

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit

In the light of the morning the love of God fills our hearts
In the light of the morning the love of God fills our hearts
And we shall sing for joy and we shall sing for joy
And we shall sing for joy and we shall sing for joy

Proclamation

In life and death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve.

Call to Prayer

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

† † †

*Hymn 143 (vs. 1-3)

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

O God, Your light shines in the darkness. But we confess that sometimes we prefer the dark, where we are free to choose ways that hurt others and ourselves, to participate in systems of injustice, to operate only according to our personal comfort. Still, your light of true freedom continues to shine. Help us find and follow that light. Free us to follow the more excellent way of love, that we might be light-bearers of compassion and justice. In the way and in the Spirit of Jesus, Amen.

Silence

Kyrie (2x)

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy on us

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

*Response

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Welcome

Blessing the World

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

**Hymn 151 (vs. 1, 5)

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

First Pew

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. **Isaiah 60:1**

Bring justice to the peoples, O Beloved, and your mercy to all generations! **Psalm 72:1** (Merrill)

On entering the house, the wise ones saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. **Matthew 2:11-12**

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power... to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things. **Ephesians 3:7, 9**

Preacher

Rev. Bill Sitterley

Piano

Georgiann Toole

Offertory

Barbara Stenger & Mark Pullen

Assistants

Vivian Alexander
William Gibbs
Jerry Thomas

To Our Guests

Glad you're with us. Please sign the guest book by the front door and fill in a visitor's card from the pew pocket. After the service enjoy a cup of fair trade coffee with friends in the Fellowship Hall.

Parish Life

Memorial Prayer

Hymn 154

“Jesus Entered Egypt”

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

“They Took Another Road”

*Hymn 152 (vs. 1, 3, 4)

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons

Vows of office

Laying on of hands

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation.
In God I trust, in God I trust.

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

“Gesu Bambino”

Pietro A. Yon

Affirmation

† † †

*Credo

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Response

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis deo.
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

The Magi didn't return to the Orient by the same route they arrived on. Learn from the past. If you want to change your life, then change your way.

Augustine

Many people feel unaware of any guidance, unable to discern or understand the signals of God; not because the signals are not given, but because the mind is too troubled, clouded, and hurried to receive them.

Evelyn Underhill

If we Christians would join the Wise Men, we must close our eyes to all that glitters before the world and look rather on the despised and foolish things, help the poor, comfort the despised, and aid the neighbor in his need.

Martin Luther

[The Magi] brought all that they had to the Lord, not just their expensive presents, but their very lives.

Fleming Rutledge

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and younger to the first pew

Sermons & Newsletters

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers

sign up in office

Kyrie, In the Light of the Morning by Bro. Stefan Waligur.

Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church: An Inclusive Spiritual Community. We welcome all who long for meaning, hope, and belonging. Our faith & practice are rooted in the way of Jesus and enriched by wisdom from all sources. We are committed to being and becoming people of radical compassion, working for justice and wholeness in ourselves and the world.



Sun 6 • Epiphany of the Lord

11:00 a.m. Worship and Ordination of Officers

5:00 p.m. Community dinner. Zion Episcopol Church, Charles Town

5:00 p.m. Joy Gift dinner. Asbury United Methodist Church

Tue 8

10:00 a.m. Administrative staff meeting. Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. Choir practice. Choir Room

Wed 9

12:30 p.m. Spanish lessons. Fellowship Hall

2:30 p.m. Strategic Visioning. Classroom No. 1

Sat 12

6:30 p.m. Movable Feast supper group. Hosted by Sharon Henderson

Sun 13 • Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Confirmation. Classroom No. 1

COMMUNION TODAY. All are welcome to participate. Bread is gluten free; the "wine" is alcohol free.

JOY GIFT DINNER. Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:00–7:00 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church. Ham, beverages and tableware provided. Bring a food dish to serve 12. Food assignments per last name: A–H dessert, I–P side dish, Q–Z vegetable or salad.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:00 p.m., Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Drop off hot food 3:45–4:15 p.m. Please use disposable containers.

FUNDRAISER to support the youth mission trip to Baltimore (March 8-10) after each service on **January 20.** Brunch style refreshments and silent auction.

SUNDAY SEMINARS will begin this year with a two part screening of the excellent 2017 documentary *Gender Revolution*, an indepth and personal exploration of our evolving understanding of gender identity. **January 20 and 27.** Starting in February we will undertake an exploration of anger, using the Richard Rohr periodical *Oneing* devoted to the topic, which includes a dozen essays from a wide variety of writers and perspectives. Fellowship Hall @ 9:45. All are welcome. Childcare provided.

SPANISH LESSONS and Chat at SPC. Join us Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2:00 pm, starting Jan. 9. Half the session will be in Spanish and half in English. If you want to start right away, you can sign on to Duolingo which offers free Spanish lessons on line. Hope you can join us!

Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 2019

11:00 a.m.

WHERE THE MAP BEGINS

This is not any map you know.
Forget longitude. Forget latitude.

Do not think of distances
or of plotting the most direct route.

Astrolabe, sextant, compass:
these will not help you here.

This is the map that begins with a star.

This is the chart that starts with fire,
with blazing, with an ancient light
that has outlasted generations,
empires, cultures, wars.

Look starward once, then look away.
Close your eyes and see how the map
begins to blossom behind your lids,
how it constellates, its lines
stretching out from where you stand.

You cannot see it all, cannot divine the way
it will turn and spiral, cannot perceive how
the road you walk will lead you finally inside,
through the labyrinth of your own heart
and belly and lungs.

But step out, and you will know
what the wise who traveled this path before you knew:
the treasure in this map is buried not at journey's end
but at its beginning.

Jan Richardson

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 275 Years

Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future

We Choose Welcome

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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