

email addresses:
@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Interim Pastor

Rev. William Sitterley
bsitterley@...

Liturgist

**Director of Spiritual Formation
& Campus Ministry**
Ethel Hornbeck
ethel@...

Youth Director

Morgan Sell

Sunday Studio Director

Amanda Groff

Choir Director

Dr. Georgiann Toole

Administrator

Pete Spreen
admin@...

Office Manager

Kathy Reid
kathy@...

Treasurer

Bonnie Casely

Newsletter Editor

Rie Wilson

Parish Nurse

Merry Morgan

Accessibility Advocate

Stephanie Jamieson

Property Managers

John Landolt • Bill Rule

Head Usher

John Burns

Session

Suellen Myers, Clerk

Gene Bayer

John Burns

Emily Gross

Ethel Hornbeck

Jeff Hornbeck

Mary Ellen Lloyd

Joshua Nolen

Richard Womeