

MUSICAL SELECTION *Grace Greater Than Our Sins* John Turner  
Piano 4-Hand

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Pastor Jim Rowell

SCRIPTURE John 20:19-23  
One: The Word of the Lord!  
All: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE *The Church With Nothing*  
RESPONDING IN FAITH

OFFERING  
Tithes & offerings may be placed in the boxes with crosses at the main exit of the Narthex or given via [www.sopc.net](http://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: from *A Declaration of Faith*, Chapter 8, *The Christian Mission*--Section 4

**God sends us to exercise compassion. In his concern for justice in the social order, God has never forgotten the needs of individuals. In the end, the Lord will judge all persons by the simple, unremembered acts of kindness they did or failed to do for the least of their sisters and brothers. We acknowledge God is at work here and now when people show personal concern for each other, and work to make helping agencies, including the church itself, more compassionate. We believe God sends us to risk our own peace and comfort in compassion for our neighbors. We are to give to them and receive from them, accepting everyone we meet as a person; to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind; to help and accept help in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility. We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving, for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #233 *The Day of Resurrection!*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *"Coronation" Fanfares* Robert Lau

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**Welcome!**

**SEVEN OAKS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

530 St. Andrews Road, Columbia, SC 29210;  
803-772-1761; [www.sopc.net](http://www.sopc.net);  
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**Sunday, April 27, 2025**  
2nd Sunday of Easter

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jim Rowell

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

*Thine Is The Glory*

Handel / arr. Carolyn Hamlin

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Pastor Jim Rowell

One: Through Christ, the power of sin and death are broken! New life is a gift to us from a loving God!  
All: **The whole of creation sings God's praises! Let everyone that God has made join in the song of praise!**

\*OPENING HYMN #231

*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O gracious and ever-loving God, have mercy upon us. We like to think of ourselves as good people, and you know how hard we try to do what pleases you. But, we don't trust your love, and so we fear that we must be good so that you will love us. Fill us with your love so completely that our good deeds will flow out of a grateful and humble heart. We like to compare ourselves to others, especially when doing so makes us look good. We like to speak for you and determine who you love and how you work, although we do not seek your presence every day. Flood our sins with your grace and drown our pride with your love, so that we may live today as forgiven, generous, and grateful children. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: from Colossians 2:14

One: In Christ, God destroyed the record of the debt we owed and cancelled it by nailing it to the cross.  
All: **This gift of grace and reconciliation is from God! We accept it, and will live in gratitude!**

\*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

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.**



*Grace Greater Than Our Sins* is based on Julia Johnston's hymn. The closing verse celebrates the rich and boundless wonder of God's grace, while inviting us to receive that matchless gift of grace: "Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe! All who are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive?"

## Worship Assistants

### Sunday, April 27th:

Counters: Sharon Watkins, Jim Wilhide  
Ushers: Robert & Kitsie Miller  
Greeters: Jeanne LeBoeuf, Mary Dempster  
Children's Message: Pastor Jim Rowell  
Children's Corner: Sue Kesterson

### Sunday, May 4th:

Counters: Julie Bussells, John Carter  
Usher: Mary Johnson  
Greeters: Jim & Elizabeth Taylor  
Children's Message: Pastor Jim Rowell  
Children's Corner: Dallene Smith  
Communion Preparation: Kitsie & Robert Miller  
Communion Servers: John Carter, Liz Harris, Kitsie Miller, Ernie Bussells

## 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: M-Th; 10 am - 2 pm

### Sunday, April 27: Office Closed

9:45 am - Sunday School for All Ages & Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm - The Well Church  
11:00 am - Worship  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.  
3:00 pm - Clothing Closet Opens Prior to Love Revolution  
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution

### Monday, April 28:

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, April 29:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Staff Meeting  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Elder Training  
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, April 30:

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

### Thursday, May 1: National Day of Prayer

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
10:30 am - 1 John Bible Study  
1:00 pm - Christian Education Ministry Meeting at Zorba's  
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling  
6:00 pm - *Parenting in Today's World* workshop at McGregor PC

### Friday, May 2: 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, May 3: Office Closed; Trinity Presbytery Clerk of Session Training

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**May 11:** Mothers' Day Offering for PCSC

**May 13:** PW Birthday Dinner

**May 18:** PW Honorary Life Member Presentation & Fellowship Luncheon

**June 8:** Pentecost

**June 15:** Fathers' Day Offering for Migrant Ministry

**July 1:** Migrant Ministry Meal

**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\*  
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  
Carolyn Gillis  
Tara Whitfield's Mother, Beneva  
Bruce Hurley  
Jimmy Revell & Annie Moffatt  
Mary Dempster  
Janet Jordan  
Melanie Mason & Family  
The Keelen Family  
Donna Moore  
Aletha Robinson  
Sandra Johnson & family  
John Carter  
Brenda Turner  
Alene & Vern Rogers  
Jane Blackwell  
Al & Margaret Charles  
Fran & Jeffrey Brannon  
Kynslee Davis  
SOPC's Homebound Members  
The People of Ukraine  
Aleksey & Liidia Bazan  
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! Our Clothing Closet will open 30 minutes prior.
- We will have Elder Training THIS Tuesday, April 29th, from 5-7 pm in the Session Room.
- Our next churchwide fellowship meal will be a luncheon after worship on Sunday, May 18th. Please plan to join us!
- Volunteers Needed** in several key areas. Training is provided for each, and if multiple people volunteer, the same person would not need to do it each week. Please contact the church office for information regarding the following:
  - We need folks to stream our adult Sunday School meetings on Zoom so that our homebound members and friends can participate. Contact Jeanne LeBoeuf, Banks Robinson or the church office.
  - We need volunteers to make our weekly announcements into slides via Power Point or Canva each week to be projected before worship.
  - Would you like to learn to help in the sanctuary's sound booth on Sunday's? We need folks in case Karl is on vacation, etc.
  - We are hosting the meeting of Trinity Presbytery in November. We need members to greet, register, feed, serve food, etc.
  - Each year, we partner with Migrant Ministries to help provide a meal for migrant workers in the Ridge Spring area. One Tuesday in the summer, we prepare a supper, take it to the camp, and serve it to the workers. We need volunteers willing to assist with meal preparation, delivery, set up, and serving on July 1st. If you are available and willing, please contact Jim Taylor at 803-960-2956. Thank you!
- Our 1 John Bible study, led by Pastor Jim, will conclude THIS Thursday, May 1st, at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Classroom.
- Our Youth will not meet formally tonight, but are encouraged to help serve with their families at Love Revolution at 3:30 here at SOPC. Please feel free to contact Julie Bussells for more information about our active youth ministry: 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 *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi and meeting to discuss it Thursday, May 29th 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 would like more information.
- 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--Come Join the Garden Party, Ladies!
- If you are at the store and are able and feel led to pick up individual-sized bottles of water, they would be greatly appreciated by those who come to our food pantry as the weather warms up.
- We are still collecting discarded crayons & can's pop tops in the church office for charity.
- McGregor PC has invited us to join them for a Parenting in Today's World workshop at 6pm on Thursday, May 1st. Contact the church office, see the flyer on the bulletin board, or check the weekly *Leaflet* newsletter for more information.