

God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

Genesis 45:7

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live in unity!

Psalms 133:1

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Romans 11:29

Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Matthew 15:28

Preacher
Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Technology Crew

Eli Dillow
Bill Howard
Pete Spreen

Assistants

Trixie Gibbs
William Gibbs
Christa Joyce

Accompanist

Terry Tucker

Song Leader

Rie Wilson
Carol Wood

Interlude & Offertory

Terry Tucker

+**Introit** (1x leader, 2x congregation)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Here we touch your garment's hem

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

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Hymn 462 (v. 1, 3)

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

O God, who called all life into being,
the earth, sea and sky are yours.
Your presence is all around us,
every atom is full of your energy.
Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth,
with her we yearn for justice to be done:
for creation to be freed from bondage,
for the hungry to be fed,
for captives to be released,
for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

Passing the Peace

Blessing the World
Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania

First Pew

Welcome and Parish Life

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HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

"Sonata XVI"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Lesson

Genesis 37-50 (selected verses)

Sermon

"How We Tell The Story"

Hymn 49 (v. 1, 3, 4)

"The God of Abraham Praise"

SERVING THE WORLD

Prayer for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

"Allemande, Suite III"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Acclamation

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.

Hymn 541 (v 1, 2)

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

Story, as it turns out, was crucial to our evolution – more so than opposable thumbs. Opposable thumbs let us hang on; story told us what to hang on to. **Lisa Cron**

There have been great societies that did not use the wheel, but there have been no societies that did not tell stories. **Ursula K. LeGuin**

Tell me the facts and I'll learn. Tell me the truth and I'll believe. But tell me a story and it will live in my heart forever. **Ancient Proverb**

Storytelling is a vaccine against war.

Annette Simmons

Flowers courtesy of
Becky Phipps

Prayer for Wholeness

By Neil Paynter

+**Hymns**

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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 16 • 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. Racial Justice and Faith via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship via Facebook Live!

Tue 18

10:30 a.m. Administrative staff meeting via Zoom
7:00 p.m. Teach the Preacher via Zoom

Sat 22

10:00 a.m. Shenandoah Presbytery meeting via Zoom

Sun 23 • 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 1:8—2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1–8; Matthew 16:13–20

9:30 a.m. Racial Justice and Faith via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship via Facebook Live!

FINANCIAL STRESS. Families who are experiencing financial stress in the wake of expired PPP funds and extended unemployment benefits are encouraged to reach out to Pastor Gusti for assistance from the Pastor Discretionary Fund. As Pastor Gusti said in worship last Sunday, this is not “charity” but a biblical mandate to share equitably in the abundance of God’s generous provision for all of humanity.

BLESSING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. SPC worship on August 23 will include a special blessing for students, educators, and educational staff from preschool through college. Please send names of students (include grade), educators (include grade/subject area), and staff (include position), along with a photo (if possible) to office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org by the end of the day **Wednesday, August 19.**

ALL GATHERINGS IN THE CHURCH BUILDING have been suspended until the end of August. Please contact the church office if your committee or team is planning to meet electronically so we can add it to notices and calendar.

WEDNESDAY E-NOTICES. If you’re not getting the e-notices, please let the office know so you can be added.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES will be held soon for those wishing to explore official membership at SPC. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the church office at office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org. Pastor Gusti will be reaching out soon to those who have already signed up.

RACISM, JUSTICE AND FAITH SPC’s Adult Education and Social Justice Committees are continuing our conversations around race this fall (via Zoom). We begin with 3 weeks devoted to criminal justice, the work of the Equal Justice Initiative, and information about some local “community remembrance” efforts that SPC is participating in, including how you can help! Everyone, including youth, invited to join this important conversation. **August 16, 23 and 30, 9:30 a.m.**

Ordinary Time
Twentieth Sunday

August 16, 2020
11:00 a.m.

Story Water

A story is like water
that you heat for your bath.

It takes messages between the fire
and your skin. It lets them meet,
and it cleans you!

Very few can sit down
in the middle of the fire itself
like a salamander or Abraham.
We need intermediaries.

A feeling of fullness comes,
but usually it takes some bread
to bring it.

Beauty surrounds us,
but usually we need to be walking
in a garden to know it.

The body itself is a screen
to shield and partially reveal
the light that’s blazing
inside your presence.

Water, stories, the body,
all the things we do, are mediums
that hide and show what’s hidden.

Study them,
and enjoy this being washed
with a secret
we sometimes know,
and then not.

Rumi

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Established 1743
Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion
We Choose Welcome*

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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