

THE CHRISMON TREE

Scripture Genesis 2:8-9  
Background "Little Town of Bethlehem"  
\*HYMN # 121

Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
Bruce Hurley  
Verses 1, 4

THE ADVENT WREATH

Scripture John 1:5, 9-12  
Background "The Candle of Hope"  
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Bruce Hurley  
Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
Kathy Morganelli & Sandra Johnson

\*HYMN # 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verse 1  
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Rev. Jana Light Creighton/Bruce Hurley

\*You are invited to the Lord's table to receive your elements.

**Please see Communion Directions in the Welcome section of the bulletin.**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts!

**All: We lift them up to the Lord!**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT LIGHTS

Scripture Isaiah 60:1-3 Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
Background "Joy to the World" All verses  
\*HYMN # 134

\*ADVENT CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: Go out to tell the world that God is alive and in charge

**All: No evil can have the last word, for God is greater than any wrong.**

One: God calls us to creative living and prepares us for our time of service.

**All: Praise be to God who equips us for the life and ministry we share. Praise God for truth, righteousness and peace that has no end. Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Prichard/Larson



**DON'T MISS OUR FIRST SUNDAY LUNCHEON AFTER SERVICE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL TODAY!**

**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:  
<https://onrealm.org/SevenOaksPresby/-/give/now>

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SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

530 St. Andrews Road  
Columbia, SC 29210  
803-772-1761; Email: [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net)

December 3, 2023  
Hanging of the Greens  
First Sunday in Advent  
11:00 am

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

PRELUDE "Of the Father's Love Begotten" arr. Carter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Jana Light Creighton

THE MEANING OF THE HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 2:2-3 alt

One: In the days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say:

**All: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths."**

*Child: With what shall we come to God's house?*

One: Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.

**All: Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things and our holy play.**

Leader: In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.

THE SANCTUARY GREENS Chancel & Balcony Greens  
Scripture Genesis 1:11-13 Bruce Hurley  
Background Rev. Jana Light Creighton

SPECIAL MUSIC "O Come, Emmanuel" Lani Smith  
Choir Anthem

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Janice Holbrook

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

SANCTUARY PARAMENTS & BANNERS  
Scripture Isaiah 9:6-7 Rev. Jana Light Creighton  
Background Bruce Hurley  
\*HYMN # 97 "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" Verses 1, 3

THE CRECHE  
Scripture Micah 5:2-5 Elder Mark Wishart  
Background "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Verses 1, 4  
\*HYMN # 123



\*Please stand in body or in spirit.





**Sunday, December 3**

Counters: Kathy Keane, Ron Kesterson  
 Usher: Mary Johnson  
 Greeters: Robert and Kitsie Miller  
 Acolyte: No Acolyte - Usher  
 Children's Message: Janice Holbrook  
 Children's Corner: Sue Kesterson  
 Communion Setup: Mary Johnson  
 Communion Serving: Kathy Keane, Hal Bowman

**Sunday, December 10**

Counters: Judy Barnes & Guy San Fratello  
 Usher: Ron Kesterson  
 Greeters: Janice Reiser, Jeanne LeBoeuf  
 Acolyte: Abby Dempster  
 Children's Message: Judy Barnes  
 Children's Corner: Marion Wishart

**THE STAFF OF SOPC**

**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. Stephen Simmons  
[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 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 - 4:00 pm**

**THIS WEEK AT SOPC**

**Sunday, December 3**

9:00 am - 10:45 am - The Well Church  
 9:45 am - Sunday School for All Ages  
 11:00 am - Worship  
 12:00 pm - First Sunday Fellowship Luncheon  
 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l - Sanctuary & Nursery  
 3:30 pm - 5:00pm - Love Revolution - Pavilion  
 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm - Confirmation  
 5:30 pm - 7 pm - Youth Christmas Dinner @ The Bussells'

**Monday, December 4**

8:00 am - 1:00pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School  
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Admin Ministry Meeting  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Troop 91 - Scout Hut  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA  
 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm - Mision Cristiana Elm Int'l - Building B

**Tuesday, December 5**

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School  
 10:00 am - 11:00 am - Staff Meeting  
 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Bonfire  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

**Wednesday, December 6**

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School  
 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - Presbyterian Community Luncheon  
 5:45 pm - 7:45 pm - NAMI - Pavilion  
 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm - Choir  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

