

## Sunday, November 23, 2025

Celebrating Christ's gift of salvation, our grateful worship of God guides the three-fold mission of Sharon Presbyterian Church: *Invite* All Seekers, *Teach* the Gospel, and *Serve* Human Need.

Sharon Presbyterian Church † 5201 Sharon Road, Charlotte, NC 28210 † Office and Emergency Contact: 704-553-0869 † Email: office@sharonpcusa.org † Website: www.sharonpcusa.org

### **Christ the King Sunday**

#### November 23, 2025 | 10:30 am

Prelude

Voluntary on "St. George's Windsor"

Arr. Payne

Life of the Church

Church Retreat – Don and Reese Presson

- \* Sharing the Peace of Christ
- \* Trinity Chimes
- \* Call to Worship

We worship Christ the King

who walks the costly journey.

We offer our best gifts to Jesus the Son of God

whose might lies in mercy.

We gather in humility before our Savior

whose strength is known through the cross.

\* Hymn No. 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

- \* Call to Confession
- \* Prayer of Confession

God of endless love,

we confess we do not honor your authority in our lives.

We elevate ourselves above others.

We exercise power in hurtful ways.

We boast about our own wisdom.

Remind us that your kingdom is created

through humble service and loving sacrifice.

Restore in us the fullness of your love,

we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(A moment for personal reflection and confession)

\* Assurance of God's Grace

We all make mistakes.

No one is perfect.

Yet the love of God is perfect.

God sees our beauty far beyond our sin.

Through the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

\* Hymn of Response No. 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. (3x) As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

## Proclaiming God's Word

#### Children's Sermon

#### Children of all ages are always welcome in worship!

All children, infants - 4 years old, are welcome in the nursery open from 8:15am to 11:45am. Worship bags are located in the back of the sanctuary. Children may choose to read, draw, or create from the available activities which will help enrich their worship experience.

#### Children's Worship

Young children, ages 3 through kindergarten, are invited to a special worship time in the Barbara Ward Building. A Children's Worship leader will guide them there after the Children's Sermon. Parents/guardians can meet them in the Ward Building for pick-up.

School-aged children are encouraged to remain in the sanctuary.

Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

Anthem

Crown Him!

arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Luke 23:33-43

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

Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

\* Hymn No. 227

Jesus, Remember Me

## Living into God's Word

\* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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 glory forever. Amen.

Minute for Mission

Room in the Inn

Beth Flordelis

Giving Thanks

Feel free to place your gifts in the offering plate being passed, give by texting sharonpc to 73256, or use the QR code:



\* Doxology Hymn No. 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

<sup>\*</sup> Prayer of Dedication

## Going in God's Name

\* Hymn No. 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Choral Benediction

**To God Alone Be the Glory** Chancel Choir Fettke

\* Postlude

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Arr. Wyrtzen

\* All who are able may stand

**Today's Worship Leaders:** Rev. Julie Walkup Bird, *Senior Pastor*; Rev. Ron E. Nelson, *Associate Pastor*; Todd Barnhill, *Director of Music*; R. Lance Burnette, *Associate Director of Music and Organist*; Jackson Owens, *AV Technician*; McRae Adams, Lynne Koeniger, Brittany Mercado, Lynne Perry, Scott Milkey, *Sermon Readers*; Katie Kriener, *Liturgist*.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Charlie and Frances Furr in thanksgiving for God's abundant blessings during this season of gratitude.

**Please see an usher** for hearing aids and large print Bibles, hymnals, and bulletins. Children's Worship Bags are available in the back of the Sanctuary for use during worship.

We extend a very warm welcome to all our guests today. We hope you feel you are truly a part of the family of faith and will visit again. Please sign the Friendship Pad when it is passed down the pew. If you are seeking a church home in this community and would like to discuss uniting with Sharon Presbyterian, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad, speak to a pastor after the service, or contact the church office. We are delighted you are here!

