

# Sharon Presbyterian Church

CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICE | 8:00 PM | DECEMBER 24, 2025 | CHRISTMAS EVE



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 worship!  
Please be sure you  
have a candle, and if  
you need one, an  
usher will be happy to  
assist you.

Children of all ages are  
always welcome in  
worship. Children's  
worship activity bags  
are in the back of the  
sanctuary.

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.

Prelude | ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** | Arr. Innes | R. Lance Burnette

Welcome

+ Trinity Chimes

+ Call to Worship

In the beginning was the Word

**And the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.**

All things came into being through God  
and what came into being was life.

**The Life was the light of all people  
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

In the form of a child, God comes.

God brings light and life for all people.

**Jesus, Emmanuel**

**God is born among us.**

Glory to the newborn King!

+ Hymn No. 119 | ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

Lighting the Christ Candle | Mary Elizabeth Coley and Tommy Mitchell

Hymn of Response | ***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

Scripture | Luke 2:1-7

Anthem | ***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*** | Mack Wilberg | Chancel Choir

Scripture | Luke 2:8-20

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Illumination

Homily | ***Holding Jesus*** | Rev. Julie Walkup Bird

Giving Thanks

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

Offertory Anthem | ***O Holy Night*** | Adam | Todd Barnhill, tenor

ONLINE GIVING



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## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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### Invitation to the Lord's Supper

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### 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.**

### Words of Institution

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music | *In the Bleak Midwinter* | Arr. Hayes | Nancy Lucas, piano

*Gesu Bambino* | Yon | Matthew Winslow, baritone

### Prayer after Communion

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## SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

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+ Hymn | *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

You are invited to come forward to receive the bread and cup as directed by the ushers. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. An elder or pastor will place bread into your hand and you are invited to dip the bread into the cup. If you are more comfortable remaining in your pew, elders will come to serve you.

Pastors and Elders will assist in lighting the candles. Please only tip the unlit candle.

Candles will be collected after worship.

+ Christmas Prayer

**God of light and life,  
as you came into the stillness of the night long ago,  
so enter our lives this night.  
Illumine our path and overcome all shadows  
with the light of Christ's presence  
that we may clearly see  
the way to walk  
the truth to speak  
and the life to live for him,  
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
Amen. (Extinguish your candle)**

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happening in the life  
of the church!

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+ Hymn No. 134 | ***Joy to the World***

+ Benediction

+ Postlude | ***Postlude on "Gloria"*** | Arr. Payne | R. Lance Burnette

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+ 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*; Zack Nelli, *AV & Production Coordinator*.

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