

Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church is an open and inclusive spiritual community seeking to practice the radical hospitality of Jesus. We cultivate a holistic spirituality that, while rooted in the Christian faith, welcomes the wisdom of all faith traditions. We are a house of prayer and a school of love, seeking to serve the world in the way and in the spirit of Jesus.



Sun 30 • 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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

2:00 p.m. Youth rafting trip on the river (meet at SPC at 1:00 for carpooling)

Tue 2

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

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

Wed 3

7:00 p.m. Evening prayer in song, silence and candlelight. Sanctuary

Thu 4

10:00 a.m. Women's Circle. Fellowship Hall

Sun 7 • 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 1:1; 2:1–10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12; Mark 10:2–16

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

9:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic. Narthex

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

5:00 p.m. Community dinner. Zion Episcopal Church

PEACEMAKING OFFERING collected on Oct. 7 will be split between the Shenandoah Women's Center and PCUSA national and international peacemaking programs.

SUNDAY SEMINAR. Have you ever wondered what it means to be deeply grateful? Join us as we study Diana Butler Bass' *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*. Books in the church office (\$23 or pay what you can). Beginning **Sunday, Sept. 30, 9:45 a.m.** Fellowship Hall.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, Oct. 7, 5:00 p.m., (Note new time) Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or go to PerfectPotluck.com; coordinator Wright, password 5777. Drop off hot food 3:45–4:15 p.m. that Sunday. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). Please use disposable containers.

DINNER WITH OUR MIGRANT WORKER FRIENDS Applecrest Orchard in Hedgesville, **Sunday, October 14, 3-6 p.m.** Bring a side dish to share. Meet at SPC at 2 p.m. for carpooling. Questions? Contact John Gonano, jgonano@hotmail.com.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443

office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org • www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Interim Pastor: Bill Sitterley • BSitterley@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Director of Spiritual Formation: Ethel Hornbeck • ethel@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Ordinary Time

Twenty-sixth Sunday

September 30, 2018

11:00 a.m.

The Light is the Same

The lamps are different, but the Light is the same.
So many garish lamps in the dying brain's lamp-show.

Forget about them.

Concentrate on the essence, concentrate on the Light.

In lucid bliss, calmly smoking off its own holy fire,

The Light streams towards you from

all things, all people,

all possible permutations

of good, evil, thought, passion.

The lamps are different, but the Light is the same.

One matter, one energy, one Light, one Light-mind,

endlessly emanating all things.

One turning and burning diamond,

one, one, one.

Ground yourself, strip yourself down,

to blind loving silence.

Stay there, until you see

You are gazing at the Light

With its own ageless eyes.

Rumi

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 275 Years

Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future

We Choose Welcome

The king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me -- that is my petition -- and the lives of my people -- that is my request." **Esther 7:2-3**

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth. **Psalms 124:8**

Jesus said, "Whoever is not against us is for us." **Mark 9:40**

Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. **James 5:16**

Preacher

Rev. Bill Sitterley

Organ

Dianne Holliman

Piano

Georgiann Toole

Men's Quartet

Tim Artlip, Mark Pullen,
Bill Rule, Brad Toole

First Pew

Chris Morehouse

Assistants

Vivian Alexander
Iris Potts
Rie Wilson

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.

Childcare Available

In the nursery at the 11:00 service
See ushers for assistance.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit (2x)

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

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 619**

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

God, you call us to communion with one another and the world. But so often we act out of fear and not love. We fail to bear each other's burdens, we do not love our neighbor, and we forget to love ourselves. Forgive us. Renew our trust in your abundant love, strengthen our vision of your beloved community and show us new ways to love all that you have made, in the way and in the spirit of Jesus. Amen.

Silence

Kyrie eleison (2x)

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

***Doxology (607)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Welcome

Blessing the World

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

****Hymn 19**

"God of Great and God of Small"

First Pew

Parish Life

***Hymn 450**

"Be Thou My Vision"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

"Prayer of St. Francis"

Carol McClure

Lesson

Mark 9:38-41

Sermon

"What's That You're Carrying?"

***Hymn 435**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

SERVING THE WORLD

Prayer for Others

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

arr. M. Rector

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.

***Blessing Song**

May the blessing of God go before you,
May Her grace and peace abound
May Her Spirit live within you
May Her love wrap you round.
May Her blessing remain with you always
May you walk on holy ground.

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

The religious traditions were in unanimous agreement. The one and only test of a valid religious idea, doctrinal statement, spiritual experience, or devotional practice was that it must lead directly to practical compassion.

Karen Armstrong

When religion becomes too formal, too rigid, too logical, the only way to bust it open is for mysticism to reappear.

Rabbi Harold Kushner

It is not what you are nor what you have been that God looks at with his merciful eyes, but what you desire to be.

The Cloud of Unknowing

There is, deep within, one voice, at once very strong and very gentle, that can calm the storm. It says something extremely simple like, "It's okay. I love you anyway." It seems to come from beneath all the other voices, and though it is a quiet voice, it speaks with compelling authority. This is the Voice of Mercy.

Elaine Prevallet

Flowers placed by
the Price family fund

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and
younger to the first pew

Sermons & Newsletters
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers
sign up in office

Blessing Song, Words & Music
by Miriam Theresa Winter.