

SPECIAL MUSIC *What Wondrous Love* arr. Trevor Manor
Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Jana Light Creighton

READERS THEATRE Scripture: John 11:1-45 Elder Jim Wilhide/Megan Shuler/John Hinton Lane

MESSAGE *Life in Christ* Rev. Jana Light Creighton

OFFERING
Financial 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 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Jay Rouse

*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.

THE 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 # 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This* Verses 1, 2, 4
What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Jana Light Creighton

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

POSTLUDE *The Power and the Glory* Lani Smith

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE TREE IN FRONT OF THE OFFICE DOOR

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SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
March 26, 2023
11:00 am
5th Sunday of Lent
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 *Amazing Grace* arr. Diane Bish

GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS Rev. Jana Creighton and Elder Janna Simon
One: Lazarus, though dead, was called to life by Jesus.
All: May we be called to the light of righteousness.
One: As others witnessed this resurrection, they believed in Jesus.
All: May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to conquer our fears and doubts.
One: Praise be to God who has given us Jesus.
All: Praise be to Jesus who has given us life. AMEN.

*HYMN # 809 *Why Has God Forsaken Me?*
Why has God forsaken me?" cried our Savior from the cross as he shared the loneliness of our deepest grief and loss.

At the tomb of Lazarus Jesus wept with open grief; grant us, Lord, the tears which heal all our pain and unbelief.

As his life expired, our Lord placed himself within God's care: at our dying, Lord, may we trust the love which conquers fear.

Mystery shrouds our life and death but we need not be afraid, for the mystery's heart is love, God's great love which Christ displayed.

HYMN # 286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Verses 1, 2, 4
Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

*CALL TO CONFESSION Elder Janna Simon

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God, we confess that at times we can be frightened by death. We have experienced the loss of loved ones, seen the brutality of war and death all around. In this scripture today we encounter Lazarus and his family. They, too, long for Lazarus to be alive again. Jesus' power to resurrect Lazarus confuses us. We long for that type of healing for our loved ones. And so, when their bodies cannot be healed and they die, we slip away from our faith, proclaiming that it is a nice story. Give us courage to face our fear. Give us awareness that you have offered to all those who have gone before us, a place in your kingdom. Help us move away from the prison of death to the light of eternal life and hope. AMEN.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Mary Dempster
We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to sit in the "Children's Corner" after the "Time with the Children." Adults will be sitting with children, and age appropriate activities will be provided for children that go along with worship. Parents will pick up their children after the service.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Sunday, March 26

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

Next Sunday, April 2

Counters: Frank Sheppard, Mark Wishart
 Usher: Mary Johnson
 Greeters: Janice Reiser, Jeanne LeBoeuf
 Acolyte: None (Communion Sunday)
 Children's Message: Jenny Fogle
 Children's Corner: Kathy Keane
 Communion Servers: Polly Robinson, Hal Bowman

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jana 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
Building Superintendent: Mr. Karl Thompson
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 26, 2023
 9:45 am - Adult SS Classes
 9:45 - Children/Youth SS Classes
 12:00 pm - Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary
 12:15 am - Easter Egg Hunt - Fellowship Hall
 3:30 - 5:30 pm - Love Revolution
 5:30 pm Youth - SOPC

Monday, March 27, 2023
 6:30 pm - MORE Justice, Nehemiah Action
 7:30 pm - NANA

Tuesday, March 28, 2023
 9:30 am - Staff meeting
 7:00 pm - Yoga - Fellowship Hall
 7:30 pm - NANA

Wednesday, March 29, 2023
 5:30 pm - Koinonia Dinner/Bible Study - FH
 5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion
 7:30 - Choir Practice
 7:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Friday, March 31, 2023
 6:45 am - Lanterns

Saturday, April 1, 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!

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

WELCOME

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

Hearing impaired equipment available: 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.

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.

Music Notes: The central message of Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection is that we are saved by grace. Amazing Grace reminds us that our redemption and salvation is not earned, it is the free gift of God that gives us new life! When I Survey reminds us that God's grace comes to us through the cross of Jesus Christ. His loving sacrifice demands nothing less than our lives, our souls, our all!



March
 Word of the Month
Holy Spirit

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-in-law, not 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: SOPC hosts today. You are invited to bring a dish and join us from 3:30 - 5:30 pm for fellowship & to serve our neighbors in Christ. We need you!!!

Youth will meet at SOPC tonight, Sunday, March 26 @ 5:30 pm. Bring a friend to enjoy a nacho bar, games and then we will be packing bags for our shut ins.

ReShape - Have you received a fresh copy of the ReShape Ministry Guide this week? It was emailed out to everyone last Tuesday, with a request from Pastor Jana that we all get reacquainted with it. For starters, go over the five themes and the associated action items on page 8. This is a good summary of the program.

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.

Family Promise will be hosted by SOPC which begins 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: Today, Sunday, March 26 after the worship service to elect new elders and a trustee and hear an update on the 2023 budget.

Vacation Bible School will start Monday, June 19, 2023. WE NEED YOUR HELP. Please contact Mary Dempster, mhmc Carolinagirl@hotmail.com or Marion W. Wishart dearborn2021@gmail.com to sign up or for more information. Thank you.

SOPC Ladies, pick up a brochure from the narthex for information on the Women's Spring Retreat on Saturday, April 22, 2023.

MORE Justice Nehemiah Action is tomorrow night, Monday, March 27 @ 6:30 pm @ the Township Auditorium.

LENTEN Services 2023

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

Maundy Thursday April 6, 2023, 7:00 pm service, 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, which you can email to the office, sopc@sopc.net.