

CHILDREN'S CORNER

We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to go to the Children's Corner at this time. 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.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Bob Brearley

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-8

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

MESSAGE

Against All Odds

RESPONDING IN FAITH

OFFERING

Rev. Bob Brearley

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Bob Brearley

...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

Rev. Bob Brearley

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.

*HYMN #824

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Bob Brearley

*POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Diane Bish



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LUKE 18:1-8

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Frank Sheppard

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship

Elder Frank Sheppard

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Benedictus on "Sicilian Mariners"

Gordon Young

*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

Elder Frank Sheppard

Leader: Only the hungry search for bread. Only the thirsty look for water.

People: We gather in this sanctuary and in our homes as those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.

Leader: Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it. Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.

People: We have tried many things to find our own meaning in life. Yet we ache for something more.

Leader: We gather with our unsatisfied longings and our heart-felt yearnings, and we turn to our God in Jesus Christ to satisfy our souls and to give us direction for our journey.

People: O give thanks to the Lord and sing praises for God's steadfast love!

*HYMN #265

Jesus Shall Reign

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Frank Sheppard

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We continue to be tempted, Faithful God. We are blessed with gifts to use for others, but we want to keep them for ourselves. We easily notice the mistakes of those around us, but we are not eager to look in a mirror at our own lives. Help us to be honest with ourselves and less critical of others. Forgive us, God. Fill the poverty of our spirits with the richness of your grace. We stand in need of your cleansing mercy. We cry out to you day and night. Grant us your Holy Spirit as we bring our burdens to you in prayer. Only you, O Lord, can make us whole again.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PERSONAL CONFESSION

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Elder Frank Sheppard

Leader: Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ, and Christ lived for us, Christ died for us, Christ reigns in power for us, and Christ prays for us. God's mercy endures forever!

People: As God's own people, we will be merciful in action, kindly in heart, and humble in mind. 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.

MUSICAL SELECTION

I Would Be True
Chancel Choir

Walter / arr. Pilkington

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

Welcome!

SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Sunday, October 19, 2025
19th Sunday After Pentecost



The prelude is based on the hymn that had its start as an evening prayer sung by Sicilian seamen. One verse from an English setting of the hymn is, "Love of God, so pure and changeless, Blood of Christ, so rich and free; Grace of God, so strong and boundless, magnify them all in me." The choir's anthem is based on the hymn whose lyrics were written as Howard Walter's personal creed. He died soon after writing this, while working as a missionary in India.

Worship Assistants

Sunday, October 19th:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Bob Brearley
 Liturgist: Frank Sheppard
 Counters: Ernie & Julie Bussells
 Usher: Ron Kesterson
 Greeters: Betty Shuler, Banks Robinson
 Children's Corner: Emalee Dillard
 Announcement Slides: Mary Dempster
Sunday, October 26th: Reformation Sunday
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Bob Brearley
 Liturgist: Jeanne LeBoeuf
 Counters: Mary Johnson, Sharon Staton
 Ushers: Robert & Kitsie Miller
 Greeters: Myrna Gause, Patty Mullins
 Children's Corner: Dallene Smith
 Announcement Slides: Mary Dempster

Church Staff

Interim Minister: Pastor Jim Rowell;
 jim@sopc.net
Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Lloyd Pilkington
Office Manager: 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, October 19:

9:45 am - 10:45 am - Choir Rehearsal
 9:45 am - 10:45 am - Sunday School
 10:00 am - 6:00 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
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution
 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, October 20:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 12:00 pm - Ladies' Luncheon
 6:30 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, October 21:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Staff Meeting
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

Wednesday, October 22: Meal at Providence Men's Home

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 1:30 pm - Church History Bible Study
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

Thursday, October 23: SOPC's 59th Birthday! Small Town Adventures Group to Edgefield, SC

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
 3:00 pm - SOPC Book Group at Loveland Coffee

Friday, October 24: 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, October 25: Office Closed

October 26: Reformation Sunday & SOPW Fall Gathering

October 28: Terrific Tuesdays at the Movies!

