



# Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

January 16, 2022 • 10:30 a.m.



*Healing of the Paralytic, by John Armstrong*

## Welcome to Shandon Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member . . .

Whether you are familiar with our traditions or still find it all a bit strange . . .

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Jewish or agnostic . . .

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged . . .

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here. 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 Sunday, we worship together as one unified community.

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. We sing with joy and we pray with honesty.

Hospitality is important and friendship is holy. That's why we gather for fellowship, cookies, and lemonade on the Church Lawn after worship. Please join us. We think 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 very 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.

There is a place for you here. Welcome home.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt  
Senior Pastor

## Welcoming Children

Children are always welcome in worship! Families are welcome to sit anywhere in the Sanctuary, though little ones are often more engaged when they are able to see everything going on. We understand that children come fully equipped with wiggles, giggles, questions and noises. Your child's presence among us is a gift. We include a time especially for children as part of each worship service. Child care is available in Room 107 for kindergarten-aged children and younger, if that is your preference. For more information about children's and family ministries, please contact Rev. John Cook at [jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jcook@shandonpresbyterian.org).

### 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. Social distancing remains in place. 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 fully vaccinated. We encourage vaccination for all who are eligible.

## Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

*Matthew McCall*

Cantilene

GABRIEL PIERNE

Welcome

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

\* Call to Worship

It is a brand new day.

**When the sun rises,**

**creation catches its breath and chaos recedes.**

It is a brand new day.

**When God speaks,**

**our hearts leap and our demons slither away.**

It is a brand new day.

**When we worship,**

**we practice peace and God's love welcomes us home.**

Let us praise God together!

**Let us praise the God of this new day!**

\* Hymn 35

**Praise Ye, the Lord the Almighty**

LOBE DEN HERREN

Call to Confession

*Rev. John Cook*

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,**

**Forgive us when we misunderstand you.**

**Too often we think your love is transactional —**

**that we can earn it if we are good enough.**

**Too often we think your grace is partial —**

**that it is too good to be true for someone like us.**

**Too often we think your help is conditional —**

**that it comes only after**

**we have exhausted our own efforts.**

**Forgive us every time we think we are responsible**

**for our own salvation**

**and every time we think others**

**are responsible for their own.**

**Remind us once again that no one**

**is ever outside your embrace.**

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

## Response

Glory to God

GLORIA (TAIZE)

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
alleluia, alleluia!**

## 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

### Scripture Lesson

Mark 2:1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Rev. Jenny McDevitt*

Things Jesus Never Said:

God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

## Responding to the Word

\* Hymn 435

### **There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

IN BABILONE

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

*You may also give by texting SHANDONPC to 73256  
or visiting our website, shandonpresbyterian.org.*

Anthem

*Chancel Choir*

DR. JABARIE GLASS, DIR.

O Love

ELAINE HAGENBERG

O Love, that will not let me go;  
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain;  
O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain  
and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

\* Doxology

### **Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn 547

## **Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

AR HYD Y NOS

\* Benediction

Postlude

Lobe Den Herren

ARR. JOHANN GOTTFRIED WALTHER

## **Worship Notes**

**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY** are Matthew McCall, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. John Cook, and the Chancel Choir under the direction of Dr. Jabarie Glass.

**TODAY'S LITURGY** — The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt.

**COVER ART** — John Armstrong (1893-1973) was a British artist and muralist who also designed for film and theater productions. He is most notable for his surrealist paintings. His father was a clergyman, which may explain his religious compositions later in his career. While no statement from the artist is available, this was chosen as today's cover art for its point of view. Armstrong captures the scene from above the roof looking down, rather than from inside the house, looking up. As a result, we see not only how many individuals are in the house, but also how many are involved in lowering the man toward Jesus.

**AFTER WORSHIP TODAY** join us outside for cookies, coffee and other refreshments. Additionally, a deacon will be present at the Memorial Garden to receive prayer concerns.

## **Announcements**

**MEMORIAL GARDEN PRAYER** — Work to repair and restore our Memorial Garden will begin the week of January 17. Join us immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service today for a brief time of prayer to bless that work and honor all those whose earthly remains dwell in that sacred space.

**BLOOD DRIVE AT SHANDON** — An American Red Cross blood drive will be held 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, January 23, in Shandon's Activity Center. Red Cross professionals will be available to assist you in giving blood in a clinically sanitized environment. You must register to participate. Sign up online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), or contact Linda McDonald, 803-530-5154 or [lichmac@aol.com](mailto:lichmac@aol.com). Thank you for giving at this critical time.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** — Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 13, 2022, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The congregation will receive the 2021 annual report and the 2022 budget, elect officers to the class of 2025, and approve the 2022 pastoral terms of call. Documentation will be available beginning January 30.

