

You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. **Psalm 30**

Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, why do you persecute me?" **Acts 9:3-4**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." **John 20:19**

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" **Revelation 5:13**

Preacher
Rev. Bill Sitterley

Organist
Alan Ogden

Men's Quartet
Tim Artlip • Mark Pullen
Bill Rule • Brad Toole

Assistants
William Gonano
Frances Marshall

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit (2x)

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,
and glorify your name.

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

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 245

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, even in this season of resurrection, we live in brokenness and despair. We allow our doubts and fears to keep us from recognizing the new life you offer us today. Break through the locked doors of our hearts and minds, fill us with your peace, and breathe a new and right spirit into us. Amen

Kyrie eleison (2x)

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

*Response (2x)
Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart...

Welcome

Blessing the World

Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland

**Hymn 48

"Rain Down"

First Pew

Parish Life

Memorial Prayer

Hymn 286

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

(front cover)

Interlude

Lesson

John 20:19-31

Sermon

"The Myth of Locked Doors"

*Hymn 817

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight "

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

Ubi caritas et amor; ubi caritas Deus ibi est.
(Where there is charity and selfless love God is truly there.)

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"Were You There?"

Traditional

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

Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart...

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

You don't live in a mechanistic world ruled by necessity; you don't live in a random world ruled by chance; you live in a world ruled by the God of Exodus and Easter. **Eugene Peterson**

When we yield to discouragement it is usually because we give too much thought to the past and to the future.

St. Therese of Lisieux

The worst sorrows in life are not its losses and misfortunes, but its fears. **A.C. Benson**

Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up. **Anne Lamot**

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and younger to the first pew

Flowers placed by
the Price family fund

Sermons & Newsletters
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers
sign up in office

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.

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 5 • Third Sunday of Easter

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

9:45 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall

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

Wed 8

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

Sat 11

10:00 a.m. Deacon meeting. Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m. Movable Feast. Hosted by Joyce & Larry Neumark

Sun 12 • Fourth Sunday of Easter

Reflections by Jeff Hornbeck & Julie Tucker

Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

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

COMMUNION TODAY: All are welcome to participate. The bread is gluten free; the “wine” is alcohol free.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, May 5, 5:00 p.m., Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Drop off hot food 3:45–4:15 p.m. today. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). Please use disposable containers.

EXPLORING SPIRITUAL PRACTICES. The topic for the Wednesday, May 15 ESP, will be “Understanding and Practicing Forgiveness”.

STORIES FROM COLOMBIA, May 19, 9:45 a.m. Jeff Hornbeck will share his experience from his one month with the Presbyterian Colombia Accompaniment program.

MISSION FAIR. *Sharing gratitude, awareness, and possibilities with our congregation.* After each service, **Sunday, June 2.** Join us in the Fellowship Hall to see and celebrate SPC’s mission engagement in our community and our world.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Interim Pastor: Bill Sitterley • BSitterley@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org
Director of Spiritual Formation: Ethel Hornbeck • ethel@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Eastertide
Third Sunday

May 5, 2019
11:00 a.m.

“Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” **John 20.25**

The Mark of the Nails

The true redeemer is the Wounded One
with the stigmata of the oppressed.
Unless you find him among the incarcerated,
hear her voice in the trafficked and abused,
you have not found redemption, but relief.
Unless you sense others’ pain in your ease,
someone’s death by drone strike in your security,
someone’s suffering in your white privilege,
someone’s poverty in your cheap fruit—
unless you see the marks of the nails,
you have not found the Crucified and Risen One.

Unless you see the Beloved’s brokenness
in your fearful desires and hurtful habits
it’s not your Savior who has risen.

Unless your Christ bears the scars
of your own behavior it’s not you they will save,
not your sin borne off to hell, your betrayal forgiven,
not your life changed, but somebody else’s.

And unless your despair is swallowed up in forgiveness
and your greed changed by gratitude
and your heart emptied out in love and courage
you don’t believe, you just wish.

But when this drops you to your knees, blessed are you.
Rejoice, for you stand before the Living One
who offers you new life.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 276 Years
Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future
We Choose Welcome