February 20, 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 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 week, 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 enjoy fellowship and refreshments outside 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 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 kindergartenaged children and younger, if that is your preference. For more information about children's and family ministries, contact Jackson Ringley at jringley@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.

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. While all of our seating is in use, social distancing between households is encouraged. 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 all fully vaccinated. We encourage vaccination for all who are eligible.

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Matthew McCall

My Jesus, I Love Thee ARR. DAN FORREST

Welcome

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

* Call to Worship

The gospel is the story that saves us.

It is the story of light and life, of breath and spirit, of fragility and brokenness and unending grace.

It is the story of fisherman and outcasts, of healers and healing, of seeds and weeds and surprisingly good Samaritans.

It is the story of death and resurrection, of living water and many rooms, of hope and promises and love that never lets go.

It is the story that brings us together in moments when memory and mystery join hands and everything ordinary becomes extraordinary.

Let us tell the story! Let us worship God!

* Hymn 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

Call to Confession Rev. John Cook

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

We were made to praise you,

but so often, we get in our own way:
our words feel inadequate,
our attention feels divided,
our fears crowd out our gratitude.

We doubt ourselves, and we doubt you.

We want to trust that everything will be okay; we just don't know how.

When our faithfulness is too fragile, help us to lean on yours.

(Silent prayer)

Response

Glory to God

GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

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 Jackson Ringley

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Gilchrist

Scripture Lesson

Mark 9:14-29

When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. When the whole crowd saw him, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. He asked them, 'What are you arguing about with them?' Someone from the crowd answered him, 'Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so.' He answered them, 'You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.' And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, 'How long has this been happening to him?' And he said, 'From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us.' Jesus said to him, 'If you are able! — All things can be done for the one who believes.' Immediately the father of the child cried out, 'I believe; help my unbelief!' When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, 'You spirit that keep this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!' After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, 'He is dead.' But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, 'Why could we not cast it out?' He said to them, 'This kind can come out only through prayer.'

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

Thanks be to God.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

I Believe; Help My Unbelief

Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith

from the Northumbria Evening Prayer Liturgy

Lord, you have always given bread for the coming day, and though I am poor,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always given strength for the coming day and though I am weak,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always given peace for the coming day, and though I am of anxious heart,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always kept me safe in trials, and now, weary as I am,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always marked the road for the coming day, and though it may be hidden,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always lightened this darkness of mine, and though the night is here,

Today I believe.

Lord, you have always spoken when time was ripe, and though you are silent now,

Today I believe.

* Hymn 817

We Walk By Faith

DUNLAP'S CREEK

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 by visiting our website, shandonpresbyterian.org.

Anthem

Chancel Choir
DR. JABARIE GLASS, DIR.

Grace

MARK HAYES

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, I once was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and that same grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour when I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already safely come; this grace hath brought me safe thus far, and surely grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the glorious sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than since the day we first begun.

* Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

- * Prayer of Dedication
- * Hymn 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

- * Benediction
- * Postlude

Worship Notes

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY are Matthew McCall, Carew Bates (acolyte), Rev. John Cook, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Jackson Ringley, Jim Gilchrist, and the Shandon Chancel Choir, under the direction of Dr. Jabarie Glass.

TODAY'S LITURGY — The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt.

THE COVER ART — Tree of Life (2004), created by Adelino Serafim Maté, Fiel dos Santos, Hilario Nhatugueja and Christavao Canhavato, in Maputo, Mozambique. A product of the Transforming Arms into Tools project, it is made from decommissioned weapons. During Mozambique's civil war (1976-1992) millions of guns and other weapons poured into the country. Most of them remain hidden or buried. The project seeks to eliminate the threat of those weapons. Mozambicans are encouraged to exchange them for items like ploughs, bicycles and sewing machines.

In one case, a whole village gave up its weapons for a tractor. The persistence of weapons and the beautiful new creation built from surrendered weapons captures how seemingly contradictory realities can exist at the same time.

AFTER WORSHIP TODAY — Join us outside for cookies, coffee, and other refreshments. A deacon will be present in the Sower's Chapel (near the baptismal font) to receive prayer concerns or pastoral updates.

