

READING *Luke 2:1-7* Pastor Jim Rowell
 MUSICAL SELECTIONS (See insert.) *Come, Lord of Love* arr. Anna Laura Page & Jean Shafferman
Away In a Manger arr. Bryan Sharpe
 Chancel Choir

CAROL #123 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear:* verses 1 & 5
 READING *Luke 1:76-79* Pastor Jim Rowell
 MUSICAL SELECTIONS (See insert.) *The Son of Mary* Andrew Parr
Brightest and Best arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney
 Chancel Choir

CAROL #118 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks:* verses 1, 2, & 3
 OFFERING Elder Bruce C Hurley
 Tithes & offerings may be placed in the boxes with crosses at the main exit of the Narthex or given via www.sopc.net.

One: May these gifts, given in gratitude and love...
 All: **Change us and the world to serve your purpose.**

MUSICAL SELECTION *Angels From the Realms of Glory* Lyndell Leatherman
 Piano & Organ Duet

READING *Isaiah 9:2, 6-7* Pastor Jim Rowell

MUSICAL SELECTION *Joy To the World* arr. Larry Sue
 Handbell Ensemble

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Jim Rowell

...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.

CAROL #140 *Once in Royal David's City:* verses 1 & 2

READING *Luke 2:8-14* Pastor Jim Rowell

MUSICAL SELECTIONS (See insert.) *One Small Child* Meece / arr. Lloyd Larson
Pat-a-Pan Noel arr. Ruth Elaine Schram
 Chancel Choir

*CAROL #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing:* verses 1, 2, & 3

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard On High* Christopher Uehlein

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Welcome!

**SEVEN OAKS
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

530 St. Andrews Road, Columbia, SC 29210;
 803-772-1761; www.sopc.net;
 email: sopc@sopc.net

December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent;
Music of the Season

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Bruce C Hurley

PRELUDE *The First Noel* Rex Koury

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Malachi 3:1-4* The Dempster Family

PRAYER
 CONGREGATION SINGS #137 *He Came Down*

**He came down that we may have peace;
 He came down that we may have peace;
 He came down that we may have peace;
 Hallelujah forevermore.**

OPENING PRAYER Elder Bruce C Hurley

*CAROL #106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion:* verses 1 & 2

*CALL TO CONFESSION Elder Bruce C Hurley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Holy God, Most High, we confess that we live our lives without much sense of expecting you to come. We confess that we have made our comfort more important than our preparedness, and our convenience more important than our purity. We prepare our presents for others without preparing our hearts for Christ. Forgive our sin. Show us your love. Reveal to us your purpose so that we may be motivated to prepare our hearts and purify our lives so that when you come, you will claim us as your children. Come, Lord Jesus, come! Amen.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON
 One: There is no darkness and no sin that is greater than your ability to redeem and forgive, O Lord!
 All: **Because of your love, and through Christ's sacrifice, we are forgiven. Thank you, O Lord!**

*GLORIA PATRI
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

READING *Isaiah 40:3-5; 9-11* Pastor Jim Rowell

MUSICAL SELECTIONS (See insert.) *Will You Be Ready?* Mark Patterson
We Are Waiting Priscilla Landis
 Chancel Choir

TIME WITH CHILDREN Pastor Jim Rowell
 We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to sit in the Children's Corner after the Children's Message. A designated adult will be sitting with the children, and age appropriate activities will be provided that go along with worship. Parents will pick up their children after the service.

CAROL #122 *Silent Night:* verses 1 & 4

*Please stand in body or in spirit. **When items are in bold, you are invited to join aloud.**



Welcome to our *Music of the Season* Sunday!
 We pray that God blesses you here today.
 Enjoy our musicians' Christmas gift to you!

Worship Assistants

Sunday, December 8th:

Liturgist: Bruce Hurley
 Counters: Kathy Keane, Jeanne LeBoeuf
 Usher: Ron Kesterson
 Greeters: Jeanne LeBoeuf, Sue Kesterson
 Acolyte: Abby Dempster
 Children's Message: Pastor Jim Rowell
 Children's Corner: Kathy Keane
 Prayer Ad Volunteer: Julie Bussells
 Advent Wreath: The Dempster Family

Sunday, December 15th:

Liturgist: Bruce Hurley
 Counters: Ron Kesterson, Kitsie Miller
 Usher: John Carter
 Greeters: Carol Griffith, Brenda Turner
 Acolyte: Ellis Robinson
 Children's Message: Annie Moffatt
 Children's Corner: Marion Watson-Wishart
 Prayer Ad Volunteer: Ed Keelen
 Advent Wreath: Andy & Pat Robosky

Church Staff

Interim Minister: Pastor Jim Rowell; jim@sopc.net
Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Lloyd Pilkington
Office Administrator: Mrs. Annah G. Hiers; sopc@sopc.net
Accompanist: Elder Sharon Watkins
Building Superintendent: Mr. Karl Thompson
Volunteer Financial Administrator: Elder Sharon Staton; sharon@sopc.net
Nursery Coordinator: Mrs. Amy Schwartz



OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 10 am - 2 pm



Sunday, December 8: 2nd Sunday in Advent; Music of the Season

9:00 am - 11:00 am - The Well Church
 9:30 am - Choir
 9:45 am - Sunday School for All Ages
 11:00 am - Worship
 11:00 am - 3:00 pm - Liberty Church
 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.
 12:15 pm - Good News Ministry Meeting
 12:15 pm - Youth to Lunch and Making Treats for PCSC Residents
 3:00 pm - Clothing Closet Opens
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