**DISCOVERY CONVERSATIONS** — The new year is a time of looking ahead and planning. Shandon would like to assess where we've been and, more importantly, where we want to go.

Last year, a small gathering of Shandon members and Rev. Jenny McDevitt attended a guiding conference to plan a way to take the pulse of the congregation. In the coming weeks, this group will have one-on-one discussions with a manageable cross-section of the congregation. If you are contacted, we hope you will meet to share your thoughts, prayers, hopes and dreams for the direction of the Shandon family. After these initial conversations, we will plan additional discussions with broader gatherings of congregation members. Our goal is to complete most of these conversations by early this year. Please come with us on this journey.

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES** — The new year will hold a variety of new adult education offerings. Class offerings include:

- Prophets and Popstars: Art, Justice and the Prophetic Imagination, beginning January 23 (see below).
- 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](mailto:jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org), with ideas or for more information.

**PROPHETS AND POPSTARS: Art, Justice and the Prophetic Imagination** — Biblical prophets functioned as poets and performers, artists and activists. Ezekiel acts out scenes of the siege of Jerusalem, Jonah sings a psalm from the belly of the fish, and Habakkuk asks that we play on stringed instruments. Together, we will examine how biblical prophecy is a creative force and read the prophets as the artists they are and consider how to incorporate creative and prophetic practices in our own lives. Taught by Jackson Ringley, a UofSC student headed to Princeton Seminary in the fall. The class will take place in person at 9:15 a.m. January 23, January 30, February 6 and February 13. Room TBA.

**CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIRS** — Shandon has opportunities for children and youth of all ages to join the fun of making music together and in worship. Children's choirs schedule: Arise Choir (ages 4 through first grade) meets 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 224. Shine Choir (second through fifth grades) meets 6:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 224. Youth Choir (sixth through 12th grades) will resume January 26, meeting 4-5 p.m. Sundays in the Choir Room. Contact Matt McCall, [mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org), for more information.

**WEEKEND FOOD BACKPACK PROGRAM** — Thanks to many volunteers, the Weekend Backpack Food Program begins its 11th year at Shandon! You can help ensure that students in need have food over the weekends by volunteering now to help pack bags or deliver food to A.C. Moore, Rosewood or Dreher. Sign up at [bit.ly/backpackspring2022](https://bit.ly/backpackspring2022). For information, contact Rowena Nylund, 803-252-7752, [Rnylund@sc.rr.com](mailto:Rnylund@sc.rr.com) or text 803-743-7122.

**ACOLYTES IN WORSHIP** — Each Sunday we begin worship with candles that are lit to represent the presence of the Holy Spirit on the communion table. Children and youth are invited to serve as acolytes to assist in this part of the worship service. To sign up, go to [bit.ly/spcacolytes](https://bit.ly/spcacolytes) or to our website (worship and music tab). If you have never been an acolyte before, we will help you with everything you need to know. Contact Jenny McDevitt, [jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org](mailto:jmcdevitt@shandonpresbyterian.org), for more information.

## Upcoming Worship

### Things Jesus Never Said

We spend a lot of time reflecting on many of the things Jesus says throughout the gospels: I am the good shepherd. Love your neighbor. In my Father's house there are many rooms. Do not be afraid. Love your enemies. Consider the lilies. Forgive those who wrong you. And on and on. In the weeks ahead, we'll clarify and reflect on some of the things Jesus never actually said, but often get attributed to him.

Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching

January 2 — Follow Your Heart

January 16 — God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

January 23 — Money Is the Root of All Evil

January 30 — God Doesn't Give Us More Than We Can Handle

February 6 — Everything Happens For a Reason (Rev. John Cook preaching)

## Worship Archives

Miss a service? Want to hear a prayer a second time or read a sermon text? Our worship archives include weekly bulletins, links to livestream recordings, and PDFs of sermon manuscripts (as available).

Visit [shandonpresbyterian.org](http://shandonpresbyterian.org), then select Worship and Music. Sermons are also available as a podcast on SoundCloud and Apple Podcasts.

### **The Staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church**

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

MC Jordan, Children and Youth Ministries Assistant

Matthew McCall, Director of Music and Organist

Dr. Jabarie Glass, Interim Chancel Choir Director

Ashlee Poole, Youth Choir Director

John Maynard, Handbell Director

Carol Ward, Communications Coordinator

Dr. Robert Walker, Church Administrator

Brittany Young, Office Manager

Catherine Teal, Financial Manager

Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper

Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager