

SCRIPTURE Psalm 145:8-14; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Rev. Rachel Fitch

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

MESSAGE *Kingdom Rest*

RESPONDING IN FAITH

OFFERING Elder Frank Sheppard  
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).

*Today, we collect our annual Mothers' Day offering for Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. There are special envelopes in the narthex, and online gifts may be designated for the cause. Please give as you are able and feel led. Thank you!*

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.

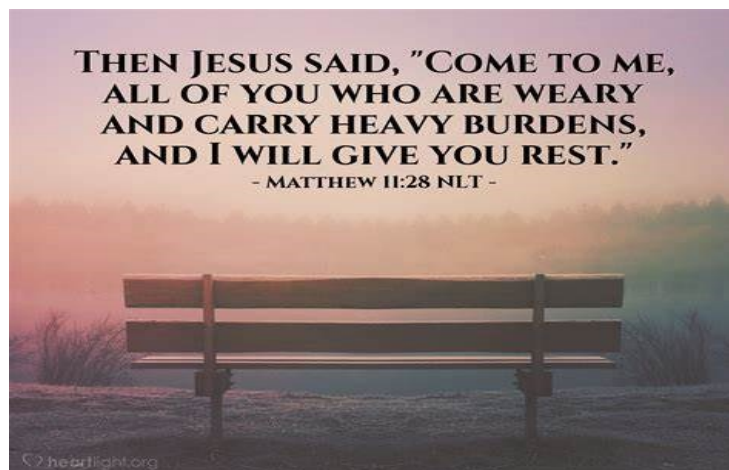
\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

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 #183 *Come To Me, O Weary Traveler*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Rachel Fitch

\*POSTLUDE *O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Paul Manz



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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);  
email: [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net)

**Sunday, May 11, 2025**  
4th Sunday of Easter

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Frank Sheppard

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Penny Rodriguez

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS: based on Psalm 95:6-7

Elder Frank Sheppard

One: O come let us bow down and worship; let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

All: For the Lord is our God; we are the Lord's people, the flock that God shepherds.

\*OPENING HYMN #839

*Blessed Assurance*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

\*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: 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

Rev. Rachel Fitch

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

*Jesus Paid It All*  
Piano

Jason Krug

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Rachel Fitch

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



The prelude is based on a hymn whose lyrics came from the Welsh version of Psalm 23. *Jesus Paid It All* is based on the hymn by Elvina M. Hall. The refrain is, "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow."



**OFFICE HOURS: M-Th; 10 am - 2 pm**

**Sunday, May 11: Mother's Day Offering for PCSC**  
 9:45 am - Sunday School  
 10:00 am - 2:00 pm - The Well Church  
 10:40 am - Choir Rehearsal  
 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, May 12:**  
 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, May 13:**  
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - PW Birthday Celebration  
 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, May 14:**  
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

**Thursday, May 15:**  
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Live Oak Counseling

**Friday, May 16: Office Closed**  
 6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group  
 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 9:30 am - 4:00 pm - Mary Kay  
 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

**Saturday, May 17: Office Closed**  
 Trinity Presbytery Meeting at Westminster PC, Greenwood, SC

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**May 18:** PW Honorary Life Member Presentation; Fellowship Luncheon; Dr. Danny Murphy with Us

**May 25:** Youth Sunday / Graduate Recognition

**June 1:** Elder Installation;  
 Congregational Meeting to elect a PNC

**June 8:** Pentecost (Wear "fiery" colors if you'd like.)

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

**June 15-21:** Karl's vacation

**July 1:** Migrant Ministry Meal

**July 7-10:** VBS

**October 17-19:** PW Synod Triennial Gathering

**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

Travel Mercies

The End of the School Year

Carolyn Gillis

Tara Whitfield's Mother,  
 Beneva

Bruce Hurley

Jimmy Revell & Annie Moffatt

Mary Dempster

Janet Jordan

The Keelen Family

Donna Moore

Aletha Robinson

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.
- Our next **churchwide fellowship meal** will be a fried chicken 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 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.
- Our Youth will not meet tonight** so that they can spend time with their moms and/or maternal figures. Please feel free to contact Julie Bussells for more information about our active youth ministry: 803-622-9509.
- Next Sunday, our Presbyterian Women will present their **Honorary Life Membership Award**.
- 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 THIS **Tuesday, May 13th at 6 pm for the annual PW Birthday Dinner--Come Join the Garden Party, Ladies!**
- The youth of SOPC invite you to join them in getting excited about worship on **May 25th!** It will be **YOUTH SUNDAY**, with our young people leading various aspects of the service & honoring Miss Rollin Cartee as she prepares to **graduate** high school and attend PC in the fall!
- If you are already at the store and are able and feel led to pick up some **easy-prep canned items with pop-tops, our food pantry** could use them. For example: Chef Boyardee and non-condensed soups/stews with pop tops. Many folks who are in need do not have can openers. We can always use **pop-tarts and/or individual-sized bottled waters**, too. Thanks!
- We are still collecting **discarded crayons & can's pop tops** in the church office for charity.

**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