



# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

First Sunday in Advent  
November 28, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



detail from *Advent Triptych*, by John August Swanson

## 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 questions 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](mailto: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 during all worship services.** 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

*Matthew McCall*

Veni Emmanuel

MARILYN BIERY

\* Call to Worship

*Rev. Molly Spangler*

We did not come to this place following a star; not yet.

**We have come because we are desperate for light.**

We did not come because shepherds  
overheard glad tidings; not yet.

**We have come because we are longing to hear good news.**

We did not come because a baby is asleep  
in a manger; not yet.

**We have come because we need hope to be born in us.**

Here it is easier to remember the promises of God.

**And when the time is right, Christmas will come to us.**

\* Hymn 88

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

VENI EMMANUEL

Lighting the Advent Candle

*Janet Woolery and Lisa, Amanda and Daniel Grubb*

**A Candle Is Burning**

MUELLER

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope shines through dark winter's night.  
While angels sing blessings from heav'n's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.**

Call to Confession

*Rev. John Cook*

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,**

**Forgive us for the times we are**

**too afraid to hope,**

**too tired to dream,**

**too angry to listen,**

**too wounded to trust,**

**too certain to be surprised.**

**Kindle in us a renewed sense of faith.**

**Lift our faces to look for your light.** (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!**

## Proclaiming the Word

The Word with Children

The Sacrament of Baptism

*Reynolds Gray Tinman, daughter of Spencer and Lauren Tinman*

Statement on Baptism

Presentation

*Sarah Ramsey*

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptism

Song of Welcome

### **Baptized in Water, verse 3**

BUNESSAN

**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

*Daniel Grubb*

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

The Thrill of Hope, a Weary World Rejoices

## Responding to the Word

\* Hymn 93

### **While We Are Waiting, Come**

WAITING

\* Affirmation of Faith

An Advent Affirmation

**We believe that God has come to us:  
that God brought us into being,  
that God gave us breath and purpose,  
that we have been blessed  
to be a blessing to others,  
that we have fallen short of this commandment,  
but that God has nevertheless loved us  
despite our brokenness.**

**We believe that God is coming to us:  
that God is not willing to leave us alone,  
that God is coming to us  
as a particular human being,  
that God is committed to flesh and bone  
just like ours,  
that Mary will soon give birth  
and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,  
that Jesus Christ will be born to us,  
making our salvation complete.**

**We believe that God will come to us:  
that God will have the final word  
and that Word will be good,  
that God will give us the presence of the Spirit  
to continue our work,  
that we are called to be disciples  
to all the ends of the earth,  
that the day is coming when crying  
and sorrow and suffering will be no more,  
and all will gather at the table  
to sing an endless "Alleluia!"**

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

*Offerings may be placed in the boxes near each exit upon leaving. You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256 or visiting our website, shandonpresbyterian.org.*

Anthem

*Chancel Choir*

DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

CAROLYN JENNINGS

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,  
joyous tidings proclaim to the world,  
lift up your voice, shout the good news:  
behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,  
he will carry the lambs in his arms,  
he will ever keep them safe from harm.  
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven,  
he who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
from time eternal he was God, the alpha and omega, he.  
Behold your Lord!

He will come in power and glory,  
he will rule with mercy and truth,  
Hope of all the nations, Light of all the world!

He will love the little children,  
he will hold them in his arms.  
Love him and trust him as a child,  
behold, your Lord comes to you.

\* Response

**In the Bleak Midwinter, verse 4**

CRANHAM

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet, what I can I give him: give my heart.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn 82

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

HYFRYDOL

\* Benediction

Postlude

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

ARR. PAUL MANZ

## Worship Notes

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are Matthew McCall; Rev. Molly Spangler; Janet Woolery and Lisa, Amanda and Daniel Grubb; Rev. John Cook; Rev. Jenny McDevitt; Sarah Ramsey; and the Chancel Choir under the direction of Dr. Alicia Walker.

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION** were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt.

**JOIN US OUTSIDE** for lemonade and lemon cookies after worship! In addition, Deacon Laura Covington will receive pastoral concerns and prayer requests outside the Memorial Garden.

## Announcements

**ADVENT FESTIVAL TODAY.** Join us on the front lawn 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, 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.

**ADVENT BONFIRE AND CHILI DINNER.** Join your Shandon church family and friends for the annual Advent Bonfire at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, December 5. We will gather on the front lawn for chili and hot drinks followed by caroling and music around the bonfire. Bring a chair and a blanket and remember to invite our Shandon neighbors to join us this Advent season. To help us plan, please sign up if you would like to bring chili to share: [bit.ly/spcbonfire2021](https://bit.ly/spcbonfire2021).

**SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS: CAROL SING.** Our monthly SOW fellowship will meet December 8 for a pizza meal at 5:15 p.m. Then we'll enjoy our annual Carol Sing at 6 p.m., followed by hot chocolate and cookies. All choirs are meeting weekly according to the schedule. A nursery is provided each Wednesday from 6-7:15 p.m. Look for updates in your email.

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY.** Help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season and Christmas Eve services. You may remember or honor a loved one with your order. Red poinsettias will be in 6-1/2 inch pots wrapped in gold foil. Cost is \$16 each. Go to [bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2021](https://bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2021) to order online. For a printable order form to return to the church office, go to [bit.ly/poinsettiasprint2021](https://bit.ly/poinsettiasprint2021). You may pay by check (indicate poinsettia) or online at [bit.ly/poinsettias2021pay](https://bit.ly/poinsettias2021pay). Order deadline is December 10. You may pick up your poinsettias after December 26 to be enjoyed in your home or given to someone else to enjoy.

**HOLIDAY OUTREACH: FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES.** This year our Shandon Helping Families program will provide gifts for the families of Family Promise, books for the children of the Weekend Backpack Food Program (Rosewood and A.C. Moore elementary schools), and grocery gift cards for Meals on Wheels recipients. Look for a link on the Shandon website for our virtual giving tree where you can choose a "tag" to help provide a little Christmas joy for the families whom Shandon supports throughout the year. Wrapped gifts – including books – must be returned by Sunday, Dec. 12. No gift bags, please.

**CALLING ALL SHANDON CULINARY ARTISTS.** On Sunday, December 12, Arts at Shandon will host a silent auction in the Atrium following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. This is a perfect opportunity to showcase your baking talent and/or snag a delectable dessert to take along to a holiday party. All proceeds will benefit Family Promise of the Midlands. If you would like to provide a dessert for the auction, please send an email to [artsatshandon@gmail.com](mailto:artsatshandon@gmail.com) by Wednesday, December 8. For details, click on the "Connect" tab at [shandonpresbyterian.org](https://shandonpresbyterian.org).



## **Advent and Christmas at Shandon Presbyterian**

### **November 28 – December 24**

Sermon Series: A Thrill of Hope

#### **November 28**

Advent Festival

11:30 a.m.

#### **December 5**

5:30 p.m.

Advent bonfire and chili dinner

Sign up to bring chili:

[bit.ly/spcbonfire2021](https://bit.ly/spcbonfire2021)

#### **December 8**

Shandon on Wednesdays

Carol Sing

6 p.m.

#### **December 12**

Gerald Finzi's "In Terra Pax"  
and seasonal music

#### **December 21**

Service of the Longest Night  
7:30 p.m.

#### **Christmas Eve services**

4 p.m. Children's service

8 p.m. Candlelight Service

11 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

#### **December 26**

Lessons and Carols

10:30 a.m.

*Worship Archives: [shandonpresbyterian.org](https://shandonpresbyterian.org)*

*Sermon Podcast: [soundcloud.com/shandonpresbyterian](https://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