Monday, December 9:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Troop 91
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Tuesday, December 10:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 8:45 am - 3:30 pm - DHEC
 11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Staff Meeting
 12:30 pm - Rachel Circle Christmas Luncheon at Miyos
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Yoga
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Wednesday, December 11:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm - NANA Christmas Party
 5:45 pm - 7:45 pm - NAMI

Thursday, December 12:

- Hannah Circle Cookie Party for PCSC Residents & Dinner at Miyos
 - Poinsettias Delivered to Church
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling
 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm - Delta Kappa Gamma
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Liberty Church

Friday, December 13: OFFICE CLOSED

6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 6:30 pm - Adult Sunday School Classes' Christmas Dinner at Carol Griffith's Home
 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Saturday, December 14:

10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 15: Prime Rib Fellowship Supper
December 20: Church Christmas Party at Chestnut Hill Plantation Clubhouse
December 22: Christmas Joy Offering
December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; Music Begins at 5 pm; Worship Begins at 5:30 pm.
January 19: Churchwide Fellowship "Breakfast for Supper"
February 7: Lifeline Screenings at SOPC

A nursery is available in Building A during Sunday school & worship for children ages 0 - 4. If you have any questions, please see an usher for help.



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



If you would like to place **fresh flowers** in the sanctuary for worship on a specific Sunday, please call the church office at 803-772-1761.



SESSION (*indicates chair)

Clerk of Session: Polly Robinson

Class of 2025:

John Carter - Buildings & Grounds*
 Ed Keelen - Good News*
 Sharon Staton - Missions*
 Sharon Watkins - Worship*

Class of 2026:

Liz Harris - Fellowship
 Kathy Keane - Christian Ed*
 Banks Robinson - Fellowship*

Class of 2027:

Bruce Hurley - Disciple Care*
 Jeanne LeBoeuf - Missions
 Kitsie Miller - Fellowship
 Elizabeth Taylor - Administration*

Trustees:

Frank Sheppard - Administration*, Carol Griffith - Fellowship

Treasurer: Kathy Locklair

Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):

Julie Bussells*

In Our Prayers:

Polly Robinson	Our Christian Friends in Ukraine
Ed Keelen	Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, Cuba
Donna Moore	Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)
Aletha Robinson	Those Less Fortunate
Sandra Johnson's Parents	Providence Home
John Carter	Those reaching out through our Facebook Prayer Ad
Alene Rogers	Long Term Care: Dave, Rich & Sam Allen
Janet Jordan & Daughter & Sister	Edith Blanchett
Jane Blackwell	Kathie Cashion
Al & Margaret Charles	Barbara Fowler
Fran & Jeffrey Brannon	Bobby Sellars (Father of John Paul Sellars)
Ira Leon	Patricia Williams
Barry Shatzer	
Kynslee Davis	
SOPC's Homebound Members	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please join us for **Love Revolution** in the Pavilion today from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm and help serve food to our neighbors in need! Our **Clothing Closet** will open 30 minutes prior.

Providence Home Christmas Giving: SOPC will provide Christmas gifts for the men of Providence Home again this holiday season. Let's bring a little joy to these men by letting them know we care. Please stop by the Providence Home table in the narthex today to see how you can help. Thank you.

December 20th is our **SOPC Christmas Party** at Chestnut Hill Plantation Clubhouse at 6 pm. RSVP to Liz Harris by December 15th. There will be an optional White Elephant gift exchange with a \$10 limit, (no gift cards.)

We hope that you are making plans to join us for the churchwide **Prime Rib Fellowship Supper on December 15th** at 6 pm! **Tickets are \$15** per person aged 13 and up. Donations will be accepted for children 12 and under. **Reservations and payment are requested by December 12th.** Mary Johnson will be in the narthex today to take reservations and payment.

Our Youth Group will go to lunch together after worship today and then make treats for SOPC's Presbyterian Communities residents!

Rachel Circle's Christmas Luncheon will be THIS Tuesday, December 10th, at Miyo's on Columbiana Drive at 12:30 pm.

Hannah Circle will be hosting a Christmas Cookie Party for our SOPC family residents at Presbyterian Communities THIS THURSDAY, December 12th. Afterward, the ladies of the circle will share a meal at Miyos.

Each week of Advent, our Worship / Music Ministry will share a video story and musical meditation about the history and meaning of a specific Christmas carol. Links to the videos will be sent out via email from the church office.

Both adult Sunday School classes will have a joint Christmas Dinner at the home of Carol Griffith THIS Friday, December 13th at 6:30 pm.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service will be Tuesday, December 24th, with music beginning at 5 pm and the worship service beginning at 5:30 pm. Invite a friend or neighbor!

It's time to nominate a beloved member of **SOPW for this year's Honorary Life Award!** This woman should be a dedicated Christian, a loyal member of SOPC and SOPW, a member of the PC(USA,) and someone who works with the church to make the world a better place. Please send your nominations to Shelagh Wirth: 803-629-7851; swirth1949@gmail.com; 110 Robin Forest Dr., West Columbia, SC 29170.

What makes SOPC special?! If you are willing to share a few sentences about what makes SOPC special to you, personally, for our church website, please contact Mark Dillard. Personal stories make all the difference when inviting new friends to journey with us!

If you would like to **volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth** occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!

If you happen to be going by the store & would like to contribute any **items to the shelves we use for the Blessing Box and to give to those who come to our door**, please bring them by the church office or leave them in the large baskets on either side of the main doors to the sanctuary. There is a list of suggested items available from the church office. Did you know that 10-20 individuals come to our door looking for help each week?

Thank you to all who continue to bring in used crayons for our drive for www.thecrayoneinitiative.org! So far, we have collected **100 POUNDS** of used crayons that will be sorted, melted down, and made into