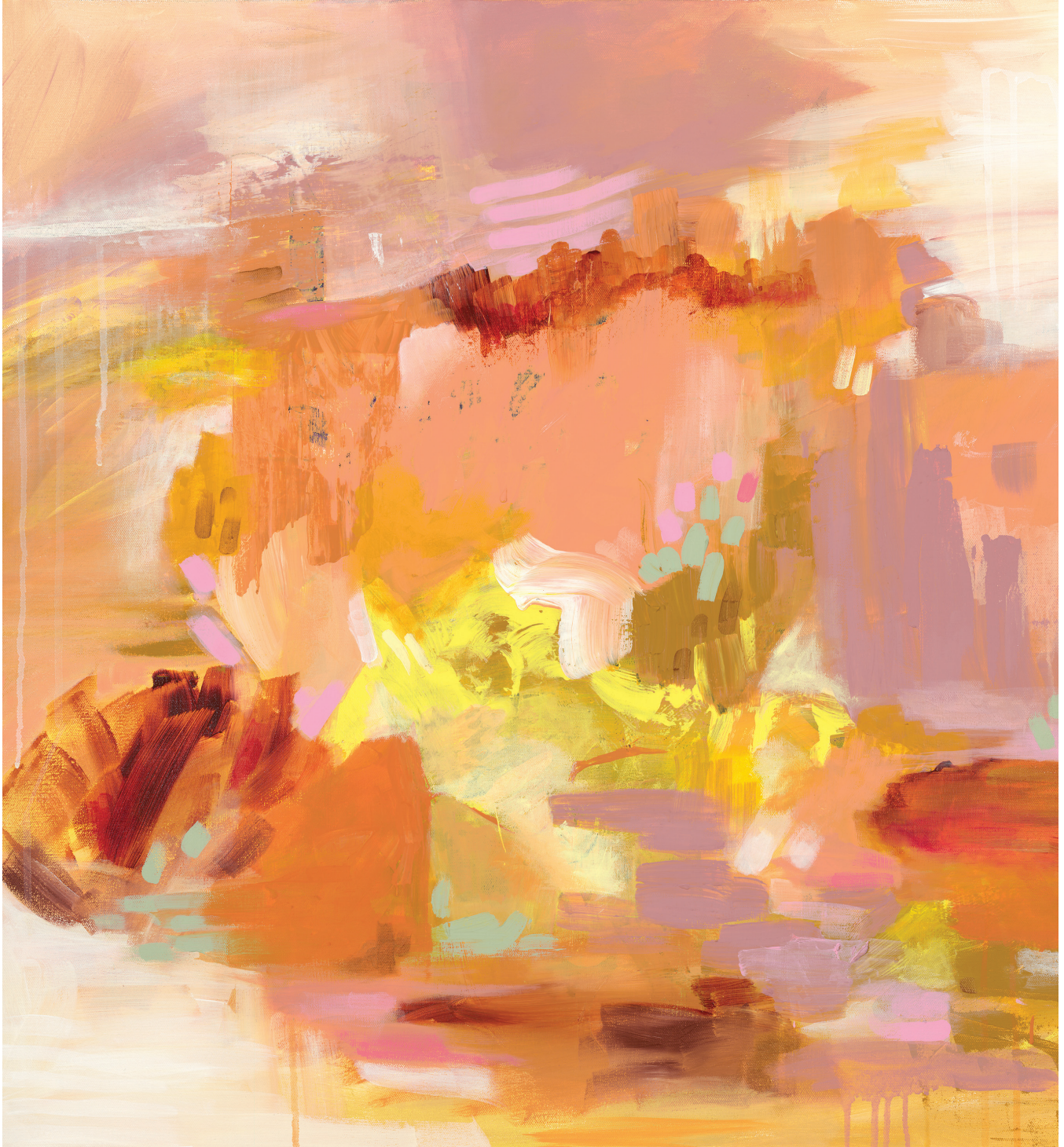




# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

Second Sunday in Advent  
December 5, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



*Desert Blooms* by Lauren Wright Pittman

## 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*

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ARR. AARON SHOWS

\* Call to Worship

*Rev. Molly Spangler*

In the midst of the barren land,

**flowers burst into bloom.**

In the midst of the dry desert,

**streams of water gush forth.**

In the midst of grief and sorrow,

**joy and gladness dance together.**

We shall see the glory of God.