Announcements

WOMANIST MIDRASH: A Reintroduction to the Women of the Torah and the Throne — This class will follow the work of Dr. Wil Gafney in her book by the same title. Purchase of the book is strongly recommended. Taught by Rev. Kimberly Harper Coyle. Sundays, February 27 through April 10, 9:15 am in the McDonald Youth House.

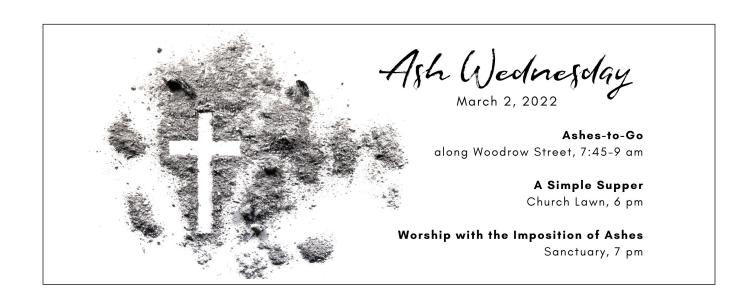
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIRTHDAY/FRIENDSHIP GATHERING — All women of Shandon Presbyterian are invited to gather and celebrate our friendships and blessings at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, in Davis Hall. Shandon's PW extend a special welcome to all women who have joined our congregation in 2021. The evening will include desserts, the election of new officers for Presbyteryian Women and the annual Birthday Offering. RSVP by March 11 to Deborah Goodwin, dbra48@gmail.com.

BACKPACK FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED — In February, we are collecting shelf-stable milk, macaroni and cheese (microwaveable individual size) and healthy granola bars. Drop off donations at the church. If you would like to help pack bags or deliver food to A.C. Moore, Rosewood or Dreher, sign up at bit.ly/backpackspring2022. For information, contact Rowena Nylund, 803-252-7752, Rnylund@sc.rr.com or text 803-743-7122.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH MEALS ON WHEELS — Drivers are needed for Meals on Wheels routes served by Shandon. Volunteers deliver meals and make a friendly visit to eight to 10 seniors and people with disabilities in our community. If you are interested in driving on a routine basis or as a substitute, please contact Harriet McMaster, harrietmcmaster@gmail.com or 803-603-6128.

AV VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — Since the return to indoor, in-person worship, our services are livestreamed each Sunday morning. Behind the scenes are volunteers who work to ensure that anyone who wishes to worship with us can do so from anywhere in the world. From microphones to graphics, camera angles to lighting, these volunteers are integral to our worship life. If you would like to learn more about joining this team and provide AV support during worship services, contact Matt McCall, mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org. No experience necessary!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR SHANDON STUDENTS — Are you a senior in high school about to go to college? Are you a Shandon Presbyterian Youth Alum currently in college? You are elligible for funds to support your education. Print an application at bit.ly/spcscholarship2022, and return it by April 1 to Brittany Young in the Church Office, byoung@shandonpresbyterian.org.



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, February 27, 10:30 am

Things We Wish Jesus Hadn't Said Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching

Ash Wednesday, March 2, 7 pm

including the imposition of ashes

Jackson Ringley preaching

Lent Sermon Series: A Different Kind of Lent, 10:30 am

Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching
March 6 - Resisting
March 13 - Trusting
March 20 - Resting
March 27 - Reconsidering
April 3 - Anointing
April 10 - Untying

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7 pm

Rev. Kimberly Harper Coyle preaching

Good Friday, April 15, 7 pm

Tenebrae Service

Worship Archives

Miss a service? Want to hear a prayer a second time or read a sermon text? Our worship archives include weekly bulletins, links to livestream recordings, and PDFs of sermon manuscripts (as available).

Visit shandonpresbyterian.org, then select Worship and Music. Sermons are also available as a podcast on SoundCloud and Apple Podcasts.

The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
MC Jordan, Children's Ministry Assistant & UKirk Intern
Jackson Ringley, Educational Ministries Assistant
Matthew McCall, Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Jabarie Glass, Interim Chancel Choir Director
Ashlee Poole, Youth Choir Director
John Maynard, Handbell Director
Carol Ward, Communications Coordinator
Dr. Robert Walker, Church Administrator
Catherine Teal, Financial Manager
Brittany Young, Office Manager
Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper
Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager