



Sharon United Methodist Church

Rev. Toni C. Wood, Pastor

Sunday, January 4, 2026 – 11:00 AM

Communion/Epiphany Sunday



Bringing in the Light of Christ

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Words of Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 72)

Leader: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

People: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

Leader: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

People: May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

Leader: For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

All: Come let us worship the King of kings and Lord of lords!

Marshall Cherry

Anita Cotton

Rev. Toni Wood

Danielle Skinner

*Affirmation of Faith

"The Nicene Creed"

On Screen/UMH 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 worshiped 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.

*Hymn of Praise

"The First Noel"

UMH 245

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Danielle Skinner

Children's Message

Installation of 2026 Leaders and Team Members

Sharing our Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Anthem

"Do You Hear What I Hear?"

Choir

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Preparation

"We Three Kings"

UMH 254

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

"Are We Wise?"

Celebration of Holy Communion

*Closing Hymn

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

UMH 251

*Taking the Light of Christ into the World

*Benediction

*Sending Forth

"The Family of God"

On Screen /CH 419

*Postlude

Anita Cotton

(* Please stand as you are able

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Sun. Jan. 4	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship (Installation of 2026 Leaders and Team Members)
Tues. Jan. 6	Epiphany
Wed. Jan. 7	10:00 am – Take Down Christmas Decorations Happy Birthday to Donna Steigelman
Thurs. Jan. 8	7:30 am – Seekers Bible Study (Facilitated by Jeanne Murray) 4:00 pm – Choir Practice
Fri. Jan. 9	Happy Birthday to Deb Chambers
Sun. Jan. 11	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship

WORSHIP TEAMS

JANUARY 4

Acolyte: Marshall Cherry
Greeters: Linda Kimble & Bobbie Piper
Worship Leader: Danielle Skinner
Ushers: Deb Chambers & Danielle Skinner
Flowers: Deb Chambers
Counters: Sylvia Kirk & Donna Steigelman
Trustee: Anita Cotton

JANUARY 11

Acolyte: Kasey Fairley
Greeters: Donna Steigelman & Mark Jackson
Worship Leader: Julie Cherry
Ushers: Marshall & Julie Cherry
Flowers: OPEN
Counters: Jeanne Murray & Barbara Gadkowski
Trustee: Anita Cotton

UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Take Down Christmas Decorations - Wednesday, January 7, 10:00 am** – Please join us as we clear the sanctuary of the Christmas decorations. Many hands make light work!!
- **Pastor's Discretionary Fund** – As you receive communion, we invite you to pause at the altar for a time of prayer and if you feel led to share in this discretionary fund, please leave change or money at the altar rail.
- **Project AGAPE Christmas Boxes** – Share a smile with a Child! It is time once again to begin filling Christmas boxes for Armenia. For several years, the NC Conference has adopted Project AGAPE Christmas boxes as a conference-wide mission project. Please join us in 2025, as we fill plastic gift boxes with expressions of Christ's love to send to Project Agape for the children of Armenia. Sharon's United Women in Faith voted to send \$200 to this conference project. If you'd like to contribute to this effort, give your donation to Cathy Forbes, UWF treasurer. Contribute by Jan. 4, 2026, Project Agape Sunday.
- **Mailboxes** – Please be sure to check the mailboxes in the Mail Center in the library. You never know when a card with your name on it may appear!
- **Recorded Worship Services** – Each week the recorded Worship Service is posted to our YouTube Channel. If you missed a service or would like to watch past services, you can visit our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/@sharonumcpoplarbranchnc9028.
- **Red Wagon Ministry (located in the Mt. Zion parking lot)** – The Red Wagon ministry is in need of **Baby Diapers** and **Feminine Hygiene Products**. A collection container has been placed in the entryway.
- **Altar Flowers 2026** – If you would like to place altar flowers in the church "in memory of" or "in honor of" a special person, please contact Iris Meekins at imeekins14@gmail.com or 252-202-6401.
- **Online Giving** – You can donate by using the link on our website at <https://www.sharon-umc.org/> or by scanning the QR Code below.

ALTAR FLOWERS



*The flowers are given to the Glory of God,
and in memory of my father, Coach Emerson Smith by Deb Chambers*



FINANCES OF THE CHURCH

2026 Monthly Budget \$6,030.25	Received Last Month (December) \$7,116.58	Received Last Sunday \$1,045.00	