



# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

August 29, 2021 • 9 & 10:30 a.m.



*Midwives, unknown artist*

## Welcome to Shandon Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, you have made us better by being with us in worship today.

Every week, our service begins with a word of welcome. We take this seriously. Just as God welcomes all, so, too, do we strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God's kingdom. We don't all look alike or act alike or think alike. We come from different backgrounds, we bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we come together and worship the same God.

Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. We also seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives. We strive to follow what Jesus calls the first and greatest commandment: "to love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind, and all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself."

It is our hope and our prayer that you will experience something personal and relevant this morning: a word of hope, a call to action, a spark of faith, a deeper relationship with God. It is also our hope that you would feel connected to this family of faith. If we can help you find your way, please let us know. Opportunities abound with classes, events, and small groups, but we also know that sometimes, a one-on-one conversation is best.

Currently, our services are adapted to ensure one another's safety as best we know how — especially our young children who aren't yet able to be vaccinated against COVID-19. When we baptize a child here, we promise to help care for and nurture them. We take those promises seriously. Of course, online worship continues.

We hope this communicates how each one of you matters deeply to us and how there is always a place for you here.

Welcome home.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenny".

Rev. Jenny  
Senior Pastor

## Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

*Matthew McCall*

Liturgical Improvisation No. 1

BY GEORGE OLDROYD

Welcome

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,

**the maker of heaven and earth,**

who comes to our aid in times of need,

**who gives us the courage to do what is right,**

who invites us to turn away from the influences  
of the world around us,

**and turn towards the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.**

This is our God!

**Let's worship together.**

\* Hymn 687

**Our God, Our Help in Ages Past**

ST. ANNE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of holy rebellion,**

**we admit that your voice is often hard to hear,**

**while Pharaoh's voice is constantly**

**streaming through our ear buds.**

**We confess that it is easier to go with the flow**

**rather than risk the wrath of our peers.**

**Instead of doing what is right,**

**we settle for what is easy,**

**regardless of who it hurts.**

**Help us to have courage,**

**to say no when it is needed.**

**To resist the path of least resistance,**

**when that path leads to less love of our neighbor.**

**Forgive us, we pray,**

**and guide us so that we might be bearers**

**of your light and your love.**

(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  
*Rev. Molly Spangler*

Prayer for Illumination  
*Lucy Youngblood*

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1: 8-22

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

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

Sermon  
*Rev. Molly Spangler*

There's Someone I'd Like You To Meet:  
Shiphrah and Puah

## Responding to the Word

Anthem  
*Daisy Lawrence,*  
*soprano*

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth  
BY TOM TRENNEY, TEXT BY JULIAN OF NORWICH

Mothering God, you gave me birth  
in the bright morning of the world.  
Creator, source of every breath,  
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,  
offering me your food of light,  
grain of life, and grape of love,  
your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,  
in arms of patience hold me close,  
so that in faith I root and grow  
until I flower, until I know.

## 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 Tithes and Gifts

*Text SHANDONPC to 73256 or visit [shandonpresbyterian.org](http://shandonpresbyterian.org)*

### \* Hymn

#### **For All the Faithful Women**

AURELIA

- 1. For all the faithful women  
who served in days of old,  
to you shall thanks be given;  
to all, their stories told.  
They served with strength  
and gladness  
in tasks your wisdom gave.  
To you their lives bore witness,  
proclaimed your pow'r to save.**
- 2. For Shiphrah and for Puah,  
the midwives of our faith,  
we join our voices heav'nward  
and sing glad songs of thanks.  
Their steadfast faith in you, Lord,  
gave justice earthly birth.  
Give strength to all your children,  
to care for all on earth.**
- 3. All praise to God the Father!  
All praise to God the Son!  
All praise to God the Spirit,  
who binds the church in one!  
With saints who went before us,  
with saints who witness still,  
we sing glad alleluias  
and strive to do your will.**

### \* Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on Aurelia

BY MATTHEW MCCALL

## **Worship Notes**

Leading worship today are: Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. Molly Spangler, Lucy Youngblood and Daisy Lawrence.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Molly Spangler.

