

SCRIPTURE *Psalm 78:52-54; Matthew 13:10-17*
One: The Word of the Lord!
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Pastor Jim Rowell

MESSAGE *Eyes to See, Ears to Hear*
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

*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.

*CLOSING HYMN #65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE *Postscript on a Hymn Tune*

Gilbert Martin



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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

February 16, 2025
6th Sunday After Epiphany

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Abide With Me

Eleanor Whitsett

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS: Adapted from Psalm 138:1

Elder Bruce C Hurley

One: We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole hearts;

All: **We sing your praises, O Lord. Let us worship God together!**

*OPENING HYMN #246

Christ Is Alive!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Adapted from Hymn #720

Holy God, day by day your sweet voice calls us, saying, "Christian, follow me," but we often follow the idols that say, "Christian, love me more." Forgive our tendency to focus on the world's golden store instead of the riches and mercy we receive from you. Forgive our tendency to distance ourselves from you during hours of ease and pleasure, forgetting that all good comes from you. Thank you for continuing to call for us, O Lord, despite our ability to be easily distracted and not hear your calling. Have mercy on us, according to your steadfast love. According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions, wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. Amen.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: As far as east is from west—that's how far God has removed our sin from us.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

*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

Annie Moffatt

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

Seek and You Will Find
Chancel Choir

Natalie Sleeth

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim Rowell

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



The prelude is based on the well-known hymn written by Henry Francis Lyte as a prayer for God's presence and grace in the face of life's changes and challenges. The choir's anthem is based on Jesus' words in Matthew 7:7. The closing hymn is based on a Welsh tune, and the lyrics draw heavily on images from Old Testament pilgrimages.

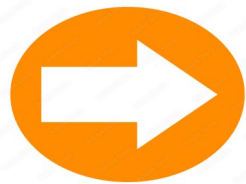
Worship Assistants

Sunday, February 16th:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Banks & Polly Robinson
 Usher: John Carter
 Greeters: Robert & Kitsie Miller
 Children's Message: Annie Moffatt
 Children's Corner: Emalee Dillard

Sunday, February 23rd:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Jim & Elizabeth Taylor
 Ushers: Robert & Kitsie Miller
 Greeters: Jim Wilhide & John Carter
 Children's Message: Mary Dempster
 Children's Corner: Mary Dempster



Church Staff

Interim Minister: Pastor Jim Rowell; jim@sopc.net
Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Lloyd Pilkington
Office Administrator: Mrs. Annah G. Hiers; sopec@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, February 16:

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
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Churchwide Fellowship Supper - *An Italian Valentine's* - Proceeds Benefiting our Youth Ministry

Monday, February 17: Presidents' Day

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 12:00 pm - Ladies' Luncheon
 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts
 6:30 pm - Session 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, February 18:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 11:00 am - Staff Meeting
 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, February 19:

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

Thursday, February 20:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm - 1 John Bible Study
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Revelation Bible Study
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Liberty Church

Friday, February 21: Office Closed

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

Saturday February 22: Office Closed

1:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Chin Community



UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 5: Lent Begins - Ash Wednesday Service at 5:30 pm.

March 9 - April 6: Easter Lily Orders

April 17: Maundy Thursday Communion Service

April 20: Easter Sunday!

November 18: SOPC will host the meeting of Trinity Presbytery... volunteers needed!

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:

Bruce Hurley
 Mary Dempster
 Melanie Mason & Father, Gary Mason
 Ed Keelen
 Patty Mullins
 Donna Moore
 Aletha Robinson
 Sandra Johnson & Mother, Mary Johnson
 John Carter
 Alene Rogers
 Janet Jordan & Family
 Jane Blackwell
 Al & Margaret Charles
 Fran & Jeffrey Brannon
 Kynslee Davis
 SOPC's Homebound Members
 The Hiers Family
 Our Christian Friends in Ukraine
 Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, Cuba
 Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)
 Those Less Fortunate

Those in Retirement Communities, Assisted Living, & Nursing Facilities:

Nancy Taber
 Dave, Rich & Sam Allen
 Edith Blanchett
 Kathie Cashion
 Barbara Fowler
 Bobby Sellars
 Patricia Williams
 Barry Shatzer
 Mae Leviner
 Charlaine Pilkington
 Virginia Martinez
 Nancy Humphreys
 Jim Wilhide
 Ira Leon

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!
- Bruce C Hurley will continue leading a 6-lesson **Bible study on Thursday, February 20th**, at 5 pm in the Fellowship Classroom. The study is based on Dr. Bruce Metzger's *Revelation: A Symphony in Six Movements* and will meet each Thursday evening following. **Participants, please read Revelation 2:1 - 3:22 in preparation for our next gathering.**
- TONIGHT is our churchwide Fellowship Supper** at 6 pm! It will be a **spaghetti dinner and fundraiser for our youth ministry**. Come join us for an *"Italian Valentine's"* experience. All donations in excess of the cost of food will go toward sending our youth to summer camp and to their various mission projects. Please give as you are able & feel led at the door.
- Our 1 John Bible study**, led by Pastor Jim, continues to meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the Fellowship Classroom.
- Consider signing up for our **Small Groups**: "Dinners of 6" "Movie & a Meal" and "Small Town Adventures!" See the table in the narthex for more information. Those who have already signed up do not need to do so again.
- Our Youth & Scouts** would like to thank you for your support of our **SOUP-er Bowl of Caring** efforts! Together, they collected **2,275 pounds** of canned goods and **\$1,509** to "tackle hunger" in our community via Sharing God's Love.
- Our Fellowship & Roads To Faith Adult Sunday School classes**, (who are currently meeting together,) are studying the Gospel of John. All adults of the church--and friends--are welcome to join us!
- Our next Ladies' Luncheon** will be held at California Dreaming (401 Main St., Columbia) TOMORROW at noon. Please notify Margaret Royals if you plan to attend. 803-957-0430; mroyals052@gmail.com. Thanks!
- SOPC BOOK GROUP** is meeting again! We'd love for you to join us and determine what books we will read! Our first book is *James* by Percival Everett. We will meet at Snow's Ice Cream (next to Steve's Hamburgers) at 1:30 pm on February 27th. Future meetings will be the last Thursday of the month. Contact Kitsie Miller at 803-463-6958 to let her know you're interested, or coming, or if you have any questions.
- Be sure to read our new **Leaflet mini-newsletter via email each week!**
- We will hold an **Ash Wednesday** service on March 5th at 5:30 pm.
- If you would like to **volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth** occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!
- Our **2025 Elder Nominating Committee** is: Liz Harris, Chair; Jeanne LeBoeuf, Vice-Chair; Cathy Keelen; Frank Sheppard; and Jim Taylor, with Julie Bussells representing SOPW. **Nomination forms** are available in the narthex, in this bulletin, and from the church office. What faithful disciples at SOPC do you know who would make great Elders and additions to our Session?
- If you have **drink cans' pop-tops** that you have been collecting, Annah would be happy to deliver them to **Ronald McDonald House** charities periodically.
- Blessing Box Pantry:** If you are at the store and would like to augment our pantry with **pop-tarts or small jars/pouches of peanut butter**, those are currently in highest demand and lowest in stock.
- So far, we have collected **125 POUNDS** of used crayons that will be sorted, melted down, and made into new, ergonomic, free crayons for pediatric hospital patients. Thank you!