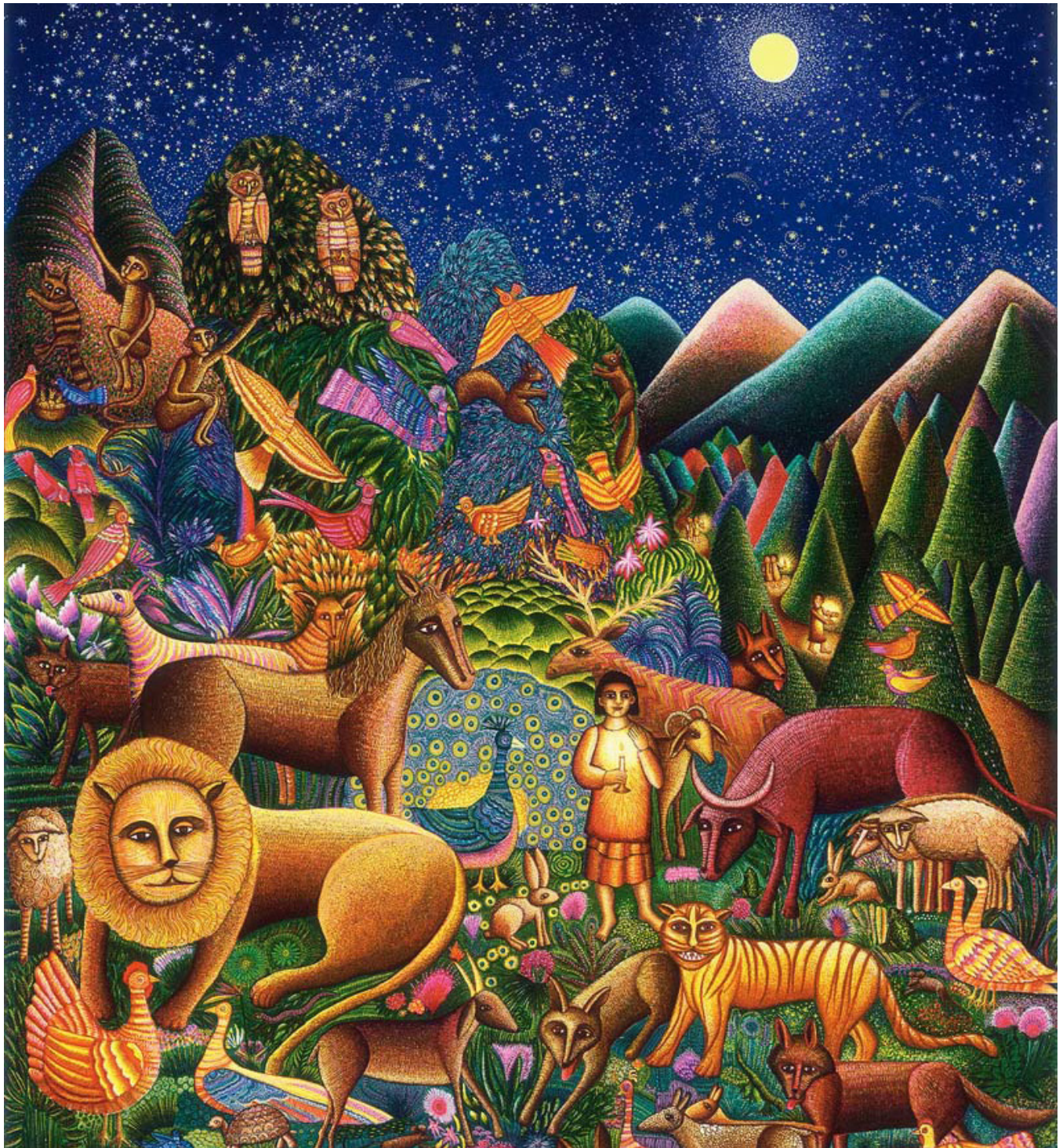




# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

Third Sunday in Advent  
December 12, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



*Peaceable Kingdom* 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 [mspankler@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mspankler@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*

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

ARR. AARON SHOWS

Our Life Together

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

Introit

*Chancel Choir*

DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

Magnificat

FROM COLLEGIUM REGALE BY HERBERT HOWELLS

\* Call to Worship

Light looked down  
and saw darkness.

