

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 6:1-7, John 15:12-17, Matthew 10:40-42

MESSAGE

A Vibrant Church: LOVES

*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

“Take Time to Be Holy”
Chancel Choir

Jay Rouse

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Bruce Hurley

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 # 826

“Lift High the Cross”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

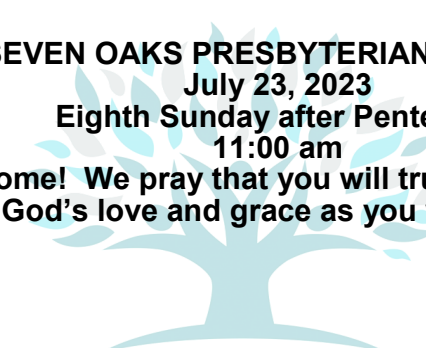
POSTLUDE

“Prelude and Fuge in C Major”

J.S. Bach



SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
July 23, 2023
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
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

APPRECIATION AND HONORING OF DR. LLOYD PILKINGTON

Elder Sharon Watkins

PRELUDE

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Matt Limbaugh

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Rev. Bruce Hurley

One: Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,

All: Your faithfulness to the skies.

One: Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,

All: Your justice like the great deep.

One: You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.

All: How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!

One: People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

All: We celebrate your incredible love today. Let us worship the Lord.

Submitted by Austin D. Hill

*HYMN # 451

“Open My Eyes”

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Bruce Hurley

Faith, the author of Hebrews tells us, “is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (11:1). It is by faith that we are able to confess our sins before God and each other. It is by faith that we trust in God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Let us pray.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, help us to be a people known for the ways in which we live out our faith by loving and serving all people, even those who, in the world's eyes, have little to offer us. By treating them with dignity and respect, we demonstrate that a different kind of kingdom is at work in this world. It is not a kingdom of tit-for-tat, where relationships are seen as commodities for exploitation and advancement, but rather it is a world where we see the value in each human life, no matter their circumstances. Help us to be that kind of community, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elder Mark Johnson

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 # 313

“Lord, Make Me More Holy”

Verse 3



Sermon Series: A Vibrant Church: Some churches shrivel and die. Other churches thrive and flourish. What about our church? Will it fade, or will it flourish for generations to come? And more specifically, what can you do to help your church become or remain a vibrant, growing community of faith? Join us in worship as we explore what it means to be a vibrant church!

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“Lift High the Cross” Words: Michael Robert Newbolt and Music: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, ©1974 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738441. All rights reserved.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sunday, July 23

Counters: Liz Harris, Sharon Watkins
Usher: Guy San Fratello
Greeters: Brenda Turner, Dallene Smith
Acolyte: Mia Freeman
Children's Message: Mark Johnson
Children's Corner: Melanie Mixon

Sunday, July 30

Counters: Fred Holbrook, Sharon Watkins
Usher: Mary Johnson
Greeters: Robert and Kitsie Miller
Acolyte: Abby Dempster
Children's Message: Janna Simon
Children's Corner: Mary Johnson

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jana Light Creighton

jana@sopc.net

Office Administrator: Mrs. Denise Wolfe

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 2024:

Hal Bowman - Administration

John Carter - Buildings & Grounds*

Class of 2025:

Fred Holbrook - Administration*

Ed Keelen - Reshape Adapting Group*

Sharon Staton - Missions*

Sharon Watkins - Worship*

Class of 2026

Liz Harris - Fellowship

Kathy Keane - Christian Ed*

Banks Robinson - Fellowship*

Trustees: Sue Kesterson, Frank Sheppard, Carol Griffith

Treasurer: Hal Bowman

Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):

Mary Johnson

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

This week at SOPC:

Sunday, July 23, 2023

9:45 am - Adult SS Classes

11:00 am - Worship

1:30 - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Sanctuary, Nursery, & Room of Acts

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

Monday, July 24, 2023

1:00 pm - Care Givers Group - Fellowship Classroom

7:30 pm - NANA

8:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Crossroads Classroom

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

10:00 am - Staff Meeting

6:30 pm - Missions Ministry

7:30pm - NANA

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion

7:30 pm - NANA

Friday, July 28, 2023

6:45 am - Lanterns Men's Prayer Study

7:30 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l -

Sanctuary, Nursery, & Room of Acts

Saturday, July 29

10:00 am - Mary Kay - 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!

