



# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

First Sunday of Advent • November 27, 2022 • 10:30 am



Mark's house, imagined (on display in the Sower's Chapel)

## 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 outside 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

### Building Hospitality

Our building is a wonderful resource. It can also feel like a labyrinth when you are learning your way around. A few key locations that may be helpful to you:

**Accessible restrooms** — located behind the Sanctuary; use the southwest door (to the left of the Chancel)

**All gender restrooms** — located beneath the Sanctuary; use the stairs from the Narthex (main entrance)

**Elevator** — located just beyond the southwest door (to the left of the Chancel)

**Nursery & extended care** — located on the first floor of the Education Building; use the southwest door and the elevator, following directional signs

**Hearing-assist devices** — located at the southwest door, or ask an usher to provide you with one

Ushers are always willing to assist you in finding your way or answering other questions.

### 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. Childcare is available in Room 107B for kindergarten-aged children and younger, if that is your preference. For more information about children's and family ministries, please contact Heather Woolard at [hwoolard@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:hwoolard@shandonpresbyterian.org).

### Interested in Joining?

If you'd like to be here in a more official capacity, we'd love for you to join SPC as a member. Everyone who is part of our community is treated the same. Joining isn't about special treatment, but rather about a commitment you make to following Jesus alongside others trying to do the same. New member gatherings take place several times a year. If you are interested in learning more, contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at [jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org).

## Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

*Matthew McCall*

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ARR. AARON SHOWS

Welcome

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

This is the day the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Please sign the friendship folder located along the inside aisle of each pew and pass it to those seated near you.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Spencer, Lauren, Porter,  
and Reynolds Tinman*

**People, Look East**

BESANCON

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowing of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

\* Hymn 88

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

VENI EMMANUEL

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 face to look for your light.**

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

\* Response

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;**

**now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!**

**Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.**

**Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

\* Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**



## Proclaiming the Word

### Anthem

*Arise and Shine*  
*Children's Choir*

Prepare the Way of the Lord  
JACQUE BERTHIER

### The Word with Children

*Heather Woolard*

Recognition of the Worship Readiness Class

### Prayer for Illumination

*Jim Gilchrist*

### Scripture Lesson

Mark 1:9-13

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

Christmas at Mark's House

## Responding to the Word

### \* Hymn 87

**Comfort, Comfort Now My People**

GENEVAN 42

### 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

*You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256  
or visiting our website, shandonpresbyterian.org.*

### Anthem

*Dr. Johnnie Felder*

Every Valley Shall Be Exalted  
G. F. HANDEL

\* Response

### **In the Bleak Midwinter**

CRANAHM

**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 96

### **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

WINCHESTER NEW

\* Benediction

\* Postlude

On Jordans' Bank the Baptist's Cry

ARR. MALCOM ARCHER

## **Worship Notes**

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are the Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. John Cook, Heather Woolard, Jim Gilchrist, Dr. Johnnie Felder, and the Chancel Choir.

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE** this year's worship readiness class. Congratulations to the following children: States Hamilton, Hank Hodgin, Hollins Kahle, Carolina Mareska, John Bart Mareska, Ann Hudson Maynard, Nazareth Pavy, Olivia Pavy, Vivian Pickle, Larkin Roberts, Isla Simoneaux, Izzy Tarr, and Maddie Tarr. A special thanks to all the staff and volunteers who helped provide this class for our children.

**TODAY'S COVER ART** features what "Mark's house" might have looked like, according to the way his gospel tells the Christmas story: small, straightforward, functional, no frills. And yet, maybe because of this, the light seems to shine brighter in his house than any other. A variety of houses are on display in the Sower's Chapel throughout Advent. Four of them have been tagged as "gospel houses." Take a look at all of them. Do any of them represent Christmas the way you celebrate it? How so?

## **Announcements**

**ADVENT FESTIVAL** — Join us in the Activity Center after worship today for the annual Advent Festival. A light lunch will be provided and crafts and other activities for all ages will help us welcome this important season.

**SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS** — This Wednesday, November 30, join us at 5 pm for dinner in the Activity Center followed by the Children's Carol Sing at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. Please make your reservations by Monday at 6 pm.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** — Enjoy the Christmas story, as told by Shandon's youngest theologians during the Children's Christmas Eve service at 4 pm, December 24. To help us prepare costumes and roles, please sign up at [bit.ly/SPCpageant22](https://bit.ly/SPCpageant22). Questions? Contact Heather Woolard at [hwoolard@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:hwoolard@shandonpresbyterian.org).

**HOLIDAY GARLAND OF CHOIRS** — The University of South Carolina Choirs celebrate the holiday season with the joy of music! These festive concerts of seasonal favorites, audience sing-a-longs, and time-honored classics are free and will take place in the Sanctuary Friday, December 2 at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, December 4 at 6 pm.

**JUST DESSERTS** — Calling all Shandon culinary artists! After worship on December 4, Arts at Shandon will hold a silent auction of desserts in the Atrium. This is a perfect opportunity to showcase your baking prowess and/or snag a delectable dessert to take along to a holiday party. All proceeds will benefit Family Promise of the Midlands. Last year's auction raised \$670 for this ministry! Payment in cash or check will be expected at that time for the winning bids. To ensure adequate table space for all entries, please send an email to [artsatshandon@gmail.com](mailto:artsatshandon@gmail.com) by Wednesday, November 30 of your intent to provide a dessert. Please also include the name of your creation, as well as a list of ingredients with your entry so that those with food allergies may avoid any dangerous surprises.

**RETREAT** — Registration is now open for the Dr. John M. Preston Shandon Retreat for Spiritual Enrichment at Montreat Conference Center, March 10-12. This cross-generational retreat is a unique opportunity for your whole family to "Be Still and Know" together with other church members. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Register at [bit.ly/SPCretreat2023](http://bit.ly/SPCretreat2023). Deposits are due by December 4.

**CANTATA** — During worship, Sunday, December 11, the Chancel Choir will present "Christmas Oratorio" by Camille Saint-Saens. This work for choir and orchestra premiered on Christmas Eve 1858 in Paris and tells of the birth of Jesus using texts from Luke, John, Isaiah, Lamentations, and the Psalms.

**ADVENT BONFIRE AND CHILI COOK-OFF** — Join your Shandon church family and friends for the annual Advent Bonfire at 5 pm, Sunday, December 11. We will gather on the church 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 at [bit.ly/SPCchili22](http://bit.ly/SPCchili22).

**POINSETTIAS** — Every year beautiful poinsettias adorn the sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons. You may order poinsettias to remember or honor a loved one. Poinsettias will be in 6.5 inch pots wrapped in gold foil. Cost is \$16 each. Order online at [bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2022](http://bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2022) or pick up a printed order-form at the church. Order deadline is December 14. You may pick up your poinsettias after December 25 to be enjoyed in your home.

**SERVICE OF THE LONGEST NIGHT** — The carols proclaim that it is "the most wonderful time of the year," but for any number of reasons, the holidays can be heavy and hard, too. If you are experiencing grief, sadness or uncertainty that leaves you feeling like you're wandering in the dark, join us for a quiet, prayerful service at 6 pm, Wednesday, December 21, and be reminded that the light still shines, even when we can't see it.

**SHANDON 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. Find our virtual giving tree at [bit.ly/helpingfamilies22](http://bit.ly/helpingfamilies22), where you can choose a "tag" to help provide a little Christmas joy for the families whom Shandon supports throughout the year. Backpack books need to be dropped off by Sunday, Dec. 11. No gift bags, please. Family Promise wrapped gifts and books, plus Meals on Wheels gift cards need to be dropped off by Wednesday, Dec. 14.

**ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET** — This annual event provides an easy and meaningful way to honor your family and friends by making donations in their names. Three organizations will benefit this year: Live Oak Counseling Center, the Cooperative Ministry, and Sistercare. For details about how to participate, go to [bit.ly/spcagm2022](http://bit.ly/spcagm2022).

