

SHANDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

DECEMBER 3, 2023

8:45 & 11:00 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Noël (from *Byzantine Sketches*)

Henri Mulet

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT FOR HAITI

EXCHANGE OF PEACE AND GOOD WILL

*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CHORAL INTROIT

Excerpt from *African Advent Carol*
Celebration Choir

Michael Barrett

*Prepare your hearts; get ready for the King to come!
Make straight the way; get ready for the King to come!
You got to rejoice and sing; get ready for the King to come!*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

*THE LITANY OF THE GREENS

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the King?

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living and ever green.

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

(8:45 a.m.) Spencer and Halley Borthen

(11:00 a.m.) Bob and Jennie Rush

THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rejoice, a Savior Comes
(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming and O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)
Wesley Ringers

Bill Ingram

*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

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
(from *A Little Advent Music*)
Celebration Choir

arr. Richard Shephard

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter when half-spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior when half-spent was the night.
This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us and lighten every load.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Pew Bible, O.T. pg. 600

THE HANGING OF THE WREATHS

ANTHEM

People, Look East
Wesley Ringers

arr. Sandra Eithun

THE PLACING OF THE MISTLETOE

ANTHEM

Comfort, Comfort You My People
Celebration Choir

arr. Michael Cox

*Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says our God;
 comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.
 Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them!
 Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.
 For the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,
 bidding us to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
 let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.
 Make you straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
 let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad,
 and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.*

THE FOURTH LESSON

THE PLACING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

ANTHEM

More Love
Celebration Choir with Becky Sutusky, soloist

Mark Miller

*Four simple words we sing today. With these four words we ought to pray,
 and take to heart this sacred phrase: "More love, less hate."
 It seems so easy on its face. Four words to heal the human race,
 and yet we struggle to create more love, less hate.
 For love we stand! More love in this land!
 Will you join? Come, take my hand! More love, less hate.
 When fear and violence touch our lives, hate separates, seeks to divide.
 Our faith in love won't be denied. More love, less hate.
 Just as the night gives way to dawn, justice shines forth before too long.
 Until that day we will sing on, "More love, less hate."
 For love we stand! More love in this land!
 Will you join? Come, take my hand! More love, less hate.
 More love!*

THE FIFTH LESSON

THE HANGING OF THE CHRISMONS

ANTHEM

Soon and Very Soon
Celebration Choir

Andraé Crouch/arr. Jack Schrader

*Soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah!
 No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah!*

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 706

Soon and Very Soon

Very Soon

Soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King. (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're goin' to see the King.

No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King. (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're goin' to see the King.

No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King. (3 times)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're goin' to see the King.

*BENEDICTION

*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Soon and Very Soon

Andraé Crouch

*Congregation standing

The flowers at the altar today are dedicated to the memory of Dr. James H. Blair and John Blair.
Given with love by their family.

Hanging of the Greens Participants

8:45 a.m. Service

Jeff & Marilyn Penrod

McSwain & Lauren Armfield

Rob & Jennifer Rhodes

Tyler & Sarah Rogers

Fred & Ellen Blackstone

Elliot & Trish Mauney & family

Will & Mallory Campbell & family

Rev. James Grubb

Lesli Wood

11:00 a.m. Service

Mac & Kit Stewart

Perry & Cindy Rainey

Donald & Mary Carlisle Benson

Holland & Jill Crosswell

Frank & Gail Raymond

Sara Ruzensky & Baker

Sammy & Susan Wheeler & family

Rev. Susan Ulmer

Rev. Jimmy Adams

Celebration Choir

Soprano

Violet Beets
Jan Bilton
Susan Brant
Kathy Lentz
Lisa Peters
Jan Sowell
Becky Sutusky
Tracy Wilbur
Tracy Young

Alto

Linda Foy
Sue Haddock
Jane Marshall
Hartley Middleton
Ann Philbeck
Gera Singletary

Tenor

David Coward
Malcolm Gordon
Kaleb King
Walter Strawther

Bass

Marvin Boyd
John Grantland
Dave Singletary
Don Tudor

*Special thanks to Bradley Fuller, accompanist and assistant director,
and James Ervin on the djembe drum!*

Wesley Ringers

Halley Borthen
Diane Bruner
David Coward
Haley Floyd
Becky Fowler

Tay Foy
Candler Rhodes
Donna Salais
Pam Speas
Rosi Swan

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - SERVICE SCHEDULE

11:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent Traditional Worship Service

11:05 a.m. LifeLine Worship Service

4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service

4:40 - 5:00 p.m. and 5:40 - 6:00 p.m. Live Nativity

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion



ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 3, 2023

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER: Melissa Fritz is joining the Shandon family by transfer from another denomination in the LifeLine service today. Welcome, Melissa!