**Let us rejoice in the one who makes  
a highway in the wilderness.**

\* Hymn 87

**Comfort, Comfort Now My People**

GENEVAN 42

Lighting the Advent Candle

*Robin, Marcia, Linnea and RJ Bacon, Joel and Carolyn Winchip*

**A Candle Is Burning**

MUELLER

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy,**

**a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.**

**Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow**

**as joy brightens winter like sunlight on snow.**

Call to Confession

*Rev. John Cook*

Prayer of Confession

**God of majesty and glory,**

**we are thirsty for your grace.**

**You made a way for us in the wilderness,**

**and still, in our foolishness, we go astray.**

**We hide our eyes from your presence.**

**We do not listen to your word.**

**We are lifeless when we ought to dance**

**and speechless when we ought to sing.**

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Send joy to our fearful hearts,**

**strengthen our weak hands,**

**and make firm our feeble knees**

**as we seek to follow in your holy way. Amen.**

(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

## Proclaiming the Word

The Word with Children

Prayer for Illumination  
*Libby Campbell-Turner*

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Sermon

*Rev. Molly Spangler*

Joy and Nothing Less

## Responding to the Word

\* Hymn 100

**My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout**

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Offering

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

Anthem

*Chancel Choir*

DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

I Will Make a Way

TOM TRENNEY

Behold! I will do a new thing!  
Everything old has passed away.  
See, everything old has become new.  
I will make a way in the wilderness.  
I will make rivers in the desert.  
Everything has become new.

Do not remember the former things  
or consider the ways of old.  
See, everything has become new.

The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and ostriches.  
For I give water in the wilderness; the desert shall be a pool.  
See, everything old has passed away!

\* 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 93

**Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

TRURO

\* Benediction

Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo

ARR. J.S. BACH

## Worship Notes

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are Matthew McCall; Rev. Molly Spangler; Rev. John Cook; Robin, Marcia, Linnea and RJ Bacon; Joel and Carolyn Winchip; Libby Campbell-Turner; and the Chancel Choir under the direction of Dr. Alicia Walker.

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP** was adapted from a prayer written by Laura Jaquith Bartlett, and the Prayer of Confession was adapted from a prayer written by Kimberly Bracken Long.

**THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ted and Amelia DesChamps Petoskey by their daughter, Julie Petoskey Smoak.

**THE ROSEBUD** on the Chancel Table is presented to the glory of God in honor of Rosemary "Rosie" Nan Baughman, daughter of Jessica and Matthew Baughman, who was born November 28, 2021.

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

## Announcements

**ADVENT BONFIRE AND CHILI DINNER TODAY.** Join your Shandon church family and friends on the front lawn at 5:30 p.m. today for the annual Advent Bonfire. We will enjoy 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.

**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. A nursery will be provided 6-7:15 p.m. Look for updates in your email.

**SHANDON THANKS SALLY TACKETT FOR SERVICE WITH MUSIC MINISTRY.** It is with gratitude in our hearts that we share the news that our Children's Choir Director, Sally Tackett, will be finishing her time with us at the end of this year. Sally has shared her gifts of teaching and her love of music with us since 2019, and we will miss her creativity and joyful presence. We

will gather on the front lawn to say thank you to Sally following the Carol Sing on Wednesday, December 8. We will share hot drinks and dessert and our appreciation of all that Sally has done for this community. A basket will be available to collect cards and any other expressions of love and gratitude you may wish to offer.

**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](http://shandonpresbyterian.org).

**GERALD FINZI'S IN TERRA PAX.** The Chancel Choir will present special holiday music at the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 12. *In Terra Pax* is a setting of two verses from Robert Bridges' poem, *Noel: Christmas Eve, 1913*, which Gerald Finzi uses to frame St. Luke's account of the angels' appearance to the shepherds.

**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.

**HOLIDAY OUTREACH.** 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. Also, the annual **Alternative Gift Market** 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 in these two projects to share the holiday spirit in our community, go to [bit.ly/spcholiday2021](http://bit.ly/spcholiday2021).

**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 6½-inch pots wrapped in gold foil. Cost is \$16 each. Go to [bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2021](http://bit.ly/spcpoinsettias2021) to order online. For a printable order form to return to the church office, go to [bit.ly/poinsettiasprint2021](http://bit.ly/poinsettiasprint2021). You may pay by check (indicate poinsettia) or online at [bit.ly/poinsettias2021pay](http://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.

**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. Varieties are dark roast and medium roast and whole bean or ground in decaf, 100% Arabica, 50% Arabica/50% Robusta and 100% Robusta.



## 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