

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, symbolizing his passion, death, and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.

For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.

Glory to God in the highest!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Adam and Maggie Gamble (8:45 a.m.)

Dana and Wendi Wolfe (11:00 a.m.)

THE OFFERING

To give online: shandon-umc.org/give
or by text: 73256 and enter SUMC

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

People, Look East
Wesley Ringers

arr. Sandra Eithun

*DOXOLOGY NO. 95

Old 100th

**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.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-6

Pew Bible, O.T. pg. 602

THE PLACING OF THE CEDAR BRANCH

ANTHEM

Bring Us Hope
Celebration Choir

Ruth Elaine Schram

Bring us hope, bring us love; bring us peace and joy from above.

Bring us light, take our darkness away. Bring us light, turn our night into day.

Bring us hope, bring us love, peace and joy from above.

Bring us hope, hope to replace our hopelessness, love to refill our emptiness,
peace in the midst of our distress. Bring us hope.

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Pew Bible, O.T. pg. 600

THE HANGING OF THE WREATHS

ANTHEM

Mid-Winter
Wesley Ringers

Antonio Vivaldi
arr. Andrea Handley

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-3

Pew Bible, O.T. pg. 650

THE PLACING OF THE MISTLETOE

ANTHEM

Comfort and Joy
Celebration Choir

Pepper Choplin

Tidings of comfort, we bring tidings of comfort and joy.
Prophets and angels have given to us the great and glorious news.
When we read from the pages the joy of the ages, the human spirit will soar.
All the people are waiting to hear tidings of comfort and joy.
There's a voice in the wilderness calling, "Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
Every mountain shall be made low.
Make the crooked straight, make the rough places plain, and see the glory of God.
We bring tidings of comfort and joy.
Prophets and angels have given to us the great and glorious news.
All the people are waiting to hear tidings of comfort and joy!

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 53:1-6

Pew Bible, O.T. pgs. 642-643

THE PLACING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM

Come to Us, O Promised One
Celebration Choir

Lloyd Larson

Come to us, O Promised One. Fill our emptiness with love.
Whisper to our longing hearts Your words of hope from up above.
Come, as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.
Come to us, O Counselor. Find each battered, broken heart.
Steady every stumbling step; heal each life that's torn apart.
Come, as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.
Come to us, O Prince of Peace. Save us from our endless strife.
Teach us how to walk in love; lead us to abundant life.
Come to us, O Mighty God. Come in love to save us all.
Wrap Your strength in tenderness; lift us up each time we fall.
Come as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.
Come to us O Promised One. Come to us, O Prince of Peace.
Come to us, O Mighty God: God with us, Emmanuel.

THE FIFTH LESSON

John 1:1-5, 9-14

Pew Bible, N.T. pg. 86

THE HANGING OF THE CHRISMONS

ANTHEM

An Advent Prayer
Celebration Choir

Allen Pote

Come holy Jesus, come to free us from our sin.
Come holy Jesus, and make us pure within.
Inspire each heart with illumined surprise, enkindle a flame anew.
Increase our faith and strengthen our lives,
show us the joy of living life in you.
Come holy Jesus, come to free us from our sing.
Come holy Jesus and make us pure within. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son,
who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light.
May these trees, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ,
that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*HYMN 213 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

*BENEDICTION

*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. Paul Manz

*Congregation standing

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God and dedicated to the memory of Dr. James H. Blair and John Blair by their family.

Hanging of the Greens Participants

8:45 a.m. Service

Adam and Maggie Gamble

Ginger Ollis

Ric and Liz Thomas

Paul and Ashley Porter

Bobbie Moore

David and Lucinda Shields

Matt and Sarah Myers and Family

Bryson and Lauren Summers and Family

11:00 a.m. Service

Dana and Wendi Wolfe

Donna Windham

Jeff and Gina Janvrin

Tripp and Lilly Holstein

Alicia and Olivia Buffum

Sandra Pappas

Doug and Elise Williams and Family

Jamie and Maggie Chappell and Family

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS ... Today we welcome into the Shandon family Trey and Cassidy Murphy and their son, Barratt. Trey and Cassidy join us by reaffirmation of faith. We also welcome David and Mimi Williams by transfer from another denomination.

SHANDON CARES ... So far we have received 245 pledges for \$2,137,120 to support our 2025 budget. Thank you to all who have made a pledge! If you have not yet submitted your pledge, you can mail in your Commitment Card or simply go to **shandonumc.org/pledge**.

Advent/Christmas Worship and Musical Events in Our Sanctuary



- Friday, December 6 USC Concert Choir and University Chorus Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 8 Christmas Music Service, Chancel Choir and Orchestra
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 11 ... Children's Choirs Christmas Program, 6:15 p.m.
- Sunday, December 15 Eddie Huss and Friends Annual Christmas Benefit Concert, 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 19 Blue Christmas Service, 6:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Services Traditional Communion Service, 11:00 a.m.
Family Services, 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
(Live Nativity after 3:00 service and before 6:00 service)
Candlelight Communion Service, 9:00 p.m.

ADVENT OFFERING ... Advent is the season for giving! Our 2024 Advent Offering supports Haiti Missions, Habitat for Humanity, and Homeless No More. Your generosity makes a difference. You can give online at shandonumc.org (select "Advent Offering" from the dropdown list), or write "Advent Offering" on your check. Thank you for sharing the gift of hope and love with our neighbors!

POINSETTIA ORDERS ... If you would like to place a poinsettia in our worship spaces this holiday season or donate to the Landscape Fund in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the Order Form in your pew rack or sign up at shandonumc.org/register by **Wednesday, December 4**. The cost is \$15.

