MUSICAL SELECTION — *Let the Praise Go 'Round* — Boyce / arr. Hal Hopson
Chancel Choir

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON — Matthew 22:34-46 — Rev. Rodney E. Norris
Leader – The Word of the Lord.
People – Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE — *The Greatest Commandment* — Rev. Rodney E. Norris

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *The Apostles' Creed* — Rev. Rodney E. Norris
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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER — Rev. Rodney E. Norris
...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 debtors; 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING — Rev. Rodney E. Norris

OFFERTORY HYMN #203 — *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*
(Please remain seated during the Offertory Hymn.)

*DOXOLOGY #606 — *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Rev. Rodney E. Norris
Holy God, we offer these gifts to you. May your favor be upon them and prosper the labor of our hands, that your glorious power may be manifest in all, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #313 — *Lord, Make Us More Holy*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION — Rev. Rodney E. Norris

POSTLUDE — *Chorale and Fughetta on "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* — Sharon Elery Rogers
(Please remain seated during the Postlude.)

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Welcome!

SEVEN OAKS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
530 St. Andrews Rd., Columbia, SC 29210;
803-772-1761; www.sopc.net; email: sopc@sopc.net

Sunday, October 25, 2026

22nd Sunday After Pentecost
Reformation Sunday

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS — Rev. Rodney E. Norris

MINUTE FOR MISSION — Raise the Roof & Stewardship — Elder Banks Robinson

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE — *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* — Matt Limbaugh

*CALL TO WORSHIP — Elder Banks Robinson
Leader – God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.
People – So we will not fear, even if earthquakes come, and the mountains crumble into the sea.
Leader – Let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge.
People – The Lord Almighty is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress.
Leader – Let us worship God.

*HYMN #395 — *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

*CALL TO CONFESSION — Elder Banks Robinson

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Elder Banks Robinson
Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You offer us your law of love, but we disobey the simplest command. You offer us your gospel of grace, but we disregard this greatest gift. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PERSONAL CONFESSION — Elder Banks Robinson
...in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON — Elder Banks Robinson
Leader - Hear the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
People - Praise and thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI #581 — *Glory Be to the Father*

MUSICAL SELECTION — *When Morning Gilds the Skies* — arr. L. Pilkington
Ernie Bussells & Sharon Watkins – Recorder Duet

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. Rodney E. Norris

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 — Rev. Rodney E. Norris
Leader – The Word of the Lord.
People – Thanks be to God!

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

Music Notes:

Thanks to Ernie Bussells and Sharon Watkins for sharing their musical talents today. Ernie is playing a soprano recorder, and Sharon an alto recorder. The choir's anthem is a joyful anthem of praise based on a canon (round) consisting of three phrases that move between the three choral parts. Our offertory hymn was written by a Scottish missionary serving in Ghana. The lyrics apply Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet to daily Christian life. The tune has its origin in a Ghanaian love song that the author heard sung during a Christian training conference.

Worship Assistants

Sunday, October 25:
Liturgist: Banks Robinson
Counters: Carol Griffith; Kitsie Miller
Head Ushers: Robert & Kitsie Miller
Greeters: Sue Kesterson; Patty Mullins
Children's Corner: Marion Wishart
Announcement Slides: Ash Shuler

Sunday, November 1:
Liturgist: Jim Taylor
Counters: Mark Dillard; Sharon Watkins
Head Usher: Mary Johnson
Greeters: Robert & Kitsie Miller
Children's Corner: Dallene Smith
Announcement Slides: TBA
Communion Preparation: Elizabeth Taylor
Communion Servers: Betty Cheung-Shuler; Mark & Mary Johnson; Mark Wishart

Pastor: Rev. Rodney E. Norris; rev.norris@sopc.net
Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Lloyd Pilkington
Office Manager: Annah G. Hiers; sopc@sopc.net
Accompanist: Sharon Watkins
Building Superintendent: Karl Thompson; 803-237-4519
Volunteer Financial Administrator: Sharon Staton; sharon@sopc.net
Nursery Coordinator: Amy Schwartz

Monday – Thursday
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sunday, October 25: **Reformation Sunday**
- 9:45 am - Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am - Worship
- 12:30 pm – Youth Group
- 1:00 pm – Mision Cristiana
- 2:00 pm – PW Fall Drop – In
- 2:00 pm - ShowerUp & Clothing Closet Open
- 3:30 pm – Love Revolution
- 4:00 pm – The Well Church

Monday, October 26: Karl Off
- 8:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
- 10:00 am – Church History Bible Study
- 6:30 pm – Worship Ministry Meeting
- 7:00 pm – Troop 91
- 7:30 pm – NANA
- 8:00 pm – Mision Cristiana

Tuesday, October 27:
- 8:00 am – Lifeline Screening
- 8:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
- 10:30 am – Live Oak Counseling
- 11:00 am – Bible Talk with Pastor Rodney
- 12:00 pm – Trinity Meditation & Qi Gong
- 2:00 pm – St. Andrews Care Collective
- 6:00 pm – Troop 91 Committee
- 7:30 pm – NANA
- 8:00 pm – Mision Cristiana

Wednesday, October 28:
- 8:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
- 11:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Students Trick-or-Treating in Church Office
- 7:30 pm – NANA

Thursday, October 29:
- 8:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
- 10:30 am – Live Oak Counseling
- 12:00 pm – *The Artist's Way*
- 3:00 pm – SOPC Book Group

Friday, October 30:
- 6:45 am – Lanterns Men's Prayer Group
- 8:00 am – Peaceful Gatherings Nature School
- Afternoon & Evening – Set Up in FH for Event tom.
- 7:30 pm – Mision Cristiana

Saturday, October 31: **Reformation Day**
- Htoo Family Wedding & Reception in FH
- 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Well Church Memorial Service

Our Church Family in Care Communities:

Dave, Rich, & Sam Allen; Edith Blanchett; Barbara Fowler; Barry Shatzer; Charlaine Pilkington; Virginia Martinez; Jim Wilhide; Ira Leon; Willie Hale

Cherished guests, we invite you 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 plate. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

A nursery is available in Building A during Sunday School & Worship for children ages 0 - 4. Parents with children staying with you during worship, please feel free to grab a "Wiggle Bag" from the Narthex / lobby's coat rack before worship starts. You'll find crayons, activity pages, a clipboard, etc. inside. Remember that young ones (4k - 4th grade) go to the *Children's Corner* of the sanctuary after the *Gloria Patri* is sung during the service. If you have any questions, an usher or greeter will be happy to assist you.

There are ramps leading into all buildings on campus & wheelchair accessible restrooms. If you would benefit from: mobility assistance getting to your seat, or after worship getting out to your vehicle, a hearing assistance device, a large print hymnal, or a paper print out of the hymn lyrics rather than holding a hymnal, please notify an usher. When we partake in Holy Communion, if you would prefer a gluten-free option, please alert the Elders serving the elements. All are welcome in God's family and at SOPC!

(*indicates ministry chair):

Clerk of Session: Polly Robinson
Session Class of 2027:
- Jeanne LeBoeuf - Missions
- Kitsie Miller - Fellowship
- Frank Sheppard - Administration*
- Elizabeth Taylor - Administration*

Session Class of 2028:
- Mark Dillard - Buildings & Grounds
- Mary Johnson - Disciple Care*
- Tish Lowe - Missions*
- Sharon Watkins - Worship*

Session Class of 2029:
- Betty Cheung-Shuler - Fellowship
- Liz Harris - Fellowship*
- Sharon Staton - Christian Education*
- Mark Wishart - Buildings & Grounds*

Trustees: Molly Jackson, Robert Miller, Brenda Turner
Treasurer: Kathy Locklair
Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW): Marion Wishart*

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **October is Clergy Appreciation Month**! There is a box in the narthex that says, "Grateful & Blessed" on the top. **You are invited to write notes to Pastor Rodney and Nina letting them know how thankful we are for them** and place them in that box.
- **PW *Thank Offering* envelopes are in the narthex**. Please see the insert in this bulletin.
- **Next Sunday, November 1, is All Saints' Sunday**. During worship, we will pause to remember those who have gone before us in the faith. **Please submit the names of dearly departed loved ones who have joined the Church Triumphant since last November 1st to the church office by Tuesday**, 10/27/26, at 2 pm if you would like us to include them in our litany.
- If at all possible, please plan to be present in worship on **Sunday, November 8th—*Dedication Sunday*** for our 2027 Stewardship efforts. If you have not already returned your **Time & Talent inventory form and your financial pledge** to the church office, there will be a time in worship that Sunday for you to do so. Extras are available in the narthex and from the church office.
- We are taking orders **for poinsettias to adorn the sanctuary at Christmas and to glorify God by honoring and remembering our loved ones**. Order forms are available in the narthex and from the church office. The plants are $14 each, and orders are due by Sunday, November 8th.
- **All ladies of SOPC are invited to our Presbyterian Women's Fall Drop-In at Polly Robinson's home this afternoon from 2-4 pm**. Bring a friend! You do not need to be a member of a circle to attend. The address is 195 Tram Rd., Columbia, 29210.
- **MORE Justice *Community Problems Assembly* is Thursday, October 29th**. Starts at 6 PM at Bethel AME on Woodrow St. Hope to see lots of members there to see how the organization works. For more information, visit https://www.morejusticecolumbia.org/.
- **Our Small Town Adventure group will travel to Hartsville, SC on Wednesday, November 4th**. Contact Marion Wishart for more information or if you would like to join them!
- All are invited to attend **the Adult Sunday School Class' study of the Book of Acts**! The class meets each week at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Classroom.
- **Siblings in faith at our sister church in Nueva Paz, Cuba are unable to buy much needed over-the-counter medicines and vitamins**. We are collecting items in a marked basket located in the narthex.
- **SOPC's Book Group will gather at Loveland Coffee on THIS Thursday, October 29, at 3 pm** for fellowship and to discuss *How the One-Armed Sister Sweeps Her House* by Cherie Jones. Contact Kitsie Miller for more information.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Jeanne LeBoeuf; Myrna Gause; Sue Kesterson; Aletha Robinson; Scott Wishart; Donna Moore; Asher Mellitz; Janet & Nealy Jordan; John Carter; Monroe Swearingen; Al & Margaret Charles; Fran & Jeffrey Brannon; Dan & Elizabeth Turk, missionaries in Madagascar; Nueva Paz, our partner church in Cuba