**EMS CLOSET** — This non-profit organization was established to help meet the clothing needs of students living in poverty or whose families have encountered financial hardship. Requests from schools are coming in at a fast pace. Presently EMS Closet really needs: women's and men's underwear (new, all sizes), girls' underwear (new, sizes 4T to XL, except size 8), shoes (new or gently used, all sizes), and women's and men's socks (new, all sizes). Items may be placed in collection bins located in the hallway between the elevator and the reception desk.

**WEEKEND BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM** — Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry. During December we will collect shelf-stable milk (8 oz) and individual servings of Chef Boyardee Pasta.

## This Week at Shandon

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

<b>9 am</b>	Childcare (Room 107B)
<b>9:15 am</b>	Sunday School (various locations)
<b>10 am</b>	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
<b>10:30 am</b>	Worship (Sanctuary)
<b>11:45 am</b>	Advent Festival (Activity Center)
<b>3:30 pm</b>	5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
<b>4 pm</b>	Basketball Practice, Grades 8/9 (Activity Center)

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

<b>5:15 pm</b>	Retreat Band Practice (Choir Room)
<b>6:15 pm</b>	5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
<b>6:45 pm</b>	Boy Scouts (Room 224)

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

*No events scheduled.*

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

<b>12:15 pm</b>	Staff Meeting (Library)
<b>5 pm</b>	SOW Dinner (Activity Center)
<b>6 pm</b>	Children's Carol Sing (Sanctuary)
<b>6:45 pm</b>	Shandon Ringers Rehearsal (Room 223)
<b>7:30 pm</b>	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

<b>10 am</b>	Thursday Morning Bible Study (Library)
<b>11 am</b>	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library)
<b>5 pm</b>	USC Choirs Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b>6 pm</b>	Deacons (Room 209)
<b>6:15 pm</b>	SWS Board (Room 210)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

<b>6:15 pm</b>	5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
<b>7:30 pm</b>	USC Holiday Garland of Choirs (Sanctuary)

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

*No events scheduled.*

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

<b>9 am</b>	Childcare (Room 107B)
<b>9:15 am</b>	Sunday School (various locations)
<b>10 am</b>	Called Session Meeting (Parlor)
<b>10 am</b>	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
<b>10:30 am</b>	Worship (Sanctuary)
<b>11:30 am</b>	Fellowship (Front Sidewalk)
<b>3:30 pm</b>	5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
<b>4 pm</b>	Basketball Practice, Grades 8/9 (Activity Center)
<b>6 pm</b>	USC Holiday Garland of Choirs (Sanctuary)

## Advent Worship: Holiday Home Tour



Observing traditions is part of what makes our Advent and Christmas seasons so powerful. This is true at church and, most likely, in your homes as well. Whether it's food, decorations, songs, candles, travel, or something else entirely, we all have certain ways we celebrate. This is the case for each of the gospel writers, too. Each of them has their own way of telling the Christmas story. Join us this Advent as we visit each one of them "at home" in their gospel. Mark is too busy to decorate, but he understands the true meaning of the season. Matthew has a house overflowing with family and friends. John is partial to Christmas lights of every sort. And while Luke has the best music playing in the background, he's missing one of the essential items you keep on hand when you're expecting a special guest. What about you? How are you preparing to celebrate?

### **November 27 — Christmas at Mark's House**

December 4 — Christmas at Matthew's House

December 11 — Special Music Presentation — "Christmas Oratorio," by Camille Saint-Saens

December 18 — Christmas at John's House

December 24 — Christmas at Luke's House

## Christmas Eve Worship

4 pm — Family and Children's Service

8 pm — Candlelight Communion Service with Choir

11 pm — Candlelight Communion Service

### **The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church**

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

Matthew McCall, Director of Music and Media

Dr. Jabarie Glass, Director of the Chancel Choir

Heather Woolard, Director of Children's Ministry

Colby Mason, UKirk Intern

Dr. Robert Walker, Church Administrator

Catherine Teal, Financial Manager

Brittany Young, Office Manager

Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper

Carolyn Bennett, Childcare Coordinator

Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager

Georgia Shaw, Receptionist

Johnnie Floyd, Receptionist