

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL SELECTION *The Very Thought of Thee* Dykes / arr. Brian Hanson  
Chancel Choir  
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Joey Byrd  
GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:1-11 Rev. Joey Byrd  
One: The Word of the Lord!  
All: **Thanks be to God!**  
MESSAGE *Jesus Knows the Wilderness* Rev. Joey Byrd

RESPONDING IN FAITH

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* Rev. Joey Byrd

**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.**

OFFERING Rev. Joey Byrd  
Tithes and offerings may be placed in the boxes with crosses at the main exit of the Narthex or given via [www.sopc.net/giving](http://www.sopc.net/giving).

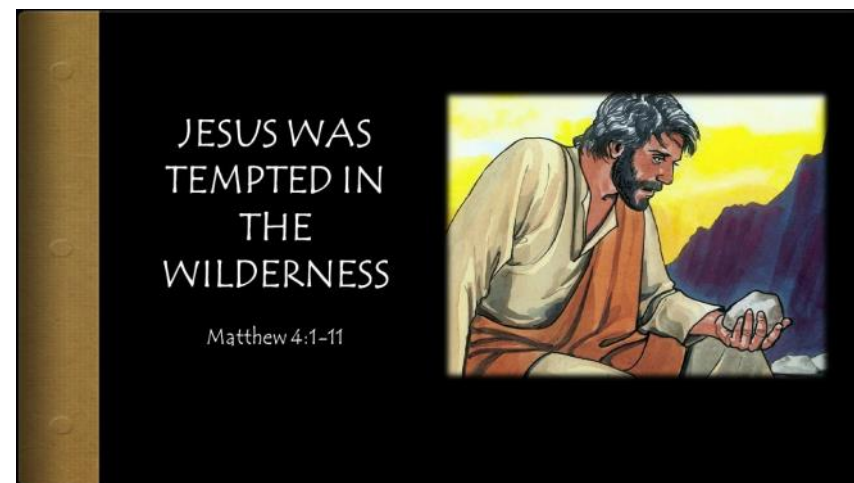
One: May these gifts, given in gratitude and love...  
All: **Change us and the world to serve your purpose.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Joey Byrd  
...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.

\*HYMN #719 *Come, Labor On*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Joey Byrd

\*POSTLUDE *How Firm a Foundation* Terry Kirkland



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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, February 22, 2026**  
**First Sunday in Lent**

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Frank Sheppard

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

*I Am Thine, O Lord*

Victor Johnson

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Frank Sheppard

Leader: You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

All: **I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.**

Leader: Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle.

All: **Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

\*HYMN #634

*To God Be The Glory*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Frank Sheppard

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elder Frank Sheppard

**O God almighty, maker of heaven and earth, you formed us from dust and to dust we shall return. While we are in the land of living, may we be about doing thy will on earth as it is in heaven. Forgive each of us for our many sins. We come up short time and time again, of your calling upon us. We want to give up and give in to temptation, to sin, to greed, and even to death. Make us new today, and infuse your spirit into ours. Set our minds, our spirits, and our souls free from bondage, and fill us with grace. May we live our lives to the fullest. Hear now our personal prayer of confession...**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PERSONAL CONFESSION

Elder Frank Sheppard

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Elder Frank Sheppard

Leader: Hear the good news of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven.

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.**

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.

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

 **Music Notes:** 

The prelude is an arrangement of a Fanny Crosby hymn, whose opening verse and refrain are: "I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, and it told Thy love to me. But I long to rise in the arms of faith, and be closer drawn to Thee. Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where Thou has died. Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to Thy precious, bleeding side." The lyrics to the choir's anthem are: "Jesus, the very thought of Thee with sweetness fills my breast. But sweeter far Thy face to see, and I Thy presence rest. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mem'ry find a sweeter sound than Thy blest Name, O Savior of mankind! O Hope of ev'ry contrite heart, O Joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how kind Thou art! How good to those who seek! Jesus, our only joy be Thou, as Thou our prize wilt be. Be Thou our only glory now, and through eternity."

**Worship Assistants** 

**Sunday, February 22nd:**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Joey Byrd  
Liturgist: Frank Sheppard  
Counters: Sharon Watkins, Kathy Keane  
Usher: Banks Robinson  
Greeters: Banks & Ellis Robinson  
Children's Corner: Mary Johnson  
Announcement Slides: Mary Dempster

**Sunday, March 1st:**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Joey Byrd  
Liturgist: Banks Robinson  
Counters: Liz Harris, Jeanne LeBoeuf  
Usher: Mary Johnson  
Greeters: Mary Dempster, Patty Mullins  
Children's Corner: Emalee Dillard  
Announcement Slides: Mary Dempster  
Communion Preparation: Sue & Ron Kesterson  
Communion Servers: Kitsie Miller, Liz Harris, Mark & Mary Johnson

**Church Staff**

**We are praying for the person whom God is preparing and calling to be our new Pastor.**

**Director of Music Ministry:** Dr. Lloyd Pilkington  
**Office Manager:** Annah G. Hiers; [sopc@sopc.net](mailto:sopc@sopc.net)  
**Accompanist:** Elder Sharon Watkins  
**Building Superintendent:** Karl Thompson  
**Volunteer Financial Administrator:** Elder Sharon Staton; [sharon@sopc.net](mailto:sharon@sopc.net)  
**Nursery Coordinator:** Amy Schwartz



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

**Sunday, February 22nd: 1st Sunday in Lent**

9:45 am - Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 am - 10:45 am - Sunday School  
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  
4:00 pm - 9:00 pm - The Well Church  
4:30 pm - Confirmation Class  
5:00 pm - Youth Group

**Monday, February 23rd: Sanctuary Closed for Lighting**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
6:30 pm - Worship Ministry Meeting  
7:00 pm - Troop 91  
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

**Tuesday, February 24th: Sanctuary Closed for Lighting**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
6:00 pm - Yoga  
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

**Wednesday, February 25th: Sanctuary Closed for Lighting**

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

**Thursday, February 26th: Sanctuary Closed for Lighting**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
3:00 pm - Book Group at Loveland Coffee  
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm - The Well Church

**Friday, February 27th: Office Closed; Sanctuary Closed for Lighting**

6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm - Trinity Presbytery Homiletics Workshop

**Saturday, February 28th: Office Closed**

**Save the Date:**

**March 6:** World Day of Prayer

**March 8:** Clocks Spring Forward an Hour

**March 15:** Churchwide Fellowship Luncheon; Deadline to Order Easter Lilies

**March 21:** Trinity Presbytery PW Annual Gathering with Rev. Brooklynn Smith at SOPC

**March 29:** Palm Sunday

**April 2:** Maundy Thursday

**April 3:** Good Friday

**April 5:** Easter Sunday

**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 *Gloria Patri* 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\*

<b>In Our Prayers:</b> God's Direction for SOPC Those Less Fortunate The Family of Peggy Are Molly Jackson Myrna Gause Vicki Delesandro Asher Mellitz Jimmy Revelle & Annie Moffatt Janet & Nealy Jordan Aletha & Derek Robinson John Carter Monroe Swearingen Al & Margaret Charles Fran & Jeffrey Brannon Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, Cuba Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)	<b>Those in Retirement Communities, Assisted Living, &amp; Nursing Facilities:</b> Dave, Rich & Sam Allen Edith Blanchett Barbara Fowler Bobby Sellars Barry Shatzer Charlaine Pilkington Virginia Martinez Jim Wilhide Ira Leon Willie Hale
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**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 youth group** will meet here at 5:30 pm for food, fun, fellowship, games, and a series of study for Lent on **Spiritual Renewal**.
- **Confirmation Class** will meet in the youth room at 4:30 pm today.
- Please come by the **table in the Narthex** and sign up for **Spring Small Groups!** There is a brochure with information about each. One example is the **Discipleship Bible Study, which will resume on Thursday, March 12th**, at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Classroom, led by Lloyd Pilkington.
- If anyone in our church family would benefit from **wheelchair service from the car into worship**, we would be happy to assist you! **When you arrive Sunday morning, have whoever is driving you enter the narthex and inform the usher that you are in the parking lot.** The usher will then bring a wheelchair out to your car to get you. The usher will also take you out to your car after worship. It is our pleasure to do this!
- Are you like many who are cleaning out their house for the new year? When you get to your linen closets, please keep in mind that the **Hannah Circle is collecting new or gently used linens for Rapid Shelter.** They can use twin/full sheets, blankets, pillowcases, towels, etc. There is a box in the narthex.
- **Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership:** If you would like to nominate a woman in our congregation for this honor, please submit their name and a few words about them to Sue Kesterson or email your nomination to [skesterson@sc.rr.com](mailto:skesterson@sc.rr.com). Nominations will be accepted until the end of this week.
- **Our next churchwide Fellowship Luncheon is Sunday, 3/15/26**, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. **The program will be about the Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews, and the menu is St. Patty's Irish Fare:** Irish flag salad, Corned Beef & Cabbage, Fingerling Potatoes, Lucky Golden Corn Muffins, & Bourbon Bread Pudding! *Erin go bragh!*
- **ATTENTION ALL BOOK LOVERS!** We have a new list of books to read. Come to our first meeting at Loveland Coffee THIS Thursday, February 26th, at 3:00 pm. In addition to getting your own list of what we may be reading in 2026-2027, we will discuss **The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawton. We'd love to see you just to catch up on what you've been doing! Questions? Call or text Kitsie Miller. 803-463-6958.
- **The next Ladies' Luncheon will be Monday, March 16th** at noon at Tupelo Honey, 2138 Pickens St., Columbia. Please let Margaret Royals know if you plan to attend. [mroyals052@gmail.com](mailto:mroyals052@gmail.com) or 803-608-1434
- Our Fellowship and Roads to Faith **Adult Sunday School Classes**, who are currently meeting together, are studying a **series of lessons by Max Lucado. The title is They Walked With God: 40 Bible Characters Who Inspire Us. Join us** Sunday morning at 9:45 in the Fellowship Classroom!