GREENING OUR FAITH: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4 ... Register online at shandonumc.org/register.

ALDERSGATE SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY FUNDRAISER ... LENTEN CROSSES for your yard can be ordered **December 8 and 15** in the Dunn-Smith Courtyard from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Each set includes a cross for yard mount, three sashes, instructions, and lessons for the Lenten season. Cross sets cost \$35 and will be ready for pickup on March 2. Or order online at shandonumc.org/register.

CONNECTIONS CHRISTMAS PARTY: Adults 65 and older are invited to the Connections Christmas Party on **Friday, December 6, in Player Hall at 11:30 a.m.** Dress in your most festive holiday attire and join us for some holiday games (with prizes), musical entertainment, and a lunch buffet. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 4 to Susan Curran at scurran@shandonumc.org or text 803-466-1344 with your name and the number of guests.

PECANS FOR THE HOLIDAYS ... The United Women in Faith are taking orders for pecans. There will be bags of pieces, halves and butter roasted. If you are interested, please call Ellen Burks for your order at 803-776-9054. We appreciate your support!

DOORWAYS TO GOD: The new year will be here before we know it! If you are considering investing time in your faith journey in 2025, be on the lookout for 10 new Bible studies that will be offered beginning the week of January 5th. Online registration will open December 1 at shandonumc.org/doorways.

ART SHOW OPENING RECEPTION FOR ARTIST IRENE TYSON: Please join the Shandon UMC Arts Council for an Art Show Opening Reception, Ode to Dogwood Hill, featuring a collection of paintings by Irene Dumas Tyson. **Wednesday, December 4, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** in the Patricia Beckler Art Gallery at Shandon. The reception is free and open to the public. Artwork will be on display from November 26, 2024 through February 23, 2025.

SHANDON SISTERS – Connections for young women (ages 25ish – 45ish): Our next meeting will be held **Thursday, December 12, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Heather Mitchell. For more information, contact Anne Marie Crosswell at amacrosswell@gmail.com or Ruthie Taylor at (803) 318-7484. Friends are welcome.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS LUNCH AND CHRISTMAS GATHERING: Young professionals (ages 23–30) are invited to join the Seekers group for fellowship and community. **The group meets for Sunday lunch after the 11:00 services today at Midwood Smokehouse.**

Also, celebrate Christmas with us on **Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6:00 p.m.** at Hunter Gatherer Brewery (please note date change). To RSVP for the Christmas gathering or share ideas for future events, email Rev. Maggie Cantey at mcantey@shandonumc.org.

SHANDON UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN 2025-26 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Deadline for Church Member Priority on Waiting List: December 31, 2024

Church members receive priority status for preschool and kindergarten enrollment for the 2025-26 school year only if the child's name is added to or confirmed on the waiting list prior to December 31, 2024. If you would like to add your child's name to our waiting list, please visit our website at sumpk.org/waitlist to find our waiting list form. You can also access our page visiting the church's website, as well. The form must be submitted by December 31, 2024. To confirm your child's name is on the waiting list, please call 256-1498 by December 31. Registration for the 2025-26 school year will be held in February 2025.

CANDY CRECHE EVENT: All ages are invited to a fun-filled evening in the gym from **4:30-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 8.** We will create nativity scenes made entirely from candy! Nursery will be available for infants through 2-year-olds (reservations required). The cost is \$16 per family. An optional family-friendly dinner is available at 5:00 p.m.: \$9 adults, \$4 children (2 & under eat free). We will wrap up the evening with s'mores in the courtyard! Please register at shandonumc.org/register. For any questions, contact Cari Treece at ctreece@shandonumc.org.

FAITHFUL FAMILIES ... Get your copy of Faithful Families for only \$6! If you ordered Advent in a Bag last year, you already have this book. Faithful Families offers practical ways to create "Holy Moments" out of everyday activities like decorating your Christmas tree or receiving cards. Books will be available starting today in the Great Hall of the Bruner Building and the foyer of the Dunn-Smith Building (gym). A QR code is provided for easy payment.

ADVENT CALENDARS ... Advent starts today! Get ready for a meaningful holiday season with our special Advent Calendars, available at the sanctuary and LifeLine entrances. Each day's activity is simple, purposeful, and designed to help families spend quality time together without added stress. These brief but impactful moments will help you embrace the spirit of the season in a fun, family-friendly way.

POPCORN & MOVIE: Today children's "Popcorn and Movie" will be offered during the Sunday School hour in Player Hall for our 4-year-old through 3rd-grade Sunday school classes from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Children may be dropped off and picked up in Player Hall in the Dunn-Smith building. **NEW:** 4th- and 5th-graders will meet in the 5th-grade classroom for popcorn, Bible games, and Trivia.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: MYF will meet off campus for dinner at Moe's on Beltline from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

YOUNG LIVES ADVENT TREE ... This mission opportunity, organized by church member Morgan Knox, supports pregnant and parenting teens. You can pick an ornament from the tree to buy a Christmas present for a mom or baby. The tree will be located on the first floor of the DuBose Building on Sundays and outside Player Hall on Wednesdays until December 4. All gifts must be returned by **Sunday, December 8.**

Shandon UMC is a Stephen Ministry and Safe Sanctuary Congregation

Senior Minister: The Reverend C. E. Kanipe, Jr.

Minister of Assimilation & Discipleship: The Reverend James Grubb

Minister of Music & Arts: The Reverend D. Edwin Huss, Jr.

Music Associate & Organist: Deborah K. Bauer

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from

ONE LICENSE #A-735779, CCLI #CSPL053033



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