



Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

August 15, 2021 • 9 & 10:30 a.m.



The Tower of Blue Horses, by Franz Marc

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.

We've been worshipping online and outdoors for some time now. We're finally back in our Sanctuary. 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. When we baptize a child here, we promise to help care for and nurture them. We take those promises seriously, so we continue to wear masks and keep some physical distance during worship and all other indoor, all-church activities. 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.



Rev. Jenny McDevitt
Senior Pastor

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Matthew McCall

My Song Is Love Unknown

BY RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Welcome

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Call to Worship

We gather under words that instruct us:

Love the Lord, your God.

Honor no other gods but this one.

Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

We gather under words that challenge us:

Welcome the stranger.

Love your enemy.

Pray for those who persecute you.

We gather under words that encourage us:

Peace, be still.

Do not be afraid.

Be of good cheer.

We gather under words,

for in the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God.

Musical Offering

Jennifer Mitchell,
soprano

My Jesus, I Love Thee

DAN FORREST

Call to Confession

Hannah Ratliff

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

Forgive us when we forget how powerful we are.

How our words can wound.

How our silence speaks volumes.

How our actions affect others.

How our inaction stifles life.

Forgive us when we lament how powerless we are

when, at the same time,

we so often fail to use the power we have.

(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

Prayer for Illumination

Janet Teuber

Scripture Reading

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature,^[b] and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

There's Someone I'd Like You To Meet:

James

Responding to the Word

Anthem

Chancel Choir

DR. ALICIA WALKER, DIR.

Still with Thee

BY ELAINE HAGENBERG, TEXT BY HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

Still, still with Thee,
when purple morning breaketh,
when the bird waketh and the shadows flee;
fairer than morning, lovelier than the daylight,

dawns the sweet consciousness, I am with Thee!

When sinks the soul, subdued by toil, to slumber,
its closing eye looks up to Thee in prayer;
sweet the repose beneath the wings o'ershading,
but sweeter still to wake and find Thee there.

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

* Hymn

O God, My Faithful God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

- 1. O God, my faithful God,
true fountain ever flowing,
without whom nothing is,
all perfect gifts bestowing:
give me a healthy frame,
and may I have within
a conscience free from blame,
a soul unstained by sin.**
- 2. Give me the strength to do
with ready heart and willing,
whatever you command,
my calling here fulfilling—
to do it when I ought,
with all my strength; and bless
whatever I have wrought,
for you must give success.**
- 3. Keep me from saying words
that later need recalling;
guard me, lest idle speech
may from my lips be falling:
but when, within my place,
I must and ought to speak,
then to my words give grace,
lest I offend the weak.**
- 4. When dangers gather round,
oh, keep me calm and fearless;
help me to bear the cross, when
life seems dark and cheerless;
help me, as you have taught, to
love both great and small,
and, by your Spirit's might,
to live at peace with all.**

* Benediction

Postlude

Nun Danket Alle Gott

ARR. AL TRAVIS

Worship Notes

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God from Katherine Cuddy in loving memory of her mother, Anne Cuddy, and in remembrance of her birthday on August 13.

Leading worship today are: Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Jennifer Mitchell, Hannah Ratliff, Janet Teuber, Shandon's Chancel Choir and Dr. Alicia Walker.

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

About the cover art: *The Tower of Blue Horses*, by Franz Marc, boldly displays the horses' power and might. In the reading from the letter of James today, we are reminded that our speech is equally powerful and mighty. There is both good news and significant warning here. Horses can be guided with a bridle; how are we guided in our speech? The poet Mary Oliver wrote a poem inspired by this painting, which reads, in part: "Franz Marc died a young man, shrapnel in his brain. / I would rather die than explain to the blue horses / what war is. / They would either faint in horror, or simply / find it impossible to believe. / I do not know how to thank you, Franz Marc. / Maybe our world will grow kinder eventually."

Following worship, Deacon Patty Kadow 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.

An update on worship protocols

As Richland County has returned to "high virus prevalence" classification (per DHEC), Session has approved continuing our in-person worship in the Sanctuary, maintaining our current protocols of masks, physical distancing and a slightly modified service. Masks are required indoors for everyone, at all times, when Richland County is classified as high prevalence. Masking requirements apply to all persons age 2 and older. A return to moderate or low prevalence will allow us to resume our previous practice, which allows for optional masking under very particular conditions (small groups meeting in a designated space with all participants over the age of 16). We remain committed to making decisions as new circumstances and information emerge, rather than setting a projected timeline.

Announcements

JOURNEYS OF RENEWAL: LAST DAY TO SUBMIT PHOTOS. Shandon will celebrate John Cook's summer sabbatical in September with the opening of a photography exhibit, "Journeys of Renewal," in the Atrium Gallery. While several of the photographs will be from John's sabbatical, Arts at Shandon will organize a collection of pictures from the Shandon family for the exhibition.

- "Journeys of Renewal" may refer to a wide range of images featuring renewal experienced during the coming summer months: play, recreation, rest, travel, sabbath.
- Photographers may submit as many pictures as they like. The photographer agrees to the use of their images in the gallery and/or future church communications or publications.
- To submit photos, send them to artsatshandon@gmail.com no later than today. Contact Jennifer Mitchell, jmmitchell113@gmail.com, with questions.

PW BEGINS NEW STUDY YEAR ONLINE. The Presbyterian Women's Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 17, to begin the new study of the year. An email will be sent with the Zoom link. The meeting will recognize the Honorary Life Member, install officers, remember members who died during the past year and collect the Least Coin Offering. For questions or more information, please contact May May Fowler, fowlermr@hotmail.com or (803) 261-6964.

MINI VBS AND FOOD TRUCK DINNER. Join us Sunday, August 22, for an intergenerational mini Vacation Bible School for all ages. Theme: Arise and Shine. Gather in the Activity Center at 4:30 p.m. as we explore first few sentences of Genesis through music, movement and creativity. At 5:30 p.m., we will head to the front lawn where dinner will be available for purchase from Billy G's BBQ food truck. Plan to wear comfortable clothing and bring a blanket or chair to sit on for dinner. Help us plan for supplies by registering at bit.ly/vbs2021spc. But even if you forget, we still want you to join us for this fun learning opportunity.

T-SHIRTS ARE COMING. If you ordered a Shandon T-shirt, your order will be available for pick up in the church lobby starting Sunday, August 22. Just look for the bag with your name on it and pick it up. If you wish to make a donation for the cost of the shirts, the suggested amount is \$10 per shirt. Please leave donations at the front desk. Please note: The color of the shirt is now navy. Originally, we wanted heather gray, but because of supply issues, we had to choose another color. They look amazing, but we didn't want to surprise anyone with the color change. We can't wait to see you all in your Shandon gear.

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

SHANDON YOUTH GROUP: JOIN US THIS FALL. Do you have a rising sixth-grader? We would love to invite him/her to participate in our Shandon Presbyterian Youth Group. During the school year, our sixth- through 12th-grade youth gather weekly on Sunday nights for fellowship and Bible study. Our group is like a big family, and we would love to welcome all new sixth graders to join us. Please contact Molly Spangler, mbspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org, if you'd like to know more about our youth program.

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.

Upcoming Worship

There's Someone I'd Like You to Meet

Each week's service focuses on a different character in Scripture.

August 22

Lady Wisdom

Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching

August 29

Shiphrah and Puah

Rev. Molly Spangler preaching

Register for in-person worship

Registration is required for in-person worship services at 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Up to 100 people may attend each service.

Registration remains open until services are full. Sign up anytime.

Check your email or our website for the link to sign up online or call the church office.

Online worship continues at 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