



Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

February 4, 2024 • 10:30 am



What Is Truth? by Nikolai Nikolaevich Ge

This is God's house. There is a place for you here. Welcome home.

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

AED devices — located behind the Sanctuary; use the southwest door (to the left of the Chancel)

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 104 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 with us in worship. 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-Lawson at hwoolard@shandonpresbyterian.org. Our child protection policy can be viewed at bit.ly/spcchildprotection.

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

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

ARR. WAYNE L. WOLD

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.

* Call to Worship

Pilate asked the question generations ago.

It is a question we ask ourselves still today:

"What is truth?"

John 18

Here is one response:

"God's law gives me wisdom.

I hold my feet back from every evil way

according to what I have been taught.

How sweet are the words of the Lord,

sweeter than honey.

They teach me understanding.

Your word is a lamp to my feet

and a light to my path.

Your decrees are my heritage forever;

they are the joy of my heart."

Psalms 119

* Hymn 459

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

Call to Confession

Rev. John Cook

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

**When we see clearly the path we should follow,
yet still choose our own way, forgive us.**

**When we recognize you in the suffering of others,
yet still turn our backs, forgive us.**

**When our loved ones need words of encouragement,
yet we speak with anger, forgive us.**

**When we want you to heal us and make us new,
but doubt that you can or will, forgive us.**

**We often fail to be true to who we are, O God,
so we have no right to ask this,**

**but we ask you to be true to who you are,
and forgive us once again. *(Silent prayer)***

Assurance of God's Grace

* Response of Praise

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

* Summary of God's Law

...“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?”

Jesus said to him:

**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.”**

* Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Proclaiming the Word

The Word with Children

Heather Woolard-Lawson This time in worship is designed for children up through fifth grade. Afterwards, kindergarten-aged and younger may attend extended care in Room 104. If this is your child's first Sunday in extended care, please send one parent or guardian to briefly check in with their teacher. First grade and older remain in the Sanctuary.

Prayer for Illumination

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

LISTEN



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the



One who is close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be -



gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

Scripture Lesson

Allison Brumfield

Matthew 13:10-17

Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.' With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: 'You will indeed listen but never understand, and you will indeed look but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, so that they might not look with their eyes, and hear with their ear, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.' But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Trusting the Truth (And Pursuing It)

Responding to the Word

* Hymn 537

When at This Table

FEASTDAY

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

April Martin

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

As an extension of Jesus' own hospitality, the communion bread is gluten free and the cups all contain grape juice. You are invited to come forward, take a piece of bread, and dip your bread in the cup.

Prayer after Communion

Offering

You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256,
on Venmo (@ShandonPres), or by visiting shandonpresbyterian.org.

Anthem

Chancel Choir
with Sara Land, violin,
and Katie Eaton, oboe
DR. JABARIE GLASS, DIR.

How Can I Keep from Singing
ARR. TAYLOR DAVIS

* Response

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDETH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

* Benediction

Postlude

Fanfare for a New Day

J. WAYNE KERR

Worship Notes

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY are Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. John Cook, Heather Woolard-Lawson, Allison Brumfield, April Martin, Sarah Land, Katie Eaton, the Chancel Choir, directed by Dr Jabarie Glass, and Byrob Duell (live-stream).

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

AFTER WORSHIP — Join us for fellowship and refreshments after worship on the front sidewalk. A deacon will be present in the Sower's Chapel for prayer.

Announcements

SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS — Join us this Wednesday for SOW! Dinner is in Davis Hall at 5:15 pm, followed by programming for all ages. Childcare will be available beginning at 6 pm for infants and toddlers. Reservations for dinner are requested by noon Monday. Make reservations on Realm or call the church office at (803) 771-4408.

BAPTISM ORIENTATION — If your family is considering participating in the sacrament of baptism, please join Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Director of Children's Ministry Heather Woolard-Lawson for an orientation class today at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary.

SERVE AT TRANSITIONS TODAY — Members of Shandon serve dinner to the residents at Transitions Homeless Center on the first Sunday of every month from 4:50 to 6 pm. For more details or to sign up, go to bit.ly/3OfKn6r.

JERUSALEM WINDOWS — During SOW this Wednesday, February 7, Rev. Jenny McDevitt will lead a class exploring the Jerusalem Windows by artist Marc Chagall. The class will take place at 6:10 pm in Room 209.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 11, immediately following the 10:30 am worship service. The congregation will receive the 2023 annual report and the 2024 budget, elect officers to the class of 2027, and approve pastoral terms of call. Officer bios are available in the Narthex and Sower's Chapel entrance. The meeting will be live-streamed, but voting will be in-person only.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER — Join us for our upcoming Youth Fundraiser! A meal will be prepared and served by the youth of Shandon Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 11. We'll host it in the Activity Center immediately following the annual congregational meeting. Come for fellowship, great food, and a chance to win bingo prizes. We'll also have sugar cookies for kids to decorate. All donations will off-set the cost families pay for their teenager to attend a Montreat Youth Conference this summer. Our bingo prizes have been carefully crafted and are gender neutral. Thank you for supporting the youth of Shandon Presbyterian Church.

