

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

Elder Bruce C Hurley

MUSICAL SELECTION

Jesus Paid It All
Chancel Choir

arr. Robert Sterling

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim Rowell

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:6-9

One: The Word of the Lord!
All: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

The Greatest Sin

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

Amazing Grace
Handbell Ensemble

arr. Larry Sue

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

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 #442

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Ellacombe"

Gordon Young

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

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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

March 23, 2025
3rd Sunday in Lent

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Upcoming Presbyterian Women Events

Elder Julie Bussells

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

arr. Albert Zabel

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

All: **Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!**

One: The Holy One is a great God, and a ruler above all gods.

All: **In God's hands are the depths of the earth and also the heights of the mountains.**

One: The sea belongs to the Creator who made it and also the dry land, which God's hands formed.

All: **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Creator, our Maker!**

One: For the One who formed us and all the world is our God.

All: **And we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.**

*OPENING HYMN #441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Bruce C Hurley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord of all creation, you know our innermost thoughts. We open our hearts to you, confessing the sin that separates us and praying for your grace. For the sin of silence when we should have spoken, and the sin of speaking when we should have been silent, O Lord, we repent. For the sins of indifference and lack of compassion when suffering does not affect us, O Lord, we repent. For the sin of serving others so that we will look good, O Lord, we repent. For the sin of having more than we need but refusing to share, O Lord, we repent. Forgive our sin, and put a new and right spirit within us. For your grace, we pray. For your forgiveness, we are grateful. Amen.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: from Colossians 2:14 (CEB)

Elder Bruce Hurley

One: In Christ, God destroyed the record of the debt we owed and cancelled it by nailing it to the cross.

All: **These gifts of grace and reconciliation are from God! We accept and are grateful!**

*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.



Thanks to Ernie & Julie Bussells, Tina Pilkington, and Sharon Watkins for providing the handbell ensemble. The accompaniment to *Amazing Grace* was written by Lloyd Pilkington. The choir's anthem is based on a hymn whose refrain is: *Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain; He washed it white as snow.* The postlude is based on the hymntune "*Ellacombe*", which has been sung to a number of lyrics including, *I Sing the Mighty Power of God, Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God, and Hosanna, Loud Hosanna.*

Worship Assistants

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

Sunday, March 30th:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Kathy Keane, Jeanne LeBoeuf
 Usher: Banks Robinson
 Greeters: Janice Reiser, Sue Kesterson
 Children's Message: Mark Johnson
 Children's Corner: Kathy Keane

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 23: 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 - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l
 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Youth help in Clothing Closet & at Love Revolution.
 3:00 pm - Clothing Closet Opens Prior to Love Revolution
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

Monday, March 24:

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, March 25:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 11:00 am - Staff Meeting
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Wednesday, March 26:

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

Thursday, March 27:

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

Friday, March 28: 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, March 29: Office Closed

10:00 am - Making Sandwiches for Oliver Gospel Mission at Centennial ARP Church

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 2: SOPW Outing to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral & Lunch

April 6: Congregational Meeting after Worship; Last Sunday to Order Easter Lilies

April 13: Palm Sunday - Hosanna!

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

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
 Charlaine Pilkington
 Virginia Martinez
 Nancy Humphreys
 Jim Wilhide
 Ira Leon

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There will be a **Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 6, 2025**, following the worship service for the purpose of hearing a **report from the Officer Nominating Committee**.
- 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.
- 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!
- All ladies of SOPC are invited to a PW Spring Outing. We will tour Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral**, 1900 Main Street, 29201, and then enjoy **lunch at Grecian Gardens** in West Columbia on Wednesday, April 2nd, starting at 10:30 am. Please contact Jeanne LeBoeuf, 803-381-5566 or jleboeuf@sc.rr.com, for more information and **if attending so that she can give the restaurant a head count**.
- Bruce C Hurley will conclude a 6-lesson **Bible study on Revelation THIS Thursday, March 27**, at 5 pm in the Fellowship Classroom. The study is based on Dr. Bruce Metzger's **Revelation: A Symphony in Six Movements**. Please read Revelation 19:1 - 22:21 in preparation.
- 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 today at 3:00 pm, in our SOPC youth room, to serve food to our neighbors in need at Love Revolution and help in the Clothing Closet.** We'll be done by 5:00 pm. (No meal, but some good snacks!) If you would like more information about our youth ministry, please contact Julie Bussells at 803-622-9509.
- 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 reading *How To Read a Book* by Monica Wood. They will meet to discuss it and share fellowship on THIS 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.
- The church will continue taking **orders for Easter Lilies today through April 6th**. 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!
- Bring your **drink cans' pop-tops** to the church office, or the large baskets by the sanctuary doors in the narthex, for collection and delivery to the **Ronald McDonald House**.
- So far, we have collected **125+ pounds of used crayons** to keep the petroleum-based wax out of landfills and allow www.thecrayoninitiative.org to sort them by color, melt them down, shape the wax into new, triangle-shaped, FREE crayons for pediatric hospital patients.