

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 6:1-7, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

MESSAGE The Vibrant Church: Embraces the Spirit

*HYMN # 298 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

*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 "Sing Hallelujah" Linda Stassen

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 # 295 "Go to the World"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Jana Light Creighton

POSTLUDE "Send the Light" Humphrey Turner



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SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 30, 2023

Ninth 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

Pat Robosky

PRELUDE

Fanfare and Trumpet "Nettleton"

– arr. Joel Raney

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Janna Simon

One: O LORD, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.

One: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place...

All: Who are we that you are mindful of us?

One: Creator of Heaven and Earth, thank You for creating us and loving us in a way that knows no limits.

All: We acknowledge You as Lord and praise You for all of creation.

One: Holy Spirit, we welcome You in this time of praise and worship.

All: Let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN # 290

"O Day of Joy and Wonder"

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Janna Simon

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

Gracious and loving God, You are always present with us. Your faithfulness knows no limits. You call us to worship You in spirit and in truth. Yet far too often, our worship is perfunctory. Our minds focus on other matters. Forgive us. Remind us of the importance of praising Your Name, hearing Your Word and enjoying Your presence. Restore to us the joy of true worship. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elder Janna Simon

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 Us More Holy"

Verse 4

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

Sunday August 6

Counters: Kathy Keane, Julie Bussells
 Usher: Shelagh Wirth
 Greeters: Jeanne LeBoeuf
 Acolyte: None - Communion Sunday
 Children's Message: Janice Holbrook
 Children's Corner: Julie Bussells

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 30

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 31

6:30 pm - Worship Ministry Meeting

7:30 pm - NANA

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

Crossroads Classroom

Tuesday, August 1

10:00 am - Staff Meeting

5:30 pm - ReShape Adapting Ministry

7:30 pm - NANA

Wednesday, August 2

12 pm - Presbyterian Communities Lunch
 (Pastor Jana)

5:30 pm - Children's Ministry Team

5:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion

7:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, August 3

5 pm - Christian Ed Ministry Meeting

Friday, August 4

6:45 am - Lanterns Men's Prayer Study

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

Sanctuary, Nursery, & Room of Acts

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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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 postlude comes from the hymn by the same name. The hymn's refrain is, "Send the light, the blessed gospel light. Let it shine from shore to shore! Send the light the blessed gospel light; Let it shine forevermore."



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

Love Revolution: SOPC hosts today, **July 30**, 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 - As you saw in our last newsletter, we are planning for our community events much earlier than in the past. When we have a good sense of all the activities that we will do, it will be possible to be more specific with our neighbors in our community to join in the festivities. Our Fall Festival is a good example. We always have a wonderful time, and usually have reached out to Seven Oaks Elementary School to join us. This year we would like our reach to extend even further. If you know of neighbors that would like to participate in our activities, please invite them!!

Family Promise of the Midlands partners with congregations and others to provide shelter and solutions for families with children facing a housing crisis. 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."

Back to School Celebration Sunday, August 6 - 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 and 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 interested please contact **Ben Smith, Robert Miller** or **Pastor Jana** as soon as possible!

The August 21st Ladies Luncheon will be held at **12 pm, Poogan's Southern Kitchen**, 4605 Forest Dr, Columbia, SC. If attending, please notify **Margaret Royals** 803-957-0430 or 803-608-1434 email mroyals052@gmail.com

Before you know it, fall will be here! We will be having a Fall Festival on **October 21 @ 1 pm**. Please keep checking the bulletin and The Leaflet for more information.

Youth Sunday School begins on Rally Day, September 10th, 10-10:30 am in the Youth SS room (near Fellowship Hall)! Our Sunday School curriculum is Faith Questions, led by a rotating staff of teachers to get a wide variety of perspectives on life in faith. You don't want to miss the fellowship, snacks, conversation and fun!

Please be on the lookout for more information on our Men's Prayer Event on **Saturday, September 30, 6:30-9:30 pm**.

Be looking for your Shepherd Elders contact information (postcard) will be coming out soon!