ASH WEDNESDAY — Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14. From 8-10 am, pastors will be on the front steps of the church for those who wish to begin the day with the imposition of ashes. At 5:15 pm we will gather in Davis Hall for dinner, followed at 6:10 pm by worship with communion and the imposition of ashes. **Regular SOW programming will not take place.** Chancel Choir will rehearse immediately after worship.

EARLY CHURCH — During Lent, we will have a second Sunday morning worship service. Early Church will meet from 8:30-9:10 am in the Sanctuary. We will worship in a familiar, sacred space, but the service will have a distinctively different feel. We'll gather around tables set up throughout the Sower's Chapel and the front of the Nave with coffee and pastries. The liturgy will be similar to the 10:30 service, but somewhat abbreviated. Instead of a full-length sermon, a 5-minute introduction to the text will be offered, followed by guided conversation. Prayers will include specific requests you share with us. This service will take place February 18 and 25, and March 3, 10, 17, and 24. Childcare will be available.

WEEKEND BACKPACK FOOD — During February, we are collecting shelf-stable milk, mac-and-cheese cups, and healthy granola bars. Shandon provides food for local students who are food insecure on weekends. Volunteers are needed to deliver food and return empty bags to the church. Contact Rowena Nylund at (803) 743-7122. Sign-up to volunteer at bit.ly/spcweekendbackpack.

MARYVILLE COLLEGE CHOIR — Shandon is excited to welcome the Maryville College Concert Choir on March 6 at 6:10 pm in the Sanctuary. This is the first stop on their spring tour. The concert is free and promises to be a wonderful experience. As part of hosting the choir, we have been asked to provide overnight home-stays for the students following the concert. Go to bit.ly/MaryvilleChoir to let us know if you can host.

CIRCLE OF WELCOME — Interested in helping Shandon surround a refugee family with welcome and love as they settle in to a new life in Columbia? For more information, contact Circle of Welcome Team Leader Lynn Betterly at dancinglady5572@gmail.com, or John Cook at jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org.

SIGN UP FOR ART AND THE BIBLE CAMP — Art and the Bible Camp will take place the week of July 8-12. Parents, go to bit.ly/artandthebible2024 to register children. To volunteer, go to bit.ly/volunteerartandthebible.

ACOYLTES — Children in at least second grade are invited to lead worship as acolytes. Sign up by going to bit.ly/shandonacolytes. Questions? Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org.

READ SCRIPTURE IN WORSHIP — 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.

This Week at Shandon

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 9 am** Childcare (Rooms 107 & 107B)
- 9:15 am** Sunday School (various locations)
- 10 am** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:30 am** Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am** Fellowship (Front Sidewalk)
- 11:30 am** Baptism Orientation (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am** Children's Ministry (Library)
- 2 pm** LTO Chamber Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 2 pm** Youth Basketball Practice (Activity Center)
- 3 pm** 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
- 4:50 pm** Serve at Transitions (off-site)
- 5 pm** Youth Group (McDonald Youth Center)
- 7 pm** Youth Basketball Practice (Activity Center)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 6 pm** Youth Basketball Practice (Activity Center)
- 6:15 pm** 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)
- 6:45 pm** Boy Scouts (Davis Hall)
- 8 pm** Youth Basketball Practice (Activity Center)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 10:30 am** Presbyterian Women (Room 224)
- 6:30 pm** Education Ministry (Library)
- 7 pm** Outreach Ministry (Zoom)
- 7 pm** Youth Basketball Tournament (Activity Center)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 12:15 pm** Staff Meeting (Library)
- 5:15 pm** SOW Dinner (Davis Hall)
- 6 pm** Childcare (Room 106)
- 6 pm** Children's Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:10 pm** Jerusalem Windows (Room 209)
- 6:30 pm** Children's Bible Study (Room 224)
- 6:30 pm** Shandon Ringers Rehearsal (Room 223)
- 7:30 pm** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 7 pm** Adult Basketball Practice (Activity Center)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 4 pm** Youth Fundraiser Setup (Activity Center)
- 6:15 pm** 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

No events scheduled.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 9 am** Childcare (Rooms 107 & 107B)
- 9:15 am** Sunday School (various locations)
- 10 am** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 10:30 am** Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am** Annual Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 pm** Youth Fundraiser Lunch (Activity Center)
- 3 pm** 5th Tradition AA (McDonald Youth Center)

The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
April Martin, Pastoral Associate for Youth and Young Adults
Matthew McCall, Director of Music and Media
Dr. Jabarie Glass, Director of the Chancel Choir
Heather Woolard-Lawson, Director of Children's Ministry
Rev. Lucy Youngblood, Parish Associate
Bethany Parker, UKirk Intern
Dr. Robert Walker, Church Administrator
Catherine Teal, Financial Manager
Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper
Carolyn Bennett, Childcare Coordinator
Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager
Georgia Shaw, Receptionist
Rev. Susannah Cook, Receptionist