

MESSAGE

Home by Another Road

Pastor Jim Rowell

RESPONDING IN FAITH

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.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Jim Rowell

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Bruce C Hurley

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 our thanks and praise!**

One: Let us pray to the Lord.

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor Jim Rowell / Elder Bruce C Hurley

*ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

COMMUNION HYMN #525:

Let Us Break Bread Together

verse 1 (Sing prior to eating the bread.)

verse 2 (Sing prior to drinking the cup.)

verse 3 (Sing after drinking the cup.)

PRAYER

Pastor Jim Rowell

*CLOSING HYMN #150

As With Gladness

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

Sharon Elery Rogers

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



STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

All Heaven Rejoices

Christina Becket

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

One: Arise; shout out God's praise!

All: **The One we seek has come to us.**

One: Arise; shine with God's light.

All: **The One who brings peace is among us.**

One: Arise; give thanks; let your hearts rejoice!

All: **The One who brings God's love is alive with us.**

Elder Bruce C Hurley

*OPENING HYMN #152

What Star Is This

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you send out your love as a beacon, that all may find their way to you. All too often we see only our own shadows, and take pleasure in the stature we assume, sure that we are the keepers of the light, bringing their gifts in ways that are different from yours. Forgive our downturned eyes, O God. Lift our heads to see Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Take away our fear and fill us with wonder, that we too may worship him with all who come. Amen.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, a new life has begun.

All: **Know that we are forgiven and are at peace.**

*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.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elder Bruce C Hurley

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.

MUSICAL SELECTION

Mary Rocking, Gently Rocking
Chancel Choir

arr. Hal Hopson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim Rowell

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:10-23

One: The Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**



Worship Assistants

Sunday, January 5th:

Liturgist: Bruce Hurley
 Counters: Sharon Watkins, Jim Wilhide
 Usher: Mary Johnson
 Greeters: Janice Reiser, Mary Dempster
 Acolyte: N/A Communion
 Children's Message: Bruce Hurley
 Children's Corner: Sue Kesterson
 Communion Preparation: Mary Johnson
 Communion Servers: Pastor Jim Rowell, Bruce Hurley,
 Liz Harris, Elizabeth Taylor, Banks Robinson

Sunday, January 12th:

Liturgist: Bruce Hurley
 Counters: Julie Bussells, John Carter
 Usher: Ron Kesterson
 Greeters: Jim & Elizabeth Taylor
 Acolyte: TBA
 Children's Message: Bruce Hurley
 Children's Corner: Dallene Smith

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

Calendar:

Sunday, January 5: 2nd Sunday of Christmas; Communion; Observation of Epiphany

9:00 am - 11:00 am - The Well Church
 9:45 am - Sunday School for All Ages
 9:45 am - Choir Rehearsal
 11:00 am - Worship
 11:00 am - 3:00 pm - Liberty Church
 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

Monday, January 6: Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Cub Scouts
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Fellowship Ministry Meeting
 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, January 7:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 11:00 am - Staff Meeting
 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm - Christian Education Ministry Meeting
 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm - Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team Mtg.
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Missions Ministry Meeting
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristian Elim Int'l.

Wednesday, January 8:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 5:45 pm - 7:45 pm - NAMI
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, January 9:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Hannah Circle
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Liberty Church

Friday, January 10: Office Closed

6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gathering Nature School
 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 18: Family Promise Basketball Camp
January 19: Churchwide Fellowship Breakfast
January 26: Congregational Meeting w/ Annual Report
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.

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:

Nancy Taber	Dave Hiers, Annah's Father in Law
Melanie Mason & Family	SOPC's Homebound Members
Annie Moffatt & Jimmy Revell	Our Christian Friends in Ukraine
Myrna Gause	Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, Cuba
Donna Moore	Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)
Aletha Robinson	Those Less Fortunate
Sandra Johnson & Family	Long Term Care:
John Carter	Dave, Rich & Sam Allen
Alene Rogers	Edith Blanchett
Janet Jordan & Daughter & Sister	Kathie Cashion
Jane Blackwell	Barbara Fowler
Al & Margaret Charles	Bobby Sellars (Father of John Paul Sellars)
Fran & Jeffrey Brannon	Patricia Williams
Ira Leon	
Barry Shatzer	
Kynslee Davis	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please join us for **Love Revolution** in the Pavilion today from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm and help Ashland UMC serve food to our neighbors in need!

GET INVOLVED! JANUARY IS OUR **FAMILY PROMISE** HOST MONTH. Family Promise serves families experiencing homelessness. With partner churches Redeemer Lutheran and Ashland Methodist, SOPC will host a basketball camp for Family Promise/SOPC kids from 11 am - 1 pm on January 18 led by the fantastic White Knoll Middle School basketball team and coaches, including our own John Paul Sellars. We need volunteers to register campers and host. We also need cooks to provide one meal during January for each of our two sponsored families (2 adults, 2 children total). Meals are delivered between 10 am - 3 pm to the Family Promise Opportunity Center near Dutch Square for pickup by the families. SOPC also provides funds for groceries, gas, rent, and other monthly necessities and welcomes cash, check, and online donations. Please mark funds for "Family Promise." Contact Tish Lowe for information.

We have assigned **Prayer Buddies** for our children and youth! Thank you for this important service. If you volunteered to do this and haven't received a call, please let Julie Bussells know, 803-622-9509. There's always room for more prayer buddies!!

If you are available to **help our Worship Ministry take down our Christmas decorations**, please meet us on Wednesday, January 8th, at 10 am in the narthex / sanctuary. Many hands make light work! Thank you!!

Our Youth met Friday and assembled blessing bags for those less fortunate. Regular youth group gatherings will resume January 12th.

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 www.thecrayoneinitiative.org! So far, we have collected **100 POUNDS** of used crayons that will be sorted, melted down, and made into new, ergonomic, free crayons for pediatric hospital patients.