

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim Rowell

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:31-35

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

MESSAGE

Eyes Set on Jerusalem

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 *A Declaration of Faith - Chapter 9 - Christian Discipleship (II. 7-11, 15-18, & 7-102)*

We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God's demand upon everyone of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.

Christ calls us to believe in disciplined freedom. Jesus came to set people free by the power of the gospel. In doing so, he did not abolish, but fulfilled the law and the prophets. Through his teaching and the teaching of the apostles he showed what it is to be free and obedient. We declare that Christ has freed us from trying to save ourselves by obeying the law. He restores us to God's law as a gift and delight. The law describes concretely the shape of our freedom. When we accept its discipline, it keeps our personal lives from being chaotic and increases our effectiveness in the church's mission.

Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipline; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.

*CLOSING HYMN #187 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim Rowell

*POSTLUDE

Praise the Lord!

Gilbert Martin

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“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...”

Luke 13:34

Welcome!

**SEVEN OAKS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

March 30, 2025
4th Sunday in Lent

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Were You There

arr. Albert Zabel

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

One: Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praise to God!
All: **For the Lord is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting. Let us worship God together.**

*OPENING HYMN #209

My Song Is Love Unknown

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Bruce C Hurley

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: from Hymn #695, *Change My Heart, O God*
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you. You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me: this is what I pray.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God has known us from the beginning. God has searched us from the beginning. And, God has loved us from the beginning. ...and God still loves us even when we fall short.
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

Elder Mark Johnson

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

What Wondrous Love Is This
Chancel Choir

arr. Trevor Manor

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



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 for which the lyrics can be found in #215 of our hymnals.

Worship Assistants

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
 Acolyte: Ellis Robinson

Sunday, April 6th:

Liturgist: Bruce C Hurley
 Counters: Ron Kesterson, Kitsie Miller
 Usher: Mary Johnson
 Greeters: Carol Griffith, Brenda Turner
 Children's Message: Bruce C Hurley
 Children's Corner: Emalee Dillard
 Communion Preparation: Kitsie & Robert Miller
 Communion Servers: Pastor Jim Rowell, Bruce C Hurley, Kitsie Miller, John Carter

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 30: 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
 12:00 pm - Called Session Meeting
 3:00 pm - Clothing Closet Opens Prior to Love Revolution
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution
 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Youth at Westminster PC

Monday, March 31: Karl on Vacation
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Worship 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, April 1: April Fools' Day; Karl on Vacation
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 11:00 am - Staff Meeting
 4:30 pm - PWCT Meeting
 6:00 pm - Yoga
 6:30 pm - Missions Ministry Meeting
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Wednesday, April 2: Karl on Vacation
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 10:30 am - SOPW Spring Outing
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, April 3: Karl on Vacation
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm -1 John Bible Study
 1:00 pm - Christian Education Ministry Meeting
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling

Friday, April 4: Office Closed; Karl on Vacation
 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, April 5: Office Closed; PW Officer Training & Trinity Presbytery Annual PW Gathering at Camp Fellowship

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

April 9: Small Town Adventurers to Lake City, SC

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.



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!



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:

God's Direction for SOPC & Our Steering Committee

Our Officer Nominating Committee

Bruce Hurley

Jimmy Revell & Annie Moffatt

Mary Dempster

Melanie Mason & Father, Gary Mason

Ed Keelen

Donna Moore

Aletha Robinson

Sandra Johnson & family

John Carter

Brenda Turner

Alene & Vern 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 is a **Called Session Meeting TODAY** immediately following worship.
- There will be a **Called Congregational Meeting NEXT Sunday, April 6, 2025**, following the worship service for the purpose of hearing a **report from the Officer Nominating Committee**.
- Congratulations to the Salters and to the Noës on the arrival of their new grandchildren!** Chatham (Salter) & Johnny Dickerson welcomed a daughter, Isabel Grace. Austin Noë Smith & Walker Smith welcomed a son, Stetson.
- 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.
- 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 THIS 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**.
- 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 gather this evening at 5:30 at Westminster PC** for dinner, fellowship, fun, a service project, and a lesson. If you would like more information about our youth ministry, please contact Julie Bussells at 803-622-9509.
- Our Small Town Adventures** group will be heading to Lake City, SC on Wednesday, April 9th. Contact Julie or Ernie Bussells if you are not on their list of "Adventurers" and would like to attend! All are welcome!
- Our next Ladies Luncheon** will be Monday, April 21st, at noon at Tupelo Honey, 2138 Pickens Street, Columbia. If attending, please notify Margaret Royals at 803-608-1434, 803-957-0430 or mroyals052@gmail.com. Thanks.
- 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 *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi in April and meeting to discuss it on Thursday, April 24th. The group would love to greet new faces! Contact Kitsie Miller, 803-463-6958, if you plan to attend or would like 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.
- April 10th is the **Family Promise of the Midlands' annual Night of Promise Gala with guest speaker, Craig Melvin**. You can purchase tickets by visiting: <https://familypromisemidlands.org/events/>.
- Our SOPW will host the ladies from other local Presbyterian churches and from Presbyterian Communities on **Tuesday, May 13th at 6 pm for the annual PW Birthday Dinner**. This year's speakers will be from Love Revolution and from Columbia Rapid Shelter.
- If you would like to **volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth** occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!