



Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

Christmas Day • December 25, 2022 • 10:30 am



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

Just as Jesus welcomes the little children to come, so we welcome children of all ages in our worship services. We are better when all members of our family are here! In order to make the worship service as welcoming for our littlest ones as possible, we provide engaging worship bags and a Word with Children every time we gather. After the Word with Children, kindergarten-aged children and younger may leave for extended care in Room 107B or stay for the remainder of worship. The first time your child attends extended care, please accompany them to sign them in (then feel free to return to the Sanctuary). It is always a joy to have your children and all the wiggles, giggles, questions, noises, and insights they bring. If you have any questions about how to enhance your child's worship experience, or if you're looking to get involved with our children's and family ministries, please contact Heather Woolard at 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.

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Matthew McCall

God, Rest Ye Merry

ARR. AARON SHOWS

Welcome

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

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

Call to Worship

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy, for all people.
To you is born this day, in the city of David,
a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**There is nothing in death or life,
in things present, or things to come,
nothing in all creation,
that can separate us from the love of God,
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice!
Thanks be to God! Amen!

* Carol 143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

* Prayer

Rev. John Cook

**Christ among us, Light of the World,
heal our brokenness and bring us to wholeness,
ease our pain, and bring us hope, strength, and life.
Give us new hearts, new hope, and a new song,
that our lives would reflect your love for all.** (Silent prayer)

* Assurance of God's Grace

* Response

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

**Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Glory to God on high!**

* Passing of the Peace

Proclaiming the Word

Time with Children

The First Lesson

John Maynard

Glory Revealed to All

ISAIAH 40:1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Carol 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

**"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace," so says our God.
"Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."**

**Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is spread abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.**

The Second Lesson

Marie Maynard

Equal, Beloved, and United

GALATIANS 3:27-28, 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Carol 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King,"
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and we at war on earth hear not the tidings that they bring;
O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

The Third Lesson

John Steedman

A Servant of Peace Is Born

LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Carol 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.**

The Fourth Lesson

Adored by Outsiders

LUKE 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Carol 147

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain to 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.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
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 nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

The Fifth Lesson

Taking the Form of a Slave

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Carol 145

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

**What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come one, come all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

The Sixth Lesson

A Savior for All People

LUKE 2:25-32

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Hail the heaven-born prince of peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

The Seventh Lesson

Love's Living Word

JOHN 1:1-13,18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

Carol 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come, ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the king of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

Responding to the Word

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.*

Musical Offering *Mike Hughes*

The Wexford Carol
ARR. JOSEPH MARTIN

Good people all, this Christmastime, consider well and bear in mind
what our good God for us has done in sending his beloved Son.

* 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

* Carol 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

* Benediction

* Postlude

Go Tell It On the Mountain

ARR. MARK HAYES

Worship Notes

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. John Cook, John Maynard, Marie Maynard, John Steedman, and Mike Hughes.

AFTER WORSHIP — Join us for Christmas cookies, hot chocolate, and fellowship on the front sidewalk. A deacon will be present near the baptismal font to receive prayer concerns or pastoral updates.

Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Sunday School classes for all ages will resume on Sunday, January 8 at 9:15 am.

POINSETTIAS — After worship this morning, poinsettias dedicated in memory or honor of loved ones may be taken home or shared with someone who would enjoy their beauty.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED — The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, December 27. The church office will be closed on Monday, January 2 in observance of the New Year. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3.

SIGN UP TO READ SCRIPTURE — Worship is something we do together. It requires an active role of each of us — praying, singing, listening, and more. If you would like to help lead the congregation in worship by reading Scripture, sign up at bit.ly/SPCreaders. Details are included at the link. Readers of all ages are welcome! Questions? Contact Matt McCall at mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org.

EPIPHANY — This year, we celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 1 — a wonderful way to celebrate the hope and promise of a new year. Join us as we tell the story of the Magi who journeyed to meet the baby Jesus following a star. Everyone will receive a “star word” to help guide them through the year ahead. This service is a mix of an old story and new traditions. Come see where the light will lead us!

MONTREAT COLLEGE CONFERENCE — Shandon college students, join UKirk SC and 1,000 other students at Montreat College Conference, “Keep Going,” January 2-5. This conference is similar to the youth conferences, but tailored for college students. We will stay at the South Carolina Inn with students from other campus ministries around the state. Cost is \$200. Contact Rev. John Cook at jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org for more information or to register.

SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS — Beginning January 11, join us each Wednesday for dinner and programming for all ages. Dinner takes place at 5 pm in the Activity Center. At 6 pm, there is adult programming, youth Bible study, and Arise & Shine Children’s Choir rehearsal. At 6:30 pm there is Children’s Bible study and Shandon Ringers rehearsal. At 7:30 pm there is Chancel Choir rehearsal. Dinner reservations are due each Monday by 6 pm. Childcare is available for children under the age of four.

HYMN FESTIVAL — Micah 6:8 instructs us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Join us Sunday, January 22 at 3 pm to sing the way of justice and celebrate the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr. This event will be led by Shandon’s music ministry and community friends.

BLOOD DRIVE — The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at Shandon Presbyterian Church in the Activity Center on Sunday, January 29th, between 9 am and 1 pm. Please consider donating, if you are able. Go to redcrossblood.org to complete the required pre-registration. For more information or assistance registering online, contact Linda McDonald at 803-530-5154 or lichmac@aol.com. Thank you for giving gift of life!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 12, 2022, immediately following the 10:30 am worship service. The congregation will receive the 2022 annual report and the 2023 budget, elect officers to the class of 2026, and approve pastoral terms of call. Documentation will be available beginning January 29.

WEEKEND BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM — December collection items include shelf-stable milk (8 oz.) and individual servings of Chef Boyardee Pasta.

This Week at Shandon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Fellowship (Front Sidewalk)
3:30 pm 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

All day Church Office Closed
6:15 pm 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
7 pm Basketball Practice, Forest Lake (Activity Center)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

6:15 pm Basketball Practice, Grades 4-5 Girls (Activity Center)
6:15 pm Session (Room 209)
7 pm Adult Basketball Practice (Activity Center)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:30 am Quilt Group (Room 210)
12:15 pm Staff Meeting (Library)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

6:15 pm Basketball Practice, Grades 8-9 Boys (Activity Center)
7 pm Basketball Practice, Grades 10-12 Boys, McLean (Activity Center)
8 pm Basketball Practice, Grades 10-12 Boys, Hillman (Activity Center)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

6:15 pm 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

No events scheduled.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

10:30 am Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)
11:30 am Fellowship (Front Sidewalk)
3:30 pm 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
4 pm Basketball Practice, Grades 8-9 Boys (Activity Center)

Upcoming Worship

January 1 — Epiphany

January 8 — Baptism of Our Lord — Jackson Ringley preaching

EVERYONE'S FAVORITE HERESIES:

Theological Missteps Throughout History (and Still Today)



Beginning January 15 at Shandon Presbyterian Church | Sundays at 10:30 am

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

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