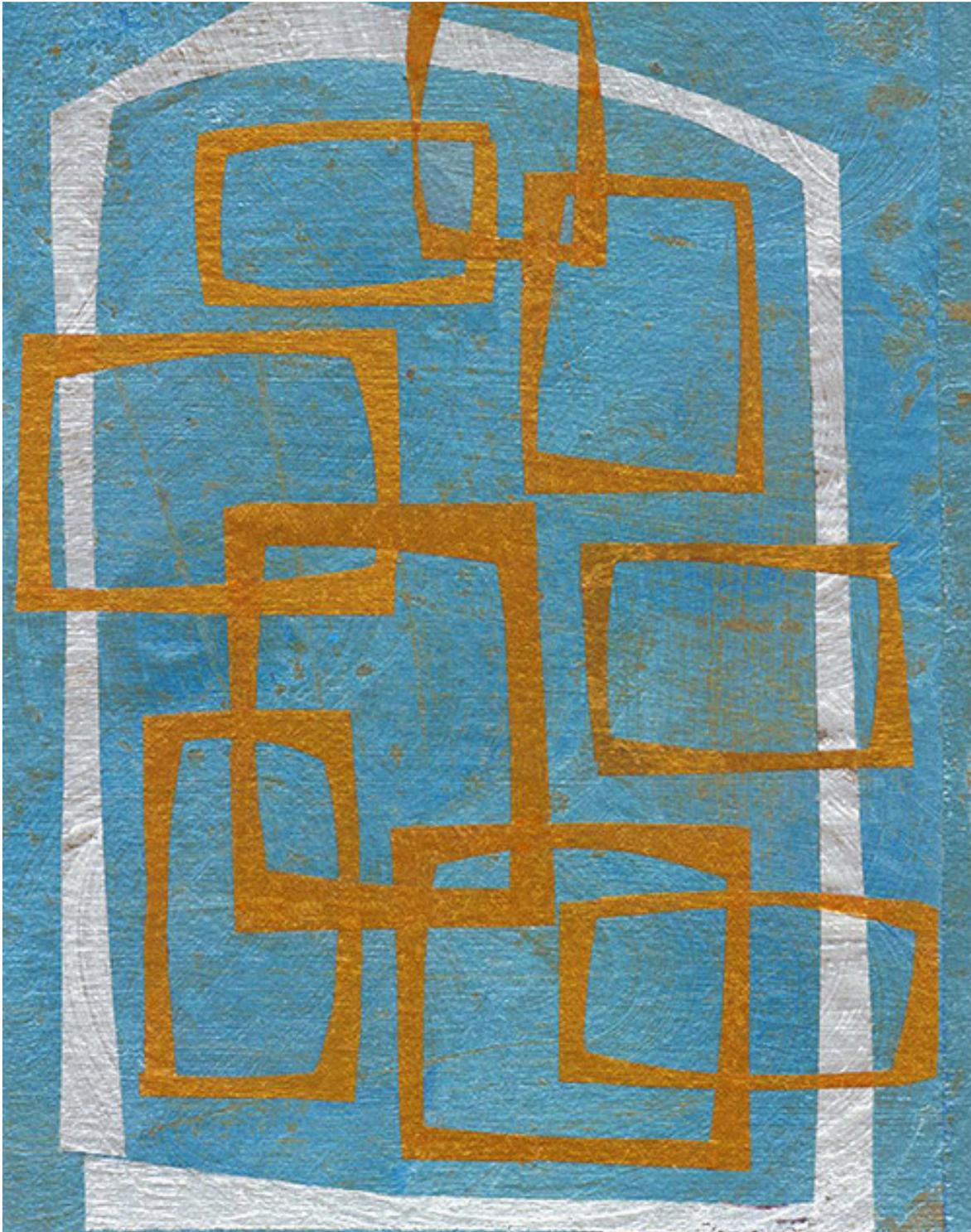




Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

February 7, 2021 • 10:30 am



Many Rooms, by Jan Richardson

Welcome to Shandon Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a longtime 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. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives. 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.

After the service, please stay for awhile. We'd love to get to know you and help you learn more about us. Well ... that's what we'd say back in "normal" days. The invitation remains, however. We may not be gathering in-person on Sunday mornings right now, but we hope you'll take advantage of other ways of getting acquainted. Reach out to one of our pastors. Explore our website and poke around on our Facebook page. Join us for various drive-through or walk-through events on Sunday afternoons. Reserve some time in our Sanctuary to experience one of our sacred spaces for yourself.

At Shandon Presbyterian Church, we strive to be honest in all of our relationships, so we'll say this from the beginning: if you're looking for a perfect church, we're not it. We don't always get it right. Rather, we're a group of imperfect people who 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

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Matt McCall

Fugue in G

J.S. BACH

Welcome

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Call to Worship

Deborah Goodwin

This is what we know:

**the world is a hard place,
and no one is exempt from pain.**

This is what we trust:

**this is a safe place to rest,
and God is here with us.**

This is what we hope:

**the day is surely coming,
when all will be made right.**

Hymn 272

Live into Hope

TRURO



1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re - gained, the end of greed. The op -
2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight and with clar - i - ty, re -
3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to speak, the right to be, the
4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of fear or want or greed. God



pressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
mov - ing shades of pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
right to have one's dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
now pro - claims our full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Call to Confession

Rev. Molly Spangler

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
When we are lost in fear and pain,
we get our questions confused.**

We ask why:

Why is this happening?

We ask how:

How are we supposed to find hope?

We ask where:

Where will we finally fit in?

We ask what?

In what direction can we cast blame?

We ask when:

When will justice roll down?

Forgive us, God, when we forget to ask who:

Who can we trust?

Who is the repairer of the breach?

