ukraine Family
 Jim Wilhide on the loss of his brother Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (missionaries)
 Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz

Long Term Care - Dave, Rich & Sam Allen, Edith Blanchett, Kathie Cashion, Patricia Williams.

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

Announcements

LOVE REVOLUTION: Bring a dish today from 3:30 - 5:30 pm to serve our neighbors in Christ. We need you!!! **YOUTH** will meet at McGregor tonight, Sunday, March 19 @ 5:30 pm. Bring a friend, gently used shoes and your creativity. We will enjoy dinner, games and collecting shoes for the Midlands Beautiful Shoe Collection Bin and preparing for Earth Day celebration.

RESHAPE - Ed Keelen, Adapting Chair met with the Ministry Chairs for their regularly scheduled meeting. We are pleased to report that in the last month, we have completed an additional 21 Action Items since our previous month's report of seven. Also, we are actively working on 16 items this month. ReShape has a bulletin board in the Narthex.

KOINONIA (Wednesday night dinners) each Wednesday, in the Fellowship Hall, with dinner @ 5:30 pm, Bible Study @ 6:15 pm. \$6 for adults, children/youth no charge.

EASTER LILIES the last day to order is **today**, Sunday, March 19. \$15.00. Fill out the form in the pews and put in the offering box.

CARE GIVERS GROUP will meet in the Fellowship Classroom on Thursday, March 23. @ 2:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

CUBAN WOMEN'S PROJECT in the FH, join us on Saturday, March 25, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm to work on this project. Questions contact Kitsie Miller, 803-463-6958.

FAMILY PROMISE of the Midlands is hosting an in-person gala and online auction on March 31. You can support FPM by purchasing tickets to the gala, bidding in the auction, and/or making a donation. Single tickets and tables for 10 are available. For more information see <https://us.givergy.com/NightofPromiseGala/?controller=home> or contact Tish Lowe.

SOPC HOSTS Family Promise guests starting on Easter Sunday, April 9. Donations to purchase gift cards for the families to buy food, supplies, and gas are being accepted through April 6 via the offering, church office, and online (onrealm.org). Please mark donations for "Family Promise".

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be on Sunday, March 26 after the worship service for the purpose of electing new elders and a trustee and to hear an update on the 2023 budget.

LENTEN 2023

Palm Sunday April 2, 2023: Worship at 11:00 am. The children will begin the service with a palm branch procession.

Maundy Thursday April 6, 2023, 7:00 pm, with communion.

Good Friday Experiential Reflection and Prayer: April 7, 12 pm-3pm, the hours when Jesus was on the cross.

Brides Room: will be open for your creative offerings and prayers in preparation for your time in the sanctuary.

Sanctuary: Experience the walk of Christ through images, words and items to touch, see, smell, hear and taste representing the crucifixion.

Prayer: Will be available with Pastor Jana or an elder at the back of the sanctuary.

Easter Sunday: April 9, 2023: the flowering cross will be at the front of the sanctuary steps to decorate @ 10:30 am then join us for Worship at 11:00 am. Please bring flowers to help decorate the cross. We would also love to see your Easter photos at the decorated cross.