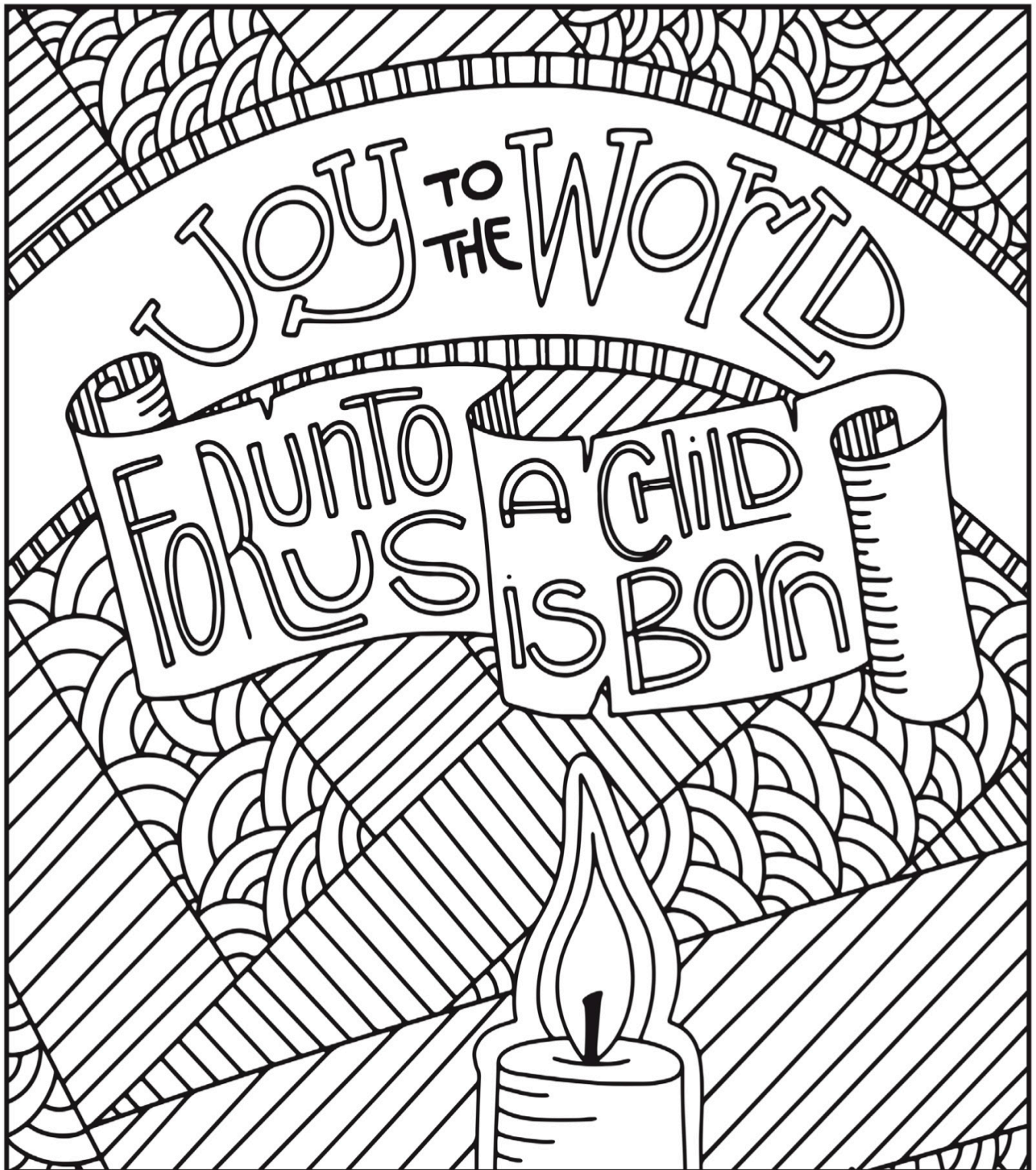




Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

December 24, 2021 • Christmas Eve • 4 pm



Merry Christmas from Shandon Presbyterian Church!

We are grateful to be together this Christmas Eve and we are delighted that you are with us. Tonight is a special night — there are angels among us! And shepherds and wise men, too. This service makes plain something we hold to be true all year: it takes all of us to tell the story of God's love born to be with us. Which means whoever you are, whatever your background, wherever your faith has taken you (or not), there is a place for you here. That's true for all ages. Children are always welcome, especially in worship. We know little ones come with a variety of sounds and wiggles, and that suits us just fine.

At Shandon Presbyterian Church, 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. Of course, even this looks different in recent months. In addition to in-person worship, every service is also live-streamed. Worship videos are available at any time in our online archives (shandonpresbyterian.org). We joyfully worship a God whose Spirit is big enough to gather us together no matter where we may be.

We believe that hospitality is important and friendship is holy. That's why we enjoy fellowship and refreshments outside on the Church Lawn after Sunday morning services. (Yes, even in these colder days!) 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.

Welcome home.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt
Senior Pastor

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

Sing We Now of Christmas

ARR. AARON DAVID MILLER

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle

John, Marie, Belle, and Ann Hudson Maynard

* Carol

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!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God, glory in the highest:
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 that happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n,
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!**

A Prayer for Christmas Eve

**Incarnate God,
the birth of your son, Jesus Christ, changed the world forever.
Help us live as though we have been changed forever, too.
Gift us with the songs of the angels,
the steadfast faith of Mary and Joseph,
the joy of the shepherds,
the wisdom of the magi,
the curiosity of the animals,
and the hope of the baby, born in a manger.
Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.
Let blessing come with every gift and kindness with every greeting.
Shine a light into every darkness,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts,
for we, too, are your children.
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace,
you have come to us this night.
Stay with us always, we pray. (Silent prayer)**

Assurance of God's Grace

Response

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

The Christmas Story

Scene I: To Bethlehem

Arise Choir

SALLY TACKETT, DIR.

Sing With Joy

BRAD NIX

Scene II: The Shepherds Meet the Angels

Shine Choir

SALLY TACKETT, DIR.

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

GENEVAN 42

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Scene III: The Shepherds Go to Bethlehem

Christian Mitchell

The First Noel

NOEL

Scene IV: The Manger Scene

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

(verse 1: Belle and Ann Hudson Maynard; verses 2-4: congregation)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Text SHANDONPC to 73256 or visit shandonpresbyterian.org

Anthem

What Child Is This

ARR. MARK HAYES

* Response

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ the newborn king!**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Carol

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

* Benediction

* Postlude

Joy to the World

ARR. ZACH UNKE

Information and Announcements

Children's and Youth Choirs

Shandon has musical opportunities for children of all ages! Children and youth are encouraged to join the fun making music together and in worship. Children's choirs will resume on January 12. Arise Choir (ages 4-1st grade) meets on Wednesdays from 6 to 6:30 pm in Room 224. Shine Choir (2nd-5th grades) meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7 pm in Room 224. Youth Choir (6th-12th grades) will resume on January 26 and meets Sundays from 4-5 pm in the choir room. Contact Matt McCall (mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org) for more information.

Acolytes in Worship

Children and youth are invited to acolyte for worship starting in January 2022. Each Sunday we begin worship with candles that are lit to represent the presence of the Holy Spirit on the communion table. The moment the acolyte walks into the sanctuary is a meaningful theological message that communicates to the entire church that God is with us. So sign up to bring the Light! Even if you have never been an acolyte before, if you are interested in learning more please sign up and we will be in touch to help you with everything you need to know. A sign up link is available on our website. Contact Jenny McDevitt (jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org) for more information

Shandon on Wednesdays (SOW) Programming

Shandon on Wednesdays is continuing our monthly intergenerational gathering for fellowship and educational opportunities for all ages. SOW happens once a month and we begin the evening with dinner which is followed by children's choirs and bible studies for children, youth, and adults. We also have childcare available for children under the age of four. Our SOW spring dates are January 12th, February 9th, March 2nd, April 6th and May 11th.