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Jean Harvey, Suzanne Pearce, Sydney Collins, Sherry Meacham, Marion Moir, Bob Nelsen, William Thomas, Lee Shrum, Bill Moorefield, Bob Moore, Pat Ingraham, Ginny Long, Carol Ann Allen, Ken Sumner, David Wilson, Nancy Davis, Candy Lee, Lance Burnette, Chris Price, Our Homebound Members, Ed Kelly (Charles Alley's brother-in-law), Liz and Ward McKeithen (Ashley Nelson's parents), Lee Manning (Jo Ann Manning's son), Puriyninchik and Our Peru Mission Partners, and Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar (Frontera de Cristo, US-Mexico Border). The prayer list is reset on the first Sunday of each month. To submit or resubmit a prayer request, please contact Rev. Nelson at ron@sharonpcusa.org. By request, prayer concerns may remain private and will not appear in the published list.

#### **Evening Prayer Worship Service**

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

We have introduced a new Evening Prayer service designed to provide a quiet, contemplative space in the midst of busy lives. This 45-minute service will invite you to pause, reflect, and rest in God's presence through scripture, prayer, and silence. All are welcome to join us in the Chapel as we gather in prayer and share the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28, 2025 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

#### **Advent Decorating**

Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> Starting at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Kick off the Advent Season by joining the Worship Committee in decorating for Advent.

Contact Sonya Stanford by text at 704-996-1836 if you can help us deck the halls!

## Men's Fellowship Gathering

Thursday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m. at Trio Restaurant

Join us for our last Men's Fellowship gathering for the year on Thursday, December 4th!

We have reserved space at Trio Restaurant. This is a great chance to connect and enjoy good food and conversation with other men in the church. Whether you attended the previous gatherings or are joining for the first time, all are welcome!

10709 McMullen Creek Parkway Charlotte, NC 28226

## Jazz Carolin'

Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Join us for an evening of joy, laughter, and exceptional music.

Dawn Anthony and the Rick Bean Trio are back by popular demand for a live service of jazzy Christmas carols! Sing along with Dawn and the band on favorites like

O Come, All Ye Faithful, and The Christmas Song ("Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire").

Come be a part of a favorite Advent tradition here at Sharon!



#### SPREAD THE WARMTH OF GOD'S LOVE!

Help the children of our congregation collect new or gently used mittens, gloves, hats or socks for all ages to be donated to the Crisis Assistance Ministry. Please place these items in the donation box in the Narthex between now and December 7 when the children will use these to build a "Mitten Tree' during our December 7 Sunday Funday for Families.

## Highlights from the November Session Meeting

- The Church Safety Task Force presented a comprehensive and detailed Emergency Response Guidelines proposal that was adopted.
- Many new programs have strong attendance including the TheoEd class, Better Together, Family Fun Days and the Sunday Evening Prayer service.
- The confirmation class has nine 7th and 8th graders, and the Elder Preparation class is underway for the elders-elect.
- Fall Festival report highlighting the number of community participants.
- Narthex improvements are in progress.

#### SPC's BOOK CLUB

if you let them? Do you like being part of a community of open-hearted people who wish to expand their minds?

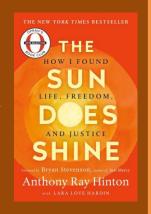
You have come to the right place!

Join Sonia Lee and the SPC Book Club on **Thursday, December**11<sup>th</sup>, for lively discussion, fun, and fellowship! We will cover

The Sun Does Shine by Anthony Ray Hinton.

Do you enjoy reading books that will challenge your thinking

We meet at Barnes and Noble, 4020 Sharon Road, at 10:00 a.m. We hope to see you there!



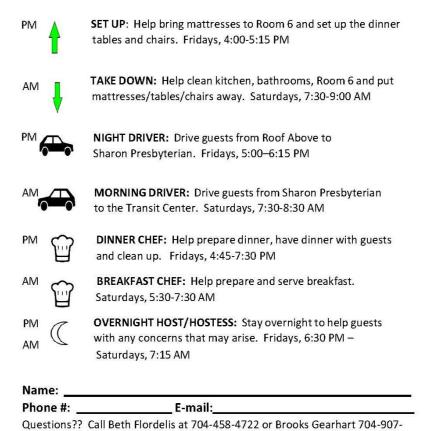


#### ROOM IN THE INN MINISTRY (RITI)

#### Serving Human Need (Isaiah 58:6-7)

Dec. 12-13, Jan. 9-10, Feb. 13-14, Mar. 13-14

Room In The Inn is a Roof Above Ministry program providing shelter and meals for our homeless neighbors from December through March. Sharon has been hosting between 12 to14 guests on Friday nights in our gym for well over twenty-five years. Volunteer opportunities are described below. You can volunteer for one month or multiple months. If you would like to participate or learn more about RITI, circle your area of interest, print your name, phone number, and email address at the bottom of this card, and place in the offering plate, or call Beth Flordelis at 704-458-4722 or Brooks Gearhart 704-907-7854.



7854.

## January – September 2025 Financial Summary

	Year-to Date		Annual
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Operating Revenue	788,190	745,012	1,093,112
Operating Expenses	822,761	843,268	1,123,112
Net from Operations	(34,571)	(98,256)	(30,000)
Special Gifts Income	15,000	15,000	30,000
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(19,571)	(83,256)	0

If you've already returned your 2026 pledge, thank you very much! If you haven't, please prayerfully consider doing so. Your Session is already hard at work discerning how God will lead us into the coming year.

#### If you have questions, please contact:

- Treasurer, David Barker at david.barker1980@outlook.com
- Moderator of the Finance Committee, Travis Doak at tdoak@icloud.com
- Sharon Pres. Financial Officer, Amy Stephens at amy@sharonpcusa.org

#### **Lessons and Carols**

#### Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary (One Service Only)

On Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> during the 10:30 worship service, we will host our Lessons and Carols Service. The congregation will sing many of the beloved Christmas Carols with the support of a professional string quartet, organ, and percussion. The Christmas Carols will correspond to the scripture lessons of God's salvation. In addition to the congregation singing, the Chancel Choir will also sing a couple of anthems. This will be a beautiful service with the congregation singing their faith and witnessing the joy of the season. We encourage you to invite a friend to join us for our special service!

## JOYFUL LIVING, GRATEFUL GIVING

At Sharon Presbyterian, we experience joy that overflows through worship, fellowship, service, and care. Each of these expressions of faith deepens our gratitude and connects us to Christ, the true source of our joy. Together, we are living into the promise that God's joy may be in us and that our joy may be complete.

It's not too late to make your pledge of time, talent, and treasure for the 2026 season! Support for Sharon's stewardship campaign, Joyful Living, Grateful Giving, is vital to all aspects of the church, from missions and maintenance to utilities and congregational care. Please consider making a pledge for 2026 today. Pledge cards can be found in the Narthex and Church Office.

"I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:11)

## THIRD ANNUAL CHURCH-WIDE RETREAT: COME TO THE WATER

# Friday, February 6th to Sunday, February 8th at the William Black Lodge in Montreat, NC

WATER YOU DOING February 6-8, 2026?

It is beneficial to get away occasionally to recharge our minds, bodies, and spirits. We all have that opportunity February 6-8, 2026, when Sharon Presbyterian once again will gather in Montreat, North Carolina, for a church wide retreat! There will be intergenerational worship, play, time to hike, shop, relax with friends, or just meditate on our theme Come to the Water.

There is plenty of room for everyone, but you should register as soon as possible to book your accommodations. Just fill out the registration form by scanning the QR code and submit your deposit to join us the first weekend of February 2026 for Come to the Water!



