

MUSICAL SELECTION *Your Only Son (Lamb of God)* Twila Paris
Chancel Choir
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Pastor Jim Rowell
SCRIPTURE Luke 20:19-26; Matthew 22:15-22; Matthew 14:29
One: The Word of the Lord!
All: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE *When the Rabbi says, "Go!"*
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.**

MUSICAL SELECTION *There's Power In the Blood* arr. John Turner
4-Hand Piano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Elder Bruce C Hurley

...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: *A Brief Statement of Faith— Jesus Christ—II. 1-26 and 77-80*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #353 *My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE *Rondo* Gordon Young



The single rose on the communion table is in honor of the birth of Henry Boyd Wirth, son of Drew and Kaitlyn Wirth, and great-grandson of Shelagh Wirth. Boyd was born on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.



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STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

In the Cross of Christ / Glory

arr. John Carter

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

One: We come seeking to receive a blessing from God.

All: **We come seeking to be a blessing to others.**

One: When we look around, from where does our help come?

All: **Our help comes from the Holy One who made heaven and earth.**

*OPENING HYMN #463

How Firm a Foundation

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Bruce C Hurley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and gracious God, you give us every reason to have confidence in you. Still, we are burdened by questions: Where are you calling us to go? From whence will our help come? How can your promises be fulfilled? Patient God, we confess our fear and lack of faith in you. We admit our confusion and resistance to your teachings. Open our minds, O God, and open our hearts that we may know you are faithful and trust your gracious care for us. Amen.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Jesus sympathizes with us in our weakness, since he was tested as we are, yet without sin. Because of this, we can approach God to ask for forgiveness with boldness.

All: **O God of compassion, because of your mercy and grace we can live new lives. We are grateful for your forgiveness.**

*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.

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



The choir's anthem references Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb of God. This echoes passages including Isaiah 53:7, Acts 8:32, 1Peter 1:19 and numerous verses in Revelation. The piano selection is based on the hymn by Lewis E. Jones. His lyrics remind those who want to be free from the burden of sin, from passion and pride, and who want to serve Jesus, that there's power, wonder-working power, in the precious blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Worship Assistants

Sunday, March 16th:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Carol Griffith, Mary Johnson
 Usher: Shelagh Wirth
 Greeters: Tom & Betty Shuler
 Children's Message: Bruce C Hurley
 Children's Corner: Tracey Wilkes

Sunday, March 23rd:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Bruce C Hurley, Liz Harris
 Ushers: Robert & Kitsie Miller
 Greeters: Myrna Gause, Patty Mullins
 Children's Message: Bruce C Hurley
 Children's Corner: Mary Johnson

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, March 16: Office Closed

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
 12:15 pm - Churchwide Fellowship Luncheon - YOUTH ROOM
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution
 5:30 pm - Youth at SOPC

Monday, March 17: St. Patrick's Day / Irish Heritage Day

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 12:00 pm - Ladies' Luncheon
 6:30 pm - 8:00 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, March 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, March 19: KAIROS on Campus

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

Thursday, March 20: Annah on Vacation; 1st Day of Spring; KAIROS on Campus

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 - Revelation Bible Study

Friday, March 21: Office Closed; KAIROS on Campus

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, March 22: Office Closed; KAIROS on Campus

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 6: Last Sunday to Order Easter Lilies

April 17: Maundy Thursday Prayer Stations, Communion Service, & Light Meal

April 13: Palm Sunday - Hosanna!

April 20: Easter Sunday - Alleluia!; One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

May 11: Mothers' Day Offering for PCSC

May 13: PW Birthday Dinner

May 18: PW Honorary Life Member Presentation

June 8: Pentecost

June 15: Fathers' Day Offering for Migrant Ministry

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
 Donna Moore
 Aletha Robinson
 Sandra Johnson's 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 People of 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
 Charlene 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!
- Our **churchwide Fellowship Meal** is TODAY, March 16th, after worship in **THE YOUTH ROOM!** Come join the shenanigans! Please do not walk through the Fellowship Hall, where we normally eat. Another church will be having worship in there. Enter the youth room directly or the hallway beside it from the OUTSIDE doors.
- Parents of Young Children:** Please grab a **"Wiggle Bag"** from the Narthex / lobby before worship starts and remember that the little ones go to the Children's Corner after the Children's Message during the service. Thanks!
- Bruce C Hurley will continue leading a 6-lesson **Bible study on Thursday, March 20**, at 5 pm in the Fellowship Classroom. The study is based on Dr. Bruce Metzger's **Revelation: A Symphony in Six Movements** and will conclude 3/27/25.
- Our 1 John Bible study**, led by Pastor Jim, continues to meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the Fellowship Classroom.
- Our Youth will meet tonight at 5:30, here at SOPC** for food, fun, fellowship, a lesson about Lent, and a discussion about some summer mission opportunities! If you would like more information about our youth ministry, please contact Julie Bussells at 803-622-9509.
- The SOPC **Ladies Luncheon** will be held TOMORROW, March 17th, at the Olive Garden on Harbison Blvd. If attending, please notify Margaret Royals at 803 608 1434 or mroyals052@gmail.com.
- 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 in the Fellowship Classroom on Sunday mornings at 9:45!
- Our SOPC BOOK GROUP** is excitedly entering a new season. This month, they are reading *How To Read a Book* by Monica Wood. They will meet to discuss it and share fellowship on Thursday, March 27th, at 1:30 pm at Snow's Ice Cream. The group would love to greet new faces! Contact Kitsie Miller, 803-463-6958, if you plan to attend or need more information.
- 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 and from the church office. What faithful disciples at SOPC do you know who would make great Elders and additions to our Session?
- The church will continue taking **orders for Easter Lilies today - April 6**. They are \$16 each. A copy of the order form is included in this bulletin.
- Save the Date: April 10th will be **Family Promise of the Midlands' annual Night of Promise Gala**. You can purchase tickets by visiting: <https://familypromisemidlands.org/events/>.
- If you would like to **volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth** occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!