Following worship, Deacon Tricia Woody will receive pastoral concerns and prayer concerns at the entrance to the Memorial Garden.

Join us for lemonade and lemon cookies outside after worship where we can greet each other without masks and see some smiles.

## Announcements

**FIFTH SUNDAY DEBT RETIREMENT OFFERING.** The Sanctuary preservation and new organ were fully funded by pledges and designated gifts. This week we will receive our Fifth Sunday Debt Retirement Offering as we strive to retire our previously incurred building debt. Your generous contribution will be applied to the balance.

**LABOR DAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE.** Due to the holiday weekend, please note that we will have one worship service at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 5. You are invited to a reception to send off UKirk/Shandon Pastoral Assistant Hannah Ratliff after the service.

**SHANDON YOUTH GROUP: JOIN US THIS FALL.** Shandon Presbyterian Youth (SPY) is gearing up for a new program year and will host a parent and youth gathering to share more information 5:15-6 p.m. Sunday, September 12, on the front lawn. All youth interested in participating in SPY are invited to attend. Please bring at least one parent with you. You will learn more about SPY, what they do and the fall calendar, as well as trip opportunities for next year. All are welcome; please plan to join us. Look for more information in your email, and if you would like to receive SPY email updates, please contact Molly Spangler, [mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org).

**RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 12: DWELL WITH US.** Help us kick off a new program year with fellowship, Sunday School and worship. Our theme is based on Revelation 21:3b: "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them." All ages are invited to gather and enjoy coffee, juice and treats on the front lawn during the Sunday School hour, 9:15-10:15 a.m. We will introduce our Sunday school teachers and share information about our fall educational opportunities. Remember to bring a chair or blanket to sit on. If you plan to join us as we begin a new season together, please take a moment to register using this link: [bit.ly/spcrallyday2021](https://bit.ly/spcrallyday2021).

**ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE FOR HARVEST HOPE.** Shandon's Outreach Ministry invites you to help fill a truck for Harvest Hope Food Bank. We will also be accepting pet food for Senior Resources. Look for the classic Chevy Cheyenne pickup that will be used to collect your nonperishable food donations Saturday and Sunday, September 18-19. Donations also will be accepted in the Harvest Hope collection bin under the portico Sept. 12-17. For information or to volunteer at the food drive, contact Ryn McCombs, [karyn.mccombs@gmail.com](mailto:karyn.mccombs@gmail.com).

**RECEPTION FOR THE BREARLEYS.** Shandon Presbyterian Church is holding a belated reception honoring Rev. Bob Brearley and his wife Mary Ann, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service, Sept. 19, on the front lawn at the corner of Woodrow and Blossom Streets. Bob led the Shandon flock through some stormy waters. His calm, steadfast counsel and perceptive spiritual guidance will not be soon forgotten. For that, we are grateful. When the Brearley's time of service at Shandon ended, the community was in the early days of the COVID pandemic and a proper farewell was not practical at that time. Shandon's pastoral leadership, Personnel Committee and the most recent Pastor Nominating Committee have concluded that now is the time to joyously honor Bob and Mary Ann's time at Shandon. All are welcome to attend the reception, Sept. 19, while following proper masking and distancing procedures.

## Upcoming Worship

**September 5**

Hannah Ratliff preaching

**September 12 – Rally Day**

Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching

Fall worship at Shandon Presbyterian



# WITH ALL YOUR MIND

Jesus tells us that the first and greatest commandment  
is to love the Lord, our God, with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind.  
Join us to consider how faith intersects with science, history, art, and math.

### In-person worship

Worship services in the Sanctuary may have up to 150 attendees.  
Beginning September 5, pre-registration will no longer be required.  
Masks are required indoors at all times for everyone age 2 and older.  
Online worship continues at [shandonpresbyterian.org](http://shandonpresbyterian.org).

### The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor  
Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship (on sabbatical)  
Rev. Molly Spangler, Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families  
Hannah Ratliff, Shandon/UKirk Pastoral 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  
Jessica Joyner, Office Manager  
Catherine Teal, Financial Manager  
Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper  
Gerald Taylor, Sexton