



Shandon Presbyterian Church

607 Woodrow Street • Columbia, South Carolina • 29205

March 27, 2022 • 10:30 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



The Prodigal's Mother, Charley Mackesy

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 outside 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 Jackson Ringley at jringley@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. Following CDC recommendations, **masks are optional at Shandon Presbyterian Church**. Food and drink are permitted indoors. Some activities will continue outside, especially before summer weather sets in. Anyone who wishes to remain masked is encouraged to do so. Thank you for recognizing that anyone who remains masked has any number of good reasons for doing so, and being respectful of that. Our paid staff are fully vaccinated. We encourage vaccination for all who are eligible.

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Matthew McCall

Intermezzo

JOHANNES BRAHMS, OP. 118, NO. 2

Welcome

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

* Call to Worship

Come, let us run into the presence of God,
the one who formed the heavens and the earth.

Come, let us run into the arms of Jesus,
the one who calls us beloved.

Come, let us run into the promise of the Holy Spirit,
the one who offers hope for each new day.

Come, let us embrace the wisdom of our holy stories,
where we are challenged to reconsider our living.

Come, let us embrace the beauty of community,
where we are saved from tunnel vision.

Come, let us embrace this time of worship,
filled with solace, light, and grace.

* Hymn 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

Call to Confession

Rev. John Cook

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
Forgive us for all the times we are hesitant
to say the words we most need to say.
Hear us now as we pray from the depth of our hearts.**

Hear us in our weariness as we say:

Help me.

Hear us in our sorrow as we say:

Save me.

Hear us in our loneliness as we say:

Hold me.

Hear us in our brokenness as we say:

Forgive me.

Hear us in our vulnerability as we say:

Love me.

Reveal to us, O God,
the truth that will make us whole. (Silent prayer)

Response

Lord, Have Mercy
LAND OF REST

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

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
Jackson Ringley

Prayer for Illumination
Cappy Boswell

Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So Jesus told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe —the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother

has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

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

Sermon

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

A Different Kind of Lent: Reconsidering

Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

**And so we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

* Hymn 418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

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

ASHLEE POOLE, DIR.

The King of Love and Grace

CHRISTOPHER ASPAAS

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.
Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,

and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me,
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.
Good shepherd may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.
And he is mine forever.

* Response

For the Life That You Have Given

IN BABILONE

**For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor,
with the gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn 774

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTTGART

* Benediction

* Postlude

Worship Notes

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY are Matthew McCall, Belle Maynard (acolyte), Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Rev. John Cook, Jackson Ringley, and the Chancel Choir under the direction of Ashlee Poole.

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

TODAY'S COVER IMAGE — This image, inspired by the familiar story of the prodigal son, shows us a portion of the story rarely considered: the reunion of the son with his mother. She is not mentioned in Scripture. Most artistic depictions of the text include the son, both sons, the father, hogs, a party... but rarely the mother. This is an especially appropriate cover image this week as we use this story to reconsider some of the things we think we know so well.

AFTER WORSHIP TODAY — Join us outside for cookies, coffee and other refreshments. A deacon will be present in the Sower's Chapel (near the baptismal font) to receive prayer concerns or pastoral updates.

Announcements

EASTER EGG HUNT: APRIL 3 — Gather on the front lawn after the worship service on Sunday, April 3, for fun and light refreshments for kids and kids-at-heart.

MORE JUSTICE NEHEMIAH ACTION — Shandon will join with 34 other congregations to ask local elected officials to move forward with a program to reduce gun violence and an initiative to provide more affordable housing in our community at the Nehemiah Action Assembly at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 4, at the Columbia Convention Center. Transportation by Shandon bus is available. To reserve a seat on the bus, contact Brittany Young, byoung@shandonpresbyterian.org. To register for the event, go to bit.ly/nehemiahaction2022.

TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON — This exhibit in Shandon's Atrium Gallery includes multidimensional works that explore life, death and grief through the passage of time by artist and Shandon member Judy Hubbard. Judy's works are complemented by images curated by Church Administrator Robert Walker reflecting on the stages of grief. The exhibit is open through April 14.

EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY — You may remember or honor a loved one by sponsoring an Easter lily for the Sanctuary. Order deadline is April 8. Go to bit.ly/spclilies2022 to order online. To print an order form to return to the church office, go to bit.ly/liliesprint2022. Cost is \$16 each; payment information is included with the order forms. You may pick up your lilies after the 11 a.m. Easter worship service.

SHANDON ON WEDNESDAYS — Join us on April 6 for our monthly intergenerational gathering for dinner, fellowship, and educational opportunities for all ages. The adult program for April is "Security and Misinformation in the Digital Age" with Byron Duell, Shandon member and video engineering manager for Spectrum Reach. The program will focus on security with social media and daily computer usage along with technology questions. Look for a reservation link in your email.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS IN WORSHIP — Both the Arise and Shine choirs will participate in worship services on April 10. All children are welcome and encouraged to gather at the piano in the Sanctuary at 9:45 a.m. to sing. Join us for rehearsals each Wednesday: Arise Choir (ages 4 through first grade), 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 224; Shine Choir (second through fifth grades), 6:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 224. Shandon's Youth Choir (sixth through 12th grades) rehearses Sunday afternoons during regularly scheduled youth group activities. Contact Matt McCall, mmccall@shandonpresbyterian.org, for more information.

FILM SCREENING — The Peacemaking Committee has rescheduled the screening of *Trigger: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence* for 7 p.m. Monday, April 25, at The Nickelodeon Theatre. The community is invited to attend the film and panel discussion facilitated by Rev. Jenny McDevitt. Admission is free, but reservations are required. Go to bit.ly/triggertickets, or call the church office at 803-771-4408. More information: bit.ly/triginfo.

MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCES — Shandon's rising sixth graders through 2022 high school graduates are invited to enjoy a week of worship, recreation and fun with youth from all over the country at Montreat summer conferences. Senior highs will attend June 12-18 and middle schoolers will attend July 20-24. Go to bit.ly/spcyouthmontreat2022 for more information and registration links.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY — Shandon's college-bound and college students are eligible for scholarships to help support their educational goals. Please complete the application no later than April 1. You can find the application at bit.ly/spcscholarship2022. Please return the completed application to Brittany Young in the front office or via email at byoung@shandonpresbyterian.org.

UKRAINE RELIEF — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is providing financial support to Ukraine's neighboring countries who are receiving floods of refugees. To contribute to that effort, please indicate "PDA - UKRAINE" on your check or envelope. You may also contribute online through Realm at bit.ly/pdaukraine.

Upcoming Worship

A DIFFERENT KIND OF LENT

Everything feels different this year.

Maybe Lent should be different, too.

What if we paved our Lenten road with gentleness and grace?

What sort of resurrection might we be ready to receive if we spend this season making space to breathe?

3.6.2022 RESISTING	3.13.2022 TRUSTING	3.20.2022 RESTING	3.27.2022 RECON- SIDERING	4.3.2022 ANOINTING	4.10.2022 UNTYING	4.14.2022 FEASTING	4.15.2022 YIELDING
						MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM	GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM

Easter Worship

9 a.m. Outdoor Worship
10 a.m. Potluck Brunch and Fellowship
11 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

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, 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 & Head of Staff
Rev. John Cook, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
MC Jordan, Children's Ministry Assistant & UKirk Intern
Jackson Ringley, Educational 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
Catherine Teal, Financial Manager
Brittany Young, Office Manager
Sandie Stillinger, Bookkeeper
Gerald Taylor, Facilities Manager