

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:44-53

MESSAGE

*Come Fly With Me*

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism 4.049

One: How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

**All: First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of the father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, God sends the spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.**

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 Beginning Was the Word*  
Chancel Choir

Thomas Keesecker

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 # 267

*Come Christians Join to Sing*

**Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!**

**Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen! He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend; his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!**

**Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore, singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE

*Toccata*

Gordon Young

Copyright Notices:

*All Creatures of Our God and King*. Music: Joshua Evanovich, ©2013 Hope Publishing Company. Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738441. All rights reserved.

*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*. Words: Bernard Kyamanywa, translated Howard S. Olson, Translation ©1977 Augsburg Fortress Press, Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738441. All rights reserved.

*In the Beginning Was the Word*. Music by Thomas Keesecker, ©2018 GIA Publications, Inc., Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738441. All rights reserved.

*Toccata*. Music: Gordon Young, ©1966 Lorenz Publishing Company. Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738441. All rights reserved.



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 21, 2023

11:00 am

7th Sunday of Easter

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



Rev. Jana Light Creighton

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Celebrating Volunteers

Mary Dempster and Janice Holbrook

PRELUDE

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

Joshua Evanovich

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

CRE Andrea Paschal and Elder Janna Simon

**Please turn to Hymn # 251**

One: Our hearts are filled with Jesus' love. He teaches us so much.

**All: Yet we have so much to learn to prepare us for mission in this world.**

One: Christ has risen! Even though we thought love and hope had died!

**All: God is here with us right now, lifting and healing our lives.**

Choir: singing verse 1 of "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia"

One: Now let us rejoice and boldly proclaim our love for God.

**All: Hallelujah!**

**Congregation and Choir: singing verse 5 of "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia"**

OPENING PRAYER

CRE Andrea Paschal

\*HYMN # 263

*All Hail the Power*

Verses 1, 3, & 4

**All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all! Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all! To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall! We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all! We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Janna Simon

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We have to confess, O Lord, that we are people who want to have everything proven for us. Forgive us for our doubts. Help us remember that everything Jesus taught us was to prepare us to help build God's realm here on earth. We are called to be people of faith, not of absolute proof. Let us look with eyes of faith as Jesus ascends to our God. AMEN.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Although you have not stood on the mountaintop to see his ascension to God, Rejoice, and believe in him who came that you may have abundant life. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CRE Andrea Paschal

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 # 260

*Alleluia Sing to Jesus*

**Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?**

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

### **Sunday, May 21**

Counters: Frank Sheppard, Ron Kesterson  
Usher: Ron Kesterson  
Greeter: Sue Kesterson  
Acolyte: Kaelin Pilkington  
Children's Message: Andrea Paschal  
Children's Corner: Karan Bundrick

### **Next Sunday, May 28**

Counters: Elizabeth and Jim Taylor  
Usher: Guy San Fratello  
Greeters: Robert and Kitsie Miller  
Acolyte: Eli Bundrick  
Children's Message: Sue Kesterson  
Children's Corner: Kathy Keane

### **STAFF**

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Jana Light Creighton

[jana@sopc.net](mailto:jana@sopc.net)

**Office Administrator:** Mrs. Denise Wolfe

[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\*

**Oncoming/Returning Elders:** Banks Robinson, Liz Harris, Kathy Keane, John Carter

**Trustees:** Jim Wilhide, Sue Kesterson, Frank Sheppard, **On coming Trustee:** Carol Griffith

**Treasurer:** Hal Bowman

**Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):**

Mary Johnson

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

**This week at SOPC:**

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

9:45 am - Adult SS Classes  
9:45 am - Children/Youth SS Classes  
11:00 am - Worship  
12:00 pm - Ice Cream Social  
2:00 pm - Elder Training - Fellowship Hall  
3:30 - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution  
5:30 pm Youth - McGregor

**Monday, May 22, 2023**

1:00 pm - Care Givers Group  
6:00 pm - Scouts - FH  
7:00 pm - NANA

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023**

9:30 am - Staff meeting  
7:00 pm - NANA

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion  
7:00 pm - NANA

**Thursday, May 25, 2023**

6:30 - Choir Practice

**Friday, May 26, 2023**

6:45 am - Lanterns

**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

Offering baskets



BY MAIL



ONLINE

Sopc.net



BY TEXT

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. Thank you Patty Mullins. If you would like to place fresh flowers in the sanctuary please call the church office for details.

**Music Notes:** The choir's anthem is a setting of the opening words of John's gospel. It is written in a reflective style based on repetition that serves as a musical meditation on this great text.

**Graduates** will be honored on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, during worship.



**May**  
Word of the Month  
**Pentecost**

**In our continued prayers...**

John Anderson Al Charles

Joe Gause Ira Leon

Jim Mullins Kirk Wirth

Tara and John Whitfield

Our Ukraine Family

Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (missionaries)

Carmen-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, May 21, please bring a dish today from 3:30 - 5:00 pm to serve our neighbors in Christ. We need you!!!

**Youth** meets tonight, May 21 at 5:30 pm at McGregor for our final youth gathering and celebration! Bring your water soakers, appropriate clothes to cover your bodies and towels. Hotdogs, hamburgers, and ice cream will be served. Park at the labyrinth side and come ready to have fun!

**ReShape** - The ReShape Adapting Group has called a special meeting next Wednesday to hear a report by team member Ben Smith. Ben has concluded a three week "benchmarking" exercise of a church that employs some unique methods of Worship. Additional benchmarking studies are being scheduled so that we are aware of best practices.

**VBS** will be Monday, June 19 through Thursday, June 22. Use the QR Code or register online @ <https://forms.gle/NDw3atws682gzLP59>. Questions, contact either Mary Dempster or Marion Wishart.

**All volunteers** at SOPC, we appreciate YOU!!! To show how much we appreciate you, you are invited to an Ice Cream Sundae Social after worship (12 pm) today in the Fellowship Hall! Everyone is invited to attend.

**Meet and Greet!!** Today during worship and fellowship, we will meet and greet with Certified Ruling Elder, Andrea Paschal, see insert, who will be serving as head of staff during Jana's overseas vacation from June 12 to July 4!

**Heidelberg Catechism:** The last few weeks we have been using the Heidelberg catechism for our Affirmation of Faith. Compiled in 1562, the catechism addresses a debate between the Lutheran Church and the Reformed Faith of 'Is Christ's body and blood really in the elements' at the Communion table. Through these teachings, it is affirmed that 'we come to share in Christ's body and blood through the working of the Holy Spirit'. As a catechism, Heidelberg is meant to be a teaching tool of what we believe and why we believe it.

**Blessing Box:** If you would like to help with the Blessing Box for the community, we are in need of ramen noodles, granola bars, and pop top items, i.e. soup, pasta. Thank you for helping the SOPC community area.

**Lifeline Screening** will be at SOPC on Friday, June 2, 2023, to do health screenings for anyone in the community, who are 50+. Register on the website, [ilsa.social/hc](https://ilsa.social/hc), or call 1 800 640 6307.

**Elder Installation:** join us after worship in the pavilion for lunch and fellowship on July 16, to celebrate our new elders and trustee.