

BEHOLD! IT IS GOOD

Introit

*Wait for the Lord whose day is near
Wait for the Lord keep watch, take heart.*

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.

Advent Wreath

Call to Worship

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

† † †

Hymn 5

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

GRACE ABOUND S

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, you come to us with blessings in your hand but we turn away. We are busy and fretful and miss your presence standing right before us. We are preoccupied with many things and give our hearts to things not worthy of our hearts. Help us be still, to listen and to ponder the mystery of Love freely offered. Open us to receive your wondrous gift of life.

Kyrie eleison

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

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

We will love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength,
And love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

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

Blessing the World

Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria

Hymn 44 (vs. 1, 2)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! **Isaiah 2:4-5**

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. **Romans 13:11-12**

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. **Matthew 24:42**

Organ/Piano

Dianne Holliman

Postlude

Wanda Stewart

Assistants

Ava Joyce
Willow Mason
Ethel Hornbeck

To Our Guests

Glad you're with us. Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and fill in a visitor's card from the pew pocket. After the service enjoy a cup of “fairly traded” coffee or tea with friends in the Fellowship Hall.

First Pew

Parish Life

Memorial Prayer

† † †

Interlude

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5 • Matthew 24:36-44

Homily

“Desire of Every Nation”

Hymn 2

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Liturgy of the table in silence

Communion

Prayer

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

“Comfort You, My People”
Johannes Olearius

Affirmation

† † †

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.

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!*

Charge and Benediction

† † †

Postlude

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

This season beckons me to ask, what am I preparing for? What is the way that is being prepared within the wilderness of my life? What does it mean for my own life to become a path, a way of welcome for the Holy One? **Jan Richardson**

Maybe the surprise, when Christ returns, will be that he was here all along. Maybe the surprise will be that, ahead of time himself, he has been calling, gathering, enlightening and sanctifying the meek and all the rest of those who bear his name. Come, Lord Jesus.

Mary Hinkle

We must learn to reawaken and keep ourselves awake, not by mechanical aids, but by an infinite expectation of the dawn. **Henry David Thoreau**

The one who pretends to sleep cannot be awakened.

Zenonimus

Sermons

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers

sign up in office

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 Charlotte Baker-Shenk
 Gene Bayer
 John Burns
 Rosemarie Coy
 Paul Kradel
 Suellen Myers
 Kay Schultz
 Mike Williams
Ministers-at-large
 All our members
 * * *

Office hours
 Monday through Thursday
 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 304-876-6466
Pastor
 By appointment
Ethel Hornbeck
 By appointment

Sun 1 First Sunday of Advent
 8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
 9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar: Marriage & the Church
 10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

Tue 3
 7:30 p.m. Choir practice

Wed 4
 7:00 p.m. Taizé prayer in song, silence and candlelight

Thur 5
 10:00 a.m. Women's Circle meets in Fellowship Hall
 3:00 p.m. Connections at the Blue Moon

Fri 6
 9:00 a.m. Advent Retreat at Priestfield

Sun 8 Second Sunday of Advent
Isa. 11:1-10; Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19; Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 3:1-12

8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
 9:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic. Narthex
 9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar: Marriage & the Church
 10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
 1:00 p.m. Finance Committee meeting. Classroom No. 1
 4:00 p.m. Sr. Yootz meeting. Classroom No. 1

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

2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES are ready to pickup in the Fellowship Hall. If yours is missing, contact Kathy in the office.

POINSETTIAS Would you like to donate a poinsettia for the Sanctuary during Christmas? It can be picked up after the last service on Christmas Eve or left in the Sanctuary through Epiphany, January 5. \$10 each. Make check to SPC; memo, poinsettia. Deadline: Dec. 8.

2014 CHURCH DIRECTORY now ready for proofing in Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Make sure your listing is included and correct. If so, check box.

CLOTHING AND SHOES for Rescue Mission may be brought to church on first three Sundays of Advent (Dec. 1, 8, 15). Please box or neatly bundle. Letters acknowledging your contribution are available upon request from the church office.

MARRIAGE AND THE CHURCH Sunday Seminar. This four week conversation, beginning Dec. 1, will explore the biblical, theological, historical and legal perspectives that form the basis for a larger discussion taking place within the PCUSA

on expanding its definition of marriage to include same sex couples.

ADVENT RETREAT at Priestfield Retreat Center. "Embracing the Dark: Watching for the Light" **Friday, Dec. 6, 9:00-3:00.** Join us for a day of silence, guided and individual reflection and walking the lovely trails of Priestfield. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall. \$15 fee for lunch. Let the office know if you have special dietary needs, Priestfield will accommodate with advance notice. Questions? Yvonne Fisher 304-876-2480, ygfisher@frontiernet.net

PARENTS: Get information about Christmas/Epiphany pageant in the choir room after the 10:45 service **Sunday Dec. 8.** Pageant will be presented Sunday, Dec. 29.

JOY GIFT DINNER. Sunday, Dec. 15. 5:00-7:00 p.m. Shepherdstown Fire Department. Ham, beverages & tableware provided. Bring the following to share: A-H Side Dish, I-P Vegetable or Salad, Q-Z Dessert. Contact Mary Ellen Lloyd at 304-876-0805 or melloyd@frontiernet.net if you can help set up or clean up.

ONE SERVICE ONLY. Sunday Dec. 29 (pageant) and Jan. 5 (ordination of elders and deacons). The early (8:15) service is cancelled those two Sundays.

The Season of Advent
 First Sunday

December 1, 2013
 10:45 A.M.

Break Through

Eternal Living God,
 The whole creation waits for you to
 break through
 the muddled human history,
 the endless days of sameness,
 the evening sky.

Break through.
 Shake the foundations.
 Judge our compassion and justice.
 Heal all who suffer and are broken.
 Revive this creation that longs for you.

Come
 Creator,
 Brooding Spirit,
 Ruler of Peace,
 Infant Holy,
 Emmanuel,
 Resplendent Light,
 Great Physician,
 Bread of Life,
 Jesus.

Break it all open,
 God-with-us.
 Amen

Sidney D. Fowler

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street
 Shepherdstown, West Virginia
 Established 1743

Faithfulness Sustains the Generations
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