ADVENT OFFERING: The Outreach Commission has selected the following for the Advent Offering this year: Haiti, Harvest Hope, and Habitat. Speakers will provide more information in the Mission Moment during Advent. Please consider a generous donation to support these important missions.

CHRISTMAS IN PETERSFIELD: Next week, a group from Shandon UMC will be headed to Petersfield, SC, to spread the joy of Christmas to our friends we serve alongside every summer. We aim to collect 125 Walmart gift cards of \$50 each to be shared in the community. If you would like to donate to this mission, you can drop off a \$50 Walmart gift card or donate during the offering to “Christmas in Petersfield.” All collections end **Monday, December 4.**

NATIVITY CHARACTERS: Join us as we bring the nativity to life with live animals on Christmas Eve! We're looking for volunteers to portray nativity characters during two shifts: after the 4:00 p.m. service and before the 6:00 p.m. service. To participate, simply email ctreece@shandonumc.org. Slots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and children are welcome to volunteer alongside adults.

POINSETTIAS: 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 6.** The cost is \$15.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY: Need volunteer tax preparers for 2024 season. The Cooperative Ministry is asking for volunteers to assist low-income individuals/families at various sites around the midlands. No prior experience necessary. Training will be done in **December and January.** For more information, please visit www.coopmin.org/vita or contact Michelle at VITA@coopmin.org.

DOORWAYS TO GOD—WINTER 2024: Registration is now open for Winter Adult Christian Education classes. Connect with fellow Christians and deepen your faith. Classes begin the week of **January 7, 2024.** Register online at shandonumc.org/doorways.

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sunday, December 10: Carols with Chancel Choir and Orchestra (8:45 & 11:00 a.m.)

Wednesday, December 13: Children's Choir Christmas Program (6:15 p.m.)

Sunday, December 17: LifeLine Christmas Program (11:05 a.m.)

and Eddie & Friends Benefit Concert for El Salvador Mission Trip (4:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 21: Blue Christmas Service (6:00 p.m.)

EVENTS

SHANDON SISTERS: Connections for Young Women (ages 25ish - 45ish) Join us to connect with mature women who are ahead of you in life's journey. This month we will meet on **Monday, December 4** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the home of Stephanie Black for a Christmas social. For more information contact Anne Marie Crosswell at amacrosswell@gmail.com, Taylor White at tmunnwhite@gmail.com or Ruthie Taylor at 803-318-7484. Friends are welcome.

CONNECTION CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: You are invited to the Connections Christmas Party! **Friday, December 8** in Player Hall from 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.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 to Susan Curran via email (scurran@shandonumc.org) or text 803-466-1344 with your name and the number of guests.

SUMC BOOK CLUB meets on 3rd Thursdays, in person (5:30-6:30 p.m.). **December 21:** *The Vanishing Half*, by Britt Bennett. To be on the mailing list and receive reminders, contact Anne Cox at anne41450@aol.com.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

ADVENT IN A BAG: It is not too late to get your Advent In a Bag. Order yours while supplies last at shandonumc.org/register. This bag of treats and treasures includes supplies and instructions for 5 Advent activities and a copy of Faithful Families for Advent & Christmas. The bags are created with simple activities for families with children but can be enjoyed by any household. The cost per bag is \$15.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH SINGERS: We will offer music by our Youth Singers on Christmas Eve at the 4pm and 6pm services. All Youth are invited to participate. We will meet today (Dec. 3) and next Sunday (Dec. 10) from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. in the Choir Room.

YOUNG LIVES ADVENT TREE: Young Lives is a local ministry that supports pregnant and parenting teens through mentorship, community, and life with Christ. Morgan Knox is a mentor with Young Lives and is organizing this opportunity for the Children of Shandon. Please pick an ornament from the tree on the first floor of the DuBose Children's Building to buy a Christmas present for a mom or baby. There will also be a chance to contribute to a camp scholarship for a girl to go to a weekend Young Life camp. All gifts must be returned by **December 6**. (NEW DATE)

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Please note that we will not host Sunday school on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24. Please plan to join us for one or more of our five services of worship that day. Our live nativity with animals will be on the church lawn from between the 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. "Family" services. Please plan to enjoy the live nativity from 4:40-5:00 p.m. and from 5:40-6:00 p.m.

SHANDON UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

2024-2025 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Deadline for Church Member Priority on Waiting List is **December 31, 2023**. Church members receive priority status for preschool and kindergarten enrollment for the 2024-25 school year only if the child's name is added to or confirmed on the waiting list prior to December 31, 2023. If you would like to add your child's name to our waiting list, please visit our website at www.sumpk.org 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, 2023**. To confirm your child's name is on the waiting list, please call 256-1498 by December 31. Registration for the 2024-25 school year will be held in February 2024.

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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