

SHANDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*We gather to worship God, nurture Christian faith,
and go out into the world in mission.*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

8:45 & 11:00 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY Angels We Have Heard on High Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. C. E. "Smoke" Kanipe, Jr.

MINISTRY MOMENT Lila Anna Sauls, Homeless No More

(8:45 a.m.) RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 245 The First Noel *The First Noel*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

**like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.**

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

**For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;**

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

**the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.**

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;

**everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,**

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

(from Isaiah 35)

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(8:45 a.m.) Blake and Ashlee Buchanan and Family
(11:00 a.m.) Biff and Jan Sowell

**God of grace and God of glory,
in the birth of your holy child Jesus
your Light dawned on our darkness.
Like the shepherds of old,
may we welcome the tidings of great joy
which you bring to us this day. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 5:1-5a Pew Bible, O.T. pp. 815

CHILDREN'S SERMON Lesli Wood

SERMON “Down in the Boondocks” Rev. C. E. “Smoke” Kanipe, Jr.

*HYMN 230 O Little Town of Bethlehem *St. Louis*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED, No. 880

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(8:45 a.m.)	Noel, Noel, Noel, Tidings We Bring Organ	Carolyn Hamlin
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(11:00 a.m.)	Good Christians All, Rejoice	Buryl Red
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*Rejoice! With voice! News! Jesus Christ is born today, and he is in the manger now.
Christ was born today! Good Christians all, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice.
Now ye hear of endless bliss, he hath opened heaven's door and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ is born today! Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice.
Now ye need not fear the grave: News! News! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Rejoice!*

**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.**

*HYMN 218 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Carol

*BENEDICTION

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the Wise Men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ Child
be yours at this holy season!

Alleluia!

And may the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
be with you always.

Alleluia! Amen.

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Postlude on ‘Mendelssohn’

David Willcocks

*Congregation standing

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS ... At today’s 8:45 service we welcome into the Shandon family
Trey and Cassidy Murphy, along with their son, Barratt. Trey is joining by transfer from another
denomination, and Cassidy by Profession of Faith.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT SHANDON

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.

Childcare for children ages 0-3 will be available for our Family Services. The nursery will be available for
you to drop off your child 15 minutes before the scheduled service begins.

Registration is required at **shandonumc.org/register**.

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 shandonumc.org/give (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!

SHANDON CARES ... So far we have received 257 pledges for \$2,223,444 to support our 2025 budget. (Numbers for 2024 at this point were 271 pledges for \$2,185,586.) 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.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE ... As a time of "Sabbath" for our church staff, the church office will be closed from **Wednesday, December 25 through Wednesday, January 1, and will reopen on Thursday, January 2.** If you need to reach the ministers during this time, please call their cell phones or leave a message at 803-256-8383. The voicemail will be monitored periodically, and someone will be in touch as soon as possible. The Business Office will be open for limited hours during that same period. Please contact Nancy Probst, Business Administrator, at (803) 722-1037 for assistance from the Business Office.

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.

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.

CHILDREN'S "POPCORN AND MOVIE" on **Sunday, December 29**, will also feature Bible Bingo during the Sunday school hour in Player Hall for our 4-year-old—5th grade.

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY: Have you been wanting to invite a friend, co-worker or neighbor to experience the fellowship, love and faith you found at Shandon UMC. If so, mark your calendar for January 12 for our Bring A Friend To Church Sunday. Now is a great time to start planting seeds to have them join you at one of our worship services and your Sunday School class. This is also a great day to encourage someone you know who has fallen out of the habit of attending church to get back into the practice and rhythm of worship. Let's help people keep their commitment to get back into church this new year. You never know what a simple invitation might bring.

TREK—PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP: Are you ready to become a full member of Shandon UMC? TREK is Shandon UMC's pathway to membership. Our next course is set to begin on January 12, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is designed to help you connect with our ministers, staff, ministries, and one another. For complete details and to register for the course, go to shandonumc.org/trek.

HEALTHY EATING IN TODAY'S BUSY WORLD: Kick off the new year with Health and Wellness's *Refresh and Renew* series. The first session will be held **Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** in Player Hall. Join Emilie Blanchard, founder of Tasty as Fit, for a Lunch and Learn as she shares practical tips for maintaining healthy eating habits in today's busy world. Enjoy a \$15 plant-based, gluten-free meal catered by Tasty as Fit. Register online by Jan. 7, at shandonumc.org/register.

Shandon UMC is a Stephen Ministry and Safe Sanctuary Congregation

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

Associate Pastor: The Reverend James Grubb

Associate Pastor: The Rev. Maggie Cantey

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

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from

ONE LICENSE #A-735779, CCLI #CSPL053033



Shandon United Methodist Church
3407 Devine Street
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 256-8383

www.shandon-umc.org