**Thursday, December 7**

8:00am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School  
 2:00 pm - Christian Ed Ministry Meeting  
 6:00 pm - More Justice  
 6:30 pm - Fellowship Sunday School Class Christmas Party @ Carol Griffiths  
 7:00 pm - Liberty Church - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, December 8**

6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group  
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School  
 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Childcare Drop-off - Pavilion & Building A  
 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l - Sanctuary & Nursery

**Saturday, December 9**

10:00 am - 1:30 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l - Sanctuary

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 text rates may apply



**WELCOME**

**Nursery:** A nursery is available in Building A during worship and Sunday School 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 4 years old- 5th grade. (Sanctuary near the restrooms)

**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.

**Communion Directions:** As you approach the Communion Elements at the front of the church, there will be two lines offering separate bread and juice. In between them will be the pre-packaged cups, which are gluten-free. Please take one of your choosing. If you want to use hand sanitizer, please help yourself from the containers on the front pews. **An important note:** Our new pre-packaged cups have the wafer and the juice at opposite ends. Please be sure to open the wafer end first.

**Masked and Socially Distanced Seating:** To help decrease the spread of Covid at Seven Oaks, please consider wearing a mask during worship. Also, there are two pews marked as reserved in the sanctuary to the far right front close to the side exit. Masks are available in the narthex/lobby.



**In our continued prayers...**

Al Charles	Barbara Fowler
Joe Gause	Myrna Gause
Janet Jordan	Ira Leon
Annie Moffatt	Donna Moore
Jim Mullins	Barry Shatzer
Nancy Taber	Tara and John Whitfield
Kirk Wirth	
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), and Patricia Williams.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please join us for **Love Revolution** in the Pavilion today from **3:30 pm to 5:00 pm**. Ashland is hosting today. Please help us with this mission!

**YOUTH CHRISTMAS DINNER tonight @ Julie and Ernie Bussells'**. Confirmation will meet at **4:30 pm** and then we will all gather for dinner at **5:30 pm**.



**CHRISTMAS GIVING:** Come by the Christmas table in the narthex **today** to support our Christmas gift giving to the men at Providence Home. Your participation and thoughts are appreciated. **This is our 8th year supporting this important mission.**

**We're thrilled to share that during today's worship,** we'll be introducing the use of projectors for the first time! Thank you for joining us in this exciting step forward!

**Fellowship Sunday School Class Christmas Party** will be at **Carol Griffith's home at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 7.**

**MORE JUSTICE** will be held **December 7th at Shandon Presbyterian.**

**Rachel Circle** will be having their Christmas Luncheon at **Miyo's on Tuesday, December 12, at 12:30 pm.**

**Ladies luncheon to be held December 18th, noon at Lulu's Latin Cuisine,** at (the Shoppes at Flight Deck), 109 Old Chapin Rd., Suite K. If attending, please notify **Margaret Royals, mroyals052@gmail.com, or 803-608-1434, or 803-957-0430**

**The Fellowship Sunday School Class** is studying "Jesus, The God Who Knows Your Name." Join us in the **Fellowship Classroom,** with fellowship starting at **9:30 am** and the lesson beginning at **10:00 am.** Our class will not meet on **December 24th.**

**Don't miss our First Sunday Fellowship Luncheon immediately after Worship!** The meal will consist of Roasted Pork Loin, Black eyed Peas, Rice, Collards, Slaw, Cornbread, and Banana Pudding.

**Important information: The Prime Rib Dinner will be on Sunday, December 17th at 6:00 PM.** Reservations are DUE by **Dec. 10th.** The cost is **\$15 per person** and **\$10 for those 12 or under.** Pick up your form in the Narthex. Please fill out put it in the offering basket. **Please let us know if you need a ride for this event.**

**Please welcome our new facility renters! The Well Church** is here on the **1st and 3rd Sundays in Building B Upstairs** and **Liberty Church** is returning and will be here every **Sunday** in the **Fellowship Hall** starting **December 7** from **11 am till 3 pm** and every **Thursday** from **7 pm until 10 pm.** We are very blessed to be sharing our facility with other churches of faith!

**Please let us know if you will need a ride for our Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 pm.** Thank you!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**December 7** - MORE Justice - Shandon Presbyterian  
**December 7 - 6:30 pm** Fellowship SS Class Christmas Party @ Carol Griffith's  
**December 10 - 5:30 pm** - Youth - Mission Project  
**December 12** - Rachel Circle Christmas Luncheon @ Miyo's  
**December 13** - NANA Annual Dunner  
**December 17 - 6:00 pm** - Prime Rib Dinner @ Fellowship Hall