Who promises to be with us always?

Who can bring life to every form of death?

Who is doing a new thing, even now?

**Come to us in our every question, O God,
and answer us with 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 for Children
Hannah Ratliff

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading John 14:1-7

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[a]; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

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

Sermon

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Do I Really Have to Believe in Heaven?

Responding to the Word

Anthem

Shandon Choral Scholars
DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

Unclouded Day
ARR. SHAWN KIRCHNER

*O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies,
they tell me of a home far away,
and they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.*

O the land of cloudless days,

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Rev. John Cook

The 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

Prayer After Communion

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Text SHANDONPC to 73256 or visit shandonpresbyterian.org

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
OLD HUNDRETH

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

Benediction

Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing
ARR. HEALEY WILLAN

Worship Notes

Leading worship today are: Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Deborah Goodwin, Rev. Molly Spangler, Hannah Ratliff, Rev. John Cook, Matthew McCall, Dr. Alicia Walker, and the Shandon Choral Scholars: Alexa Cotran, Johnnie Felder, Dr. Jabarie Glass, Peter Haley, Andrew Mitchell, Jennifer Mitchell, Christopher Moore, Ashlee Poole and Kelley Powell.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt.

Today's Affirmation of Faith is a prayer written by Howard Thurman, an African American author, philosopher, theologian and civil rights leader. While not a traditional "affirmation," we affirm the universal needs and longings it expresses and the hope and accountability that comes from voicing them aloud in community.

Announcements

DONATE BLOOD TODAY. The American Red Cross donation bus will be in the Shandon Presbyterian Church parking lot 2-7 p.m. today. Red Cross professionals will be available to assist you in giving blood in a clinically sanitized environment. Appointments are required to donate. You may sign up at redcross-blood.org, or call or email Linda McDonald, 803-530-5154 or lichmac@aol.com.

HELP TACKLE HUNGER. The deadline is today to participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring with a financial or food donation for Harvest Hope Food Bank. (A list of accepted food items is available at harvesthope.org/get-involved/donate-food.) To make a monetary donation, write a check to Shandon Presbyterian Church with the memo "Souper Bowl of Caring." This year, Eastminster Presbyterian is doing a donation match for food banks in South Carolina with a goal of raising \$1,000,000. Our donations will add to that goal of addressing hunger in our state.

VIRTUAL CONCERT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH. The Arts at Shandon is excited to celebrate Black History Month with a virtual concert presented by Johnnie Felder. The online event will feature selections by African American musicians. Mark your calendars for 6 p.m. Thursday, February 11, for the premiere on Facebook and YouTube.

MONTREAT WORSHIP AND MUSIC CONFERENCE. An informational meeting for anyone interested in attending the conference this summer will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, February 11, via Zoom. This meeting will help set expectations for the conference amid the pandemic and measure the level of interest to help us make logistical decisions such as transportation and housing. The Zoom link will be included in the weekly Thursday e-mail or through the church office. For more information, contact Matt McCall, musicman8806@gmail.com.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. Mark your calendars for 5 p.m. Sunday, February 28, via Zoom for the purpose of receiving the 2020 annual report, receiving the 2021 budget, electing officers to the class of 2024, and approving the 2021 pastoral terms of call. Call or email Jess Joyner in the church office to receive the Zoom link or call-in information. Make plans to join us as we look toward Shandon's future together.

REGISTER FOR OUTDOOR WORSHIP. Join us for outdoor worship at 1 p.m. each Sunday. The service will be similar, but not identical, to the pre-recorded service each week, including a hymn, prayers, scripture and the sermon for the week. Up to 60 participants may attend. Pre-registration is required **by noon each Friday**. Go to bit.ly/spcworshipregistration to register through Realm. You do not need a Realm login; simply click the link and follow the prompts. Our pre-recorded, online worship services will

continue to be offered just as they are now. For more details and FAQs, go to bit.ly/spcoutdoorworship.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15. We welcome your news for the March issue of The Spire. Please submit items of interest to the congregation to cward@shandonpresbyterian.org.

WINTER/SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL. We invite you to join our virtual children's and adult Sunday School classes for winter and spring 2021. For Zoom links, see the weekly Sunday morning email, or contact Molly Spangler, mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES TODAY. Molly Spangler is leading a Sunday School class once a month for families with children and youth of all ages. The class will take place 9:30-10:15 a.m. today, March 7, April 11 and May 2. Topics will focus on how to find passages in the Bible, how to talk about scripture as a whole family and how to remember scripture throughout the week. Please join us for this opportunity to explore new ways to share God's word within our families. Zoom link will be included in the weekly Sunday morning email.

COMMUNITY THROUGH SONG. Explore some of our most loved hymns, focusing on scriptural connections, theological implications and the stories behind them in a brief hymn study at 6 p.m. each Tuesday on Facebook. Join Matt McCall, director of music and organist, in the comments portion of the video to add your own thoughts, ask questions and find community through song.

SHANDON ON WEDNESDAY CHECK-IN. SOW Check-ins have moved from a pre-recorded message to a 20-minute Zoom conversation and prayer with the pastors at noon each Wednesday. The Zoom link is included in the weekly Thursday e-mail or through the church office.

CAFFEINE FOR YOUR VALENTINE. Coffee would make a great valentine treat wrapped in a colorful (and free) heart-theme gift bag made by the Shandon Quilt Group. Café Justo is available (whole bean or ground) in decaf, 100% Arabica (milder), 50% Arabica/50% Robusta (moderate) and 100% Robusta (strongest). Each one pound bag costs \$10 and has the name of the coffee grower. To order, contact Rowena Nylund, email Rnylund@sc.rr.com, call 803-252-7752, or text 803-743-7122.

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
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