

# Sharon Presbyterian Church

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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.*

## GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

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Welcome to our guests today! Please sign the Friendship Pad when it is passed down the pew.

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Infants through 4-year-olds are welcome in the nursery from 8:15am to 11:45am. Children's worship activity bags are in the back of the sanctuary.

Prelude | **Advent March on "Wachet Auf"** | Arr. Ashdown | R. Lance Burnette

Life of the Church

+ Sharing the Peace of Christ

+ Trinity Chimes

+ Call to Worship

In the beginning of this sacred season  
from mountain tops and low valleys  
here in this space and out in the world

**We long for you to come.**

Meet us in this space  
surprise us with your presence  
fill us with your growing good news.

**With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray, we wait.**

Let us worship with a spirit of hope.

+ Hymn No. 360 | **Christ Is Coming!**

+ Call to Confession

+ Prayer of Confession

**Ever present God**

**we yearn to feel your presence in our lives.**

**We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world.**

**If we are honest, we rarely stand still long enough  
to feel you in our midst.**

**Forgive our rushing and distractions.**

**Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space.**

**Remind us that even in the longest nights  
and through the hardest days**

**you are always with us.**

**We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

*(A moment for personal reflection and confession)*

+ Assurance of God's Grace

Family of faith,  
even when we doubt God's presence,  
even when we fail to notice God's work in this world,  
God is always moving closer to us.

Hear and believe the good news of this Advent season:

**Nothing can keep God's love away.**

**We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone.**

Subscribe to our  
E-Blast newsletter to  
learn what is  
happening in the life  
of the church!

SUBSCRIBE



+ Hymn of Response No. 113 | **Angels We Have Heard on High**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

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## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

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Lighting the Advent Candle | **Hope** | Jayne and David Hollifield

Advent Chorus | **A Child Will Come** | *Patterson*

**A child will come to lead us.**

**The Savior will soon be here.**

**A child will come to lead us;**

**Keep watch for the time is near.**

Children's Sermon

Children's Worship: After the Children's Sermon, young children ages 3 through 7 are invited to a special worship time in the Barbara Ward Building, where parents and guardians can meet them after worship.

Scripture | Lamentations 3:52-57

Anthem | **My Lord Has Come** | *Will Todd* | Vocal Ensemble

Scripture | Luke 1:5-13

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon | **In the Beginning** | Rev. Julie Walkup Bird

+ Hymn No. 104 | **O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

## LIVING INTO GOD'S WORD

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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 Gratitude | NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) | Kate Weaver

Giving Thanks

You may give by placing gifts in the offering plates, texting sharonpc to 73256, or scanning the QR code

The Advent Wreath is a visual reminder of the journey through Advent as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.

The blue candles represent hope, peace, and love. The pink candle, lit on the third Sunday of Advent, represents joy. The white center candle is lit on Christmas Eve and represents Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

ONLINE GIVING



If you are seeking a church home and would like to learn more about Sharon Presbyterian, please speak to a pastor after the service or contact the church office.

- + Doxology | ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*** | *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise God, all creatures here below;  
 Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
 Creator, Lord, and Holy Ghost.**
- + Prayer of Dedication
- + Hymn No. 83 | ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***
- + Charge and Benediction
- + Choral Benediction | ***An Advent Blessing*** | *Megan Faith & Jon Paige* | Chancel Choir
- + Postlude | ***People, Look East*** | *Arr. Mansfield* | R. Lance Burnette

+ All who are able may stand

Please see an usher for hearing aids, large print Bibles, and hymnals.

**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*; Kiana Bargeman, *AV Technician*; Lydia Bird, *Liturgist*.

**The flowers are given to the glory of God** by Travis, Marcy, Abby, and Max Doak in loving memory of Marcy's parents, Frank and Margaret Svoboda.

**Remember in Prayer:** Jean Harvey, Suzanne Pearce, 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, 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.*

### THIS WEEK AT SHARON

- Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**7 pm** Christmas in SouthPark (Sanctuary)
- Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 pm** Men's Fellowship Gathering (Trio Restaurant)
- Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:30 am** Sunday Funday for Families (Price Outreach Center)  
**7 pm** Jazz Carolin' (Sanctuary)

### THIS MONTH AT SHARON

- Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**4 pm** Room in the Inn (Charles Little Building)
- Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 am** Campus-Wide Workday (Church Grounds)
- Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**10:30 am** Lessons & Carols (Sanctuary, *One Service Only*)
- Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve**  
**5 pm** Family Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
**8 pm** Candlelight & Communion Worship (Sanctuary)

Liturgy adapted from *A Sanctified Art* | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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