Youth Summer Trips

Do you have a middle school or high school youth? Then save these dates! We have opportunities for all of our youth to travel to amazing conferences this summer. You can follow the links below for details about each conference's theme and activities. We also are in need of adult chaperones for both of the Montreat conferences. If you are an adult member of Shandon and interested in joining us for one of these amazing experiences please contact Jenny McDevitt (jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org). Registration information for all of these trips will be published in January for these great opportunities:

- Montreat Youth Conference (rising 9th Grade through graduated 12th grade) June 12-18th
- Montreat Middle School Conference (rising 6th through completed 8th grade) July 20-24th
- Presbyterian Youth Triennium (rising 9th through graduated 12th grade) July 24-27

Calling All College Students!

Are you yearning for a return to Montreat? Join UKirk SC and Shandon Jan. 2-5 for the Montreat Collegiate Conference. The theme, "What's Next?," will dive into what God reveals in times of transition and change. Cost: \$220, includes food, lodging, keynotes, worship and small groups. For information, contact MC Jordan (intern@shandonpresbyterian.org) or John Cook (jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org).

Adult Education Classes

The new year will hold a variety of new adult education offerings. Class offerings will include:

- a study of the Prophetic books of scripture
- Major Theologians (Part 1) and Today's Theologians (Part 2)
- Last Acts of Love, addressing end-of-life planning from theological, medical, and legal perspectives
- a conversation around *No Cure For Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Know)* by Kate Bowler

Contact Jenny McDevitt (jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org) with ideas or for more information.

The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor • Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship • Rev. Molly Spangler, Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families • MC Jordan, Children's Ministry Assistant & UKirk Intern • 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 • Catherine Teal, Financial Manager • Brittany Young, Office Manager • Sandie Stilling, Bookkeeper
Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager

From all of us at
Shandon Presbyterian Church,

Merry Christmas!

May you always remember the depth of God's love which is born to us this night.

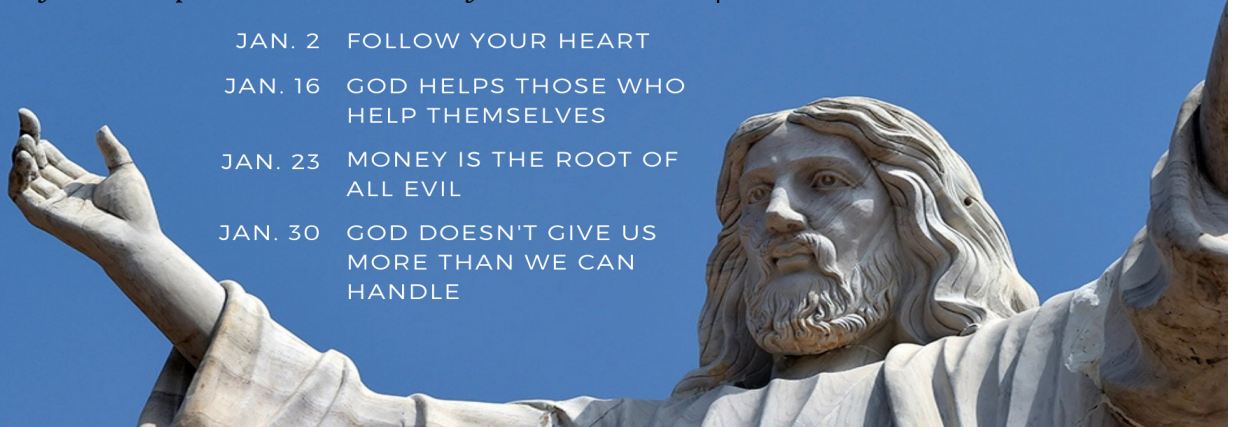


Join us Sunday, December 26, at 10:30 am
to celebrate the season one more time with scripture, songs, and poetry.
Come to this relaxed service in your favorite Christmas PJs, your Sunday finest, or anything in between.
Stay and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies with us afterwards.

THINGS JESUS NEVER SAID

January Worship at Shandon Presbyterian Church | 10:30 and online

- JAN. 2 FOLLOW YOUR HEART
- JAN. 16 GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES
- JAN. 23 MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL
- JAN. 30 GOD DOESN'T GIVE US MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE





THE CHILD Grew UP BEGAM Strong
FILLED WITH WISDOM.

WONDERFUL Counselor

YOU WILL NAME ME