**"I will go there," said Light.**

Peace looked down  
and saw war.

**"I will go there," said Peace.**

Love looked down  
and saw hatred.

**"I will go there," said Love.**

And so it came to be  
**that the Lord of Light  
the Prince of Peace  
the King of Love  
came down  
and crept in  
beside us.**

\* Hymn 113

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

GLORIA

Lighting the Advent Candle

*Henry and Elisabeth Hall*

**A Candle Is Burning**

MUELLER

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflicts must cease.  
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

Call to Confession

*Rev. Molly Spangler*

Prayer of Confession

**Incarnate God,  
We sing of a silent night,  
but we long to hear your voice.**

**We sing of joy to the world,  
but we are too familiar with sorrow.  
We sing O come, all ye faithful,  
but our own faith is often lacking.  
Draw near to us, O child of Bethlehem,  
Come into our broken places with your light and your life.**  
(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

Prayer for Illumination  
*Janet Woolery*

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Cantata

*Johnnie Felder,  
Daisy Lawrence,  
soloists*

In Terra Pax  
GERALD FINZI

See Amid the Winter's Snow  
ARR. DAN FORREST

## Responding to the Word

### \* 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

*You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256  
or visiting our website, [shandonpresbyterian.org](http://shandonpresbyterian.org).*

Anthem  
*Ashlee Poole,*  
*soloist*

Silent Night  
ARR. PAUL SJOLUND

\* 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

**The First Noel**

ARR. DAN FORREST

**The first noel the angels did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep:  
Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the king of Israel.**

High voices: **They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;**

Low voices: **And, to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.**

All: **Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
that hath made heaven and earth of naught,  
and with his blood mankind hath bought:  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

Benediction  
*Dr. Alicia Walker*

\* Choral Benediction

A Christmas Blessing  
PHILIP STOPFORD

Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
ARR. EMMA LOU DIEMER

## Worship Notes

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are Matt McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Henry and Elisabeth Hall, Rev. Molly Spangler, Janet Woolery, the Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Alicia Walker, Johnnie Felder, Daisy Lawrence and Ashlee Poole.

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP** and the Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt.

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

## Announcements

**JUST DESSERTS SILENT AUCTION TODAY.** Following the worship service today, Arts at Shandon is hosting a silent dessert auction in the Atrium. This is a perfect opportunity to snag a delectable dessert to take along to a holiday party. All proceeds will benefit Family Promise of the Midlands.

**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 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 21, and be reminded that the light still shines, even when we can’t see it.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES.** We offer three opportunities for worship on Christmas. At 4 p.m. Shandon’s children present their annual telling of the Christmas story through word and song. There will be candlelight services at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. The 11 p.m. service includes the sacrament of communion.

**LESSONS AND CAROLS.** Come to worship in your cozy pajamas or your Christmas finery (or anything in between) and sing the season with us one more time at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 26. Christmas cookies and hot chocolate will be available afterward!

**RETURN SHANDON HELPING FAMILIES GIFTS TODAY.** Our Shandon Helping Families program is providing gifts for the families of Family Promise, books for the children of the Weekend Backpack Food Program and grocery gift cards for Meals on Wheels recipients. Gift deadline is today. For details, go to [bit.ly/spcholiday2021](http://bit.ly/spcholiday2021).

**ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET.** This annual event provides an easy and meaningful way to plan your Christmas shopping and to honor your family and friends by making donations in their names. Three organizations supported by Shandon Presbyterian will benefit this year: The Cooperative Ministry, Free Medical Clinic and Live Oak Counseling Center. For details about how to participate, go to [bit.ly/spcholiday2021](http://bit.ly/spcholiday2021).

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15.** We welcome your news for the January issue of The Spire. Please submit items of interest to the congregation to [cward@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:cward@shandonpresbyterian.org).

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS? THINK CAFÉ JUSTO.** At only \$10 for a full pound, Café Justo is the perfect gift for the coffee lover on your holiday gift list. It’s fast and easy to order. Email Rowena Nylund, [Rnylund@sc.rr.com](mailto:Rnylund@sc.rr.com), call 803- 252-7752 or text 803-743-7122. And you get a beautiful cloth gift bag to make wrapping a breeze.



## **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