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4 WAYS TO GIVE!



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Sopc.net



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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 is available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery: A nursery is available in Building A during 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*)

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 place fresh flowers in the sanctuary please call the church office for details.

Guests are invited to stop by the guest table in the narthex/lobby. Please take a goody bag with you as a reminder of God's love. Also, please leave your information for us on the yellow card. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Music Notes: The choir's anthem comes from a hymn by William Dunn Longstaff. He gave his life to Christ after hearing a sermon citing I Peter 1:16, "Be ye holy, for I am holy."



**July
Word of the
Month:
Church**

In our continued prayers...

John Anderson Family of Richard Brinkley

Al Charles Joe Gause

Myrna Gause Sue Kesterson

Ira Leon Jim Mullins

Janice Reiser Haley Thompson

Kirk Wirth

Tara and John Whitfield

Our Ukraine Family

Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)

Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz

Long Term Care - Dave, Rich & Sam Allen, Edith Blanchett, Kathie Cashion, Bobby Sellars (Father of John Paul Sellars), Patricia Williams

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our deepest sympathies to Richard Brinkley's family and friends. Richard was a faithful Elder at SOPC and we grieve with his family in the loss of our friend in Christ. We will provide more information as we receive it in the next coming days.

Love Revolution: SOPC hosts today, **July 23**, please bring a dish today from **3:30 - 5:00 pm** to serve our neighbors in Christ. Please join us in this much needed mission.

Please join us on August 27 as we honor and celebrate Dr. Lloyd Pilkington. Lloyd will be retiring from Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church after 23 years of dedicated service to the Lord and to SOPC. As disappointing as it is for us to lose such wonderful talent, we want to honor and celebrate his ministry and how many lives he has touched. Please help us honor him at a reception right after our Worship Service on **August 27**.

ReShape - Last month, we added an additional five Action Items to our completion list, for a total of 36 since our inception. You can see them posted on the ReShape bulletin board in the Narthex and the entrance to Fellowship Hall. Also posted are eight upcoming actions that have been assigned to ministries and their due date. If you have an interest in being involved in one of them, please see the Ministry Chair for that item

Family Promise of the Midlands partners with congregations and others to provide shelter and solutions for families with children facing a housing crisis. Our host week for Family Promise guests begins today **July 23**. Donations will be used to purchase gift cards for the families to buy food, supplies, and gas. You can give via the offering, church office, and online (onrealm.org). Please mark donations for "Family Promise."

Rev. Bruce Hurley will be helping with various Sunday worship services. Bruce graduated from San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1981, was ordained in the Presbytery of Denver 1981, served churches in Lakin, KS, Hutchinson, KS, Artesia, NM, Wichita, KS and Monticello, IN. He retired in 2008.

Back to School Celebration Sunday, August 6, 2023 -

Please join us for Blessing of the Backpacks and to pray over our students as they start a new school year! There will be cookies and conversation in the Narthex after Worship. Hope to see you there on this important Sunday for our kids!

Cuba - Ever wanted to go to Cuba? Want to learn the culture, meet our sister church, Nueva Paz (New Peace)? Want to be blessed by the generosity that exists in this beautiful place? There is a trip being planned for **December 8-December 15!** We need to begin Cuban passport work within the month. If you are remotely interested in attending this mission, please plan to attend a meeting after worship this **Sunday, July 23**, in the Fellowship Hall. We will share some pictures, specifics and answer questions! If you have questions and cannot make the meeting, please contact **Ben Smith, Robert Miller** or **Pastor Jana**, as soon as possible!

Please see The Leaflet for more exciting events and news coming up!