



# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

September 5, 2021 • 10:30 a.m.



*A Visit*, by John August Swanson, 1995

## 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

*John Maynard,  
handbells*

Meditation on Beach Spring  
BY JOHN MAYNARD

Welcome

*Hannah Ratliff*

Call to Worship

God gathers us together,  
**in feast and famine, celebration and lament.**  
The Spirit gathers us together,  
**through distance and time,  
in the great communion of saints.**  
Christ gathers us together,  
**searching for new life and possibility.**  
**Let us worship the living God  
who gathers us into community!**

\* Hymn 509

**All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly**  
HOLY MANNA

Call to Confession

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

Prayer of Confession

**O God, it is hard for us to let go most times,  
and the squeeze we exert  
garbles us and gnarls others.  
So, loosen our grip a bit  
on the good times,  
on the moments of sunlight, and star shine, and joy,  
that the thousand graces they scatter as they pass  
may nurture growth in us  
rather than turn to brittle memories.**

**Loosen our grip  
on those grudges and grievances we hold so closely,  
that we may risk exposing ourselves  
to the spirit of forgiving and forgiveness  
that changes things,  
and resurrects dreams and courage.**

**Loosen our grip on our fears,  
that we may be released a little into humility  
and into an acceptance of our humanity.** (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  
*Wayne Bryan*

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

Again, I saw vanity under the sun: the case of solitary individuals, without sons or brothers; yet there is no end to all their toil, and their eyes are never satisfied with riches. "For whom am I toiling," they ask, "and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business. Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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

Sermon

*Hannah Ratliff*

Community, Toil, and Friendship

## Responding to the Word

Anthem

*Johnnie Felder,*  
*tenor*

If I Can Help Somebody  
ARR. NATHAN CARTER

If I can help somebody as I pass along,  
if I can cheer somebody with a word or song,  
if I can show somebody he is traveling wrong,  
then my living shall not be in vain.

If I can do my duty as a Christian ought,  
if I can bring back beauty to a world upwrought,  
if I can spread love's message that the master taught,  
then my living shall not be in vain.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

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](http://shandonpresbyterian.org)*

\* Hymn 36

**For the Fruit of All Creation**

AR HYD Y NOS

\* Benediction

Postlude

*Matthew McCall*

Prelude in C

BY JOHANN KREBS

## Worship Notes

Leading worship today are: John Maynard, Hannah Ratliff, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Wayne Bryan, Johnnie Felder and Matthew McCall.

The Call to Worship was written by Hannah Ratliff and the Prayer of Confession adapted from Ted Loder's "Loosen My Grip" from *Guerrillas of Grace*.

Following worship, Deacon Karl Heider 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

**SENDOFF FOR HANNAH RATLIFF.** Following today's worship service, you are invited to a reception to send off UKirk/Shandon Pastoral Assistant Hannah Ratliff.

**SEASON OF PEACE.** The PC(USA) Season of Peace is a four-week pilgrimage designed to deepen our pursuit of peace. Through daily "Path of Peace" reflections, participants are invited to explore and enhance their commitment to peacemaking, which is the calling of all believers. To take this journey, go to [bit.ly/seasonofpeace2021](http://bit.ly/seasonofpeace2021) to subscribe. Reflections will be sent to participants' inboxes from September 5 to October 6, leading up to World Communion Sunday.

**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](http://bit.ly/spcrallyday2021). For a list of fall opportunities at Shandon, go to [bit.ly/spcfall2021](http://bit.ly/spcfall2021).

**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).

**WORSHIP READINESS CLASSES.** All first- and second-grade children are invited to join our six-week class about worship this fall. We cover topics such as the order of worship and its meaning, the liturgical year and the sacraments. Worship Readiness is meant to help children with the transition of sitting in worship for the entire service. After completing the class, children first grade and older are then asked to remain in worship instead of going to extended care. Worship Readiness will begin Sunday, September 12, and run through October 17 (during the 10:30 a.m. worship service only). For more details and to let us know your child will be participating, please contact Molly Spangler, [mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mspangler@shandonpresbyterian.org).

**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. More information at [shandonpresbyterian.org](http://shandonpresbyterian.org). To volunteer, contact Ryn McCombs, [karyn.mccombs@gmail.com](mailto:karyn.mccombs@gmail.com).

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15.** We welcome your news for the October issue of The Spire. Please submit items of interest to the congregation to [cward@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:cward@shandonpresbyterian.org).

**SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS.** SOW programming is coming back! Mark your calendars for Wednesday evenings beginning September 15.

**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.

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT SHANDON?** The most important thing you need to know about Shandon: There is always a place for you here. If you have other question or are interested in joining the church, attend out New Members Class at noon Sunday, September 26. Lunch and child care provided. Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt, [jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org), to sign up.

## Upcoming Worship

**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.  
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