November 2: All Saints' Sunday

November 9: Commitment Sunday

November 18: Trinity Presbytery at SOPC

November 23: Thornwell Offering

December 7: Christmas Music in Worship

Save the Date:

A nursery is available in Building A 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 Musical Selection 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 2026:

Liz Harris - Fellowship*

Mary Johnson - Disciple Care*

Kathy Keane - Christian Education*

Banks Robinson - Buildings & Grounds*

Class of 2027:

Jeanne LeBoeuf - Missions

Kitsie Miller - Fellowship

Elizabeth Taylor - Administration*

Class of 2028:

Tish Lowe - Missions*

Sharon Watkins - Worship*

Trustees: Carol Griffith, Molly Jackson, Robert Miller

Treasurer: Kathy Locklair

Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):

Julie Bussells*

In Our Prayers:

God's Direction for SOPC

Those Less Fortunate

Pastor Jim

Shelagh Wirth's Move to
Canada

Vicki Delesandro

Mary Dempster's Parents

Asher Mellitz

Marion Wishart in the Loss of
Her Sister

Mary Ann Brearley in the
Loss of Her Father

Donna Moore

Tara Whitfield's Mother,
Beneva

Jimmy Revell & Annie Moffatt

Janet & Nealy Jordan

Aletha & Derek Robinson

John Carter

Anne Crook

Monroe Swearingen

Alene & Vern Rogers

Al & Margaret Charles

Fran & Jeffrey Brannon

Kynslee Davis

The People of Ukraine

Aleksey & Liidia Bazan

Iglesia Presbiteriana de
Nueva Paz, Cuba

Daniel and Elizabeth Turk
(Missionaries)

**Those in Retirement
Communities, Assisted
Living, & Nursing Facilities:**

Nancy Humphreys

Dave, Rich & Sam Allen

Edith Blanchett

Kathie Cashion

Barbara Fowler

Bobby Sellars

Patricia Williams

Barry Shatzer

Charlaine Pilkington

Virginia Martinez

Jim Wilhide

Ira Leon

Willie Hale

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.
- 160 guests attended our Fall Festival!** Thanks to all who helped!
- Our next Small Town Adventure** will be to Edgefield, SC on 10/23rd! Contact Julie or Ernie Bussells, Kathy Keene, or Marion Wishart for more information.
- SOPC Book Group:** We will meet at 3 pm on THIS Thursday, October 23, at Loveland Coffee to discuss *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr. All are welcome! Please let Kitsie Miller know if you plan to attend. Thanks!
- Our Youth Group** already meets with the youth from Westminster PC. They have invited the youth from McGregor PC and St. Mary's Episcopal to join them as well! Way to be leaders, young ones!! See you tonight at 5:30 pm!
- If you would like to help prepare and serve the meal at Providence Men's Home on Wednesday, please contact Robert Miller.
- Let's go to the movies!!** Our *Terrific Tuesdays at the Movies* Small Group & friends will gather at AMC on Afton Ct. NEXT Tuesday, 10/28/25, at 12:45 pm to see *Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere*. Please let us know if you are coming by calling or texting Sue Kesterson at 803-727-8165. Ron Kesterson will purchase a block of tickets ahead of time. You can reimburse him \$6/ticket when you arrive. All are welcome!
- The next SOPC Ladies' Luncheon will be TOMORROW, Monday, 10/20th, at noon at BJ's Restaurant on Harbison Blvd. If attending, please notify Margaret Royals at mroyals052@gmail.com or 803-608-1434. Thanks!
- The Church History Bible Study with Bruce Hurley will continue on Wednesday at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Classroom.
- ALL Ladies of SOPC & friends**, please join us for our SOPW Fall Gathering at Mary Johnson's house from 2-4 pm on October 26th. You do not have to be a member of a circle to attend! Contact the church office for the address.
- We will observe All Saints' Sunday on November 2nd. We would like to honor all those who have gone before us to join the Church Triumphant in the past year. Please submit your loved ones' names and dates-of-life (ex: 1930-2025) to the church office for the bulletin.
- We are hosting the meeting of Trinity Presbytery on November 18th. We need members to greet, register, serve food, etc. Contact Sharon Staton if you can help.
- If you would like to learn how to help in the sound booth on Sundays, please contact the church office.
- If you can help out in the Clothing Closet from time to time, (either during the week or on Sunday afternoons,) please contact Sharon Staton.
- We're Collecting:** These items may be placed in the large baskets in the narthex or brought to the church office.
 - BAGS OF CANDY**, with individually wrapped pieces, for SOES' community Trunk-or-Treat on October 30th. We are partnering with Ashland UMC to provide this for local children.
 - Travel-size toiletries** to give out in our Clothing Closet each week: small soaps, shampoos, conditioners, toothpastes, deodorants, etc.
 - Used/discarded **crayons** for www.thecrayoninitiative.org.
 - Cans' **pop tops** for Ronald McDonald House.