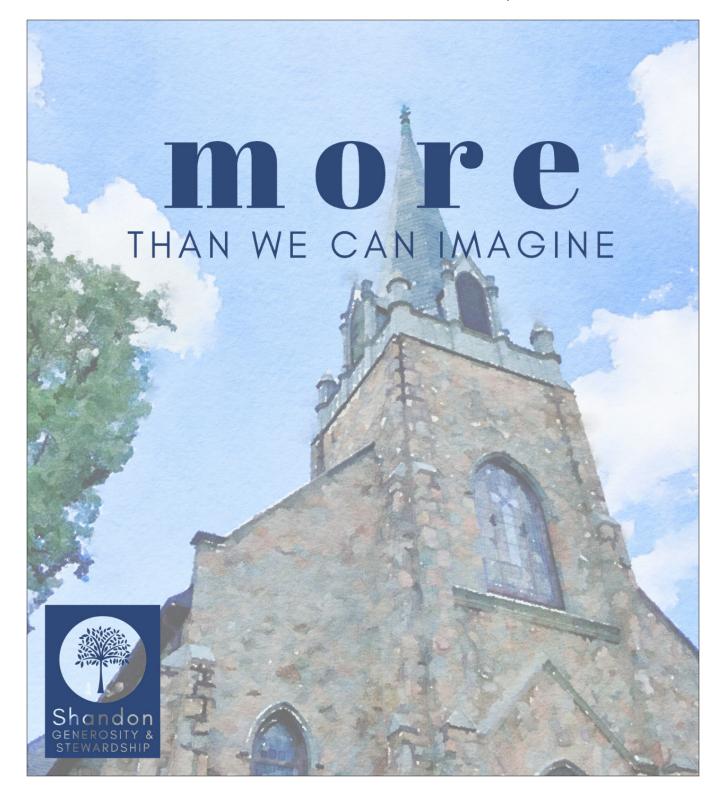


Dedication Sunday November 14, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



## Welcome to Shandon Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member . . .

Whether you are familiar with our traditions or still find it all a bit strange . . .

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Jewish or agnostic . . .

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged . . .

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here. We take seriously Jesus' instructions to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. We don't all look alike, act alike, or think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questons and carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we worship together as one unified community.

Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives. We sing with joy and we pray with honesty.

Hospitality is important and friendship is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade on the Church Lawn after worship. Please join us. We think you'll find us to be a warm, approachable group of people trying our best to live like Jesus teaches. If you're looking for a perfect church, we aren't it. We're real people, and we do the very best we can, but we don't always get it right. We understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never lets go, is for everyone. Including you.

There is a place for you here. Welcome home.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt Senior Pastor

# **Welcoming Children**

Children are always welcome in worship! Families are welcome to sit anywhere in the Sanctuary, though little ones are often more engaged when they are able to see everything going on. We understand that children come fully equipped with wiggles, giggles, questions and noises. Your child's presence among us is a gift. We include a time especially for children as part of each worship service. Child care is available in Room 107 for kindergarten-aged children and younger, if that is your preference. For more information about children's and family ministries, please contact Rev. Molly Spangler at mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org.

### **Current Covid-19 Protocols**

At Shandon Presbyterian Church, your health and safety is extremely important to us. So, too, is the health and safety of our community. **Presently, masks are required indoors at all times.** Eating and drinking takes place outdoors, where masks are optional. The most up-to-date studies have demonstrated that when masks are worn properly, singing is safe. Social distancing remains in place. Our worship services are still somewhat altered to accommodate this.

We love our neighbors and we believe these practices are the best way to put that love into action. Our paid staff are fully vaccinated. We encourage vaccination for all who are eligible.

## **Gathering Around the Word**

Prelude

Tintinnabulators Simple Gifts
JOHN MAYNARD, DIR. ARR. JOHN MAYNARD

\* Call to Worship

Rev. Molly Spangler

In every season, in every circumstance, worship is what we do:

when we are filled with joy when anxiety overwhelms us when we need a friend when our hearts are broken when we are full of good news when we need to hear good news.

We were made to worship God, and God will always find us here.

\* Hymn 309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

ABBOT'S LEIGH

Call to Confession Rev. John Cook

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, God,

for sometimes we get lost along the way.

Lost in ourselves,

we dwell endlessly on yesterday's disappointment, limiting what grace can do in our lives.

Lost in our days,

we move from one commitment to the next, or drift aimlessly from one hour to the next, unable to be fully aware of your presence.

Lost in our fear.

we put up walls to protect our hearts from pain, prohibiting joy and love from breaking through.

Find us, God.

Walk alongside us and stay with us.

Open our eyes that we might recognize your truth and live the lives you imagine for us.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Our Life Together
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

## **Proclaiming the Word**

The Word with Children

The Sacrament of Baptism
Caroline Garlinghouse, daughter of Jessie and Graham Garlinghouse

Statement on Baptism

Presentation

Garrett Humphries

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptism

Song of Welcome

Baptized in Water, verse 3

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the cross of Christ our King; born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Prayer for Illumination
Chae Thames

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:7-21

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory. For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

More Than We Can Imagine

# Responding to the Word

\* Hymn 712

### As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

FOREST GREEN

\* Affirmation of Faith

from A Declaration of Faith, PCUS, 1977

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
God kept every promise.

All that we can ever hope for
is present in Christ.

But the work of God in Christ is not over.

God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen.

The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us.

In Christ, God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy, and judgment beyond death.

This hope gives us courage for every present struggle.

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.

## Offering

As today is Dedication Sunday, both pledge cards and weekly offerings will be collected at the base of the chancel steps.

When indicated, please come forward, pew by pew, up the center aisle and return via the side aisles. The transepts will have additional collection baskets. If you prefer, offerings may still be placed in the boxes near each exit as you depart. You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256 or visiting our website, shandonpresbyterian.org. Thank you!

#### Anthem

Chancel Choir
DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ARR, ERIC NELSON

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he to rescue me from danger interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace, now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it; prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above!

### \* Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow! OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise him, all creatures here below! Praise him, above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

### \* Prayer of Dedication

Your importance in our lives, O God,
 is reflected in our generosity.

We return to you a portion of all you have given us,
 trusting that you will use it
 to bring healing and hope to the world you love.

Make us partners in that work, we pray,
 making use of our time and abilities, too,
 just as you have throughout every generation.

Bless every gift, whatever its size,
 and multiply the good it can do.

Enable our offerings to do even more than we can imagine. Amen.

\* Hymn 757

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

\* Benediction

Postlude

Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices
ARR. PAUL MANZ

### **Worship Notes**

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are Matthew McCall, Rev. Molly Spangler, Rev. John Cook, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Hugh Jacobs, Chae Thames and the Chancel Choir under the direction of Dr. Alicia Walker.

**JOIN US OUTSIDE** for a time of fellowship, special treats and hot drinks sponsored by Stewardship. In addition, Deacon Jim Gilchrist will receive pastoral concerns and prayer requests outside the Memorial Garden.

#### **Announcements**

MORE THAN WE CAN IMAGINE: DEDICATION SUNDAY. While stewardship is a lifelong, year-round spiritual practice, we emphasize financial stewardship in November as we plan next year's budget using your pledges as a guide to spending. We hope you will prayerfully consider your gift to Shandon this year. Every gift is a blessing to the church that helps us reach out through worship, care for our members and support to our community. Thank you!

- Meet on the front lawn for an outdoor reception following worship today.
- This afternoon, join us for a churchwide service project. We have adopted a section of Woodrow Street through Keep the Midlands Beautiful, and this will be our first cleanup day. Meet on the front lawn at 3:30 p.m. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 15.** We welcome your news for the December issue of The Spire. Please submit items of interest to the congregation to cward@shandonpresbyterian.org.

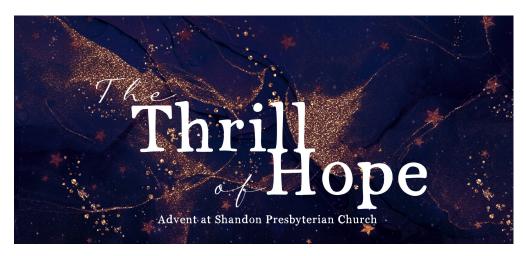
**SUBMIT OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS BY NOVEMBER 17.** The Nominating Committee seeks your recommendations for individuals to serve in the role of elder, deacon and trustee. A slate of five elders, five deacons and two trustees will presented to the congregation for approval to serve a three-year term as the Class of 2025. You may submit a form online at bit.ly/spcofficers, download and print a form at bit.ly/spcofficers2022 to drop off or mail to the church office, or submit recommendations to Sarah Ramsey, sarahsramsey@gmail.com. Please submit recommendations by November 17.

**ADVENT FESTIVAL: NOVEMBER 28.** Join us on the front lawn 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, November 28, for the annual Advent Festival with activities for all ages to kick off the season. Make a live greenery Advent wreath for your home, or help pack toiletry kits to share in our community. We also will have crafts for all ages and enjoy hearty treats and warm drinks.

## **Upcoming Worship & Sermon Series Information**

#### **November 21: UKirk Sunday**

Rebecca Guzman, Guest Preacher UKirk Students providing additional leadership



**November 28 — December 24**Advent and Christmas: The Thrill of Hope

Worship Archives: shandonpresbyterian.org Sermon Podcast: soundcloud.com/shandonpresbyterian

### The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
Rev. Molly Spangler, Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families
MC Jordan, Children and Youth Ministries Assistant
Matthew McCall, Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Alicia Walker, Chancel Choir Director
Ashlee Poole, Youth Choir Director
Sally Tackett, Children's Choir Director
John Maynard, Handbell Director
Carol Ward, Communications Coordinator
Dr. Robert Walker, Church Administrator
Brittany Young, Office Manager
Catherine Teal, Financial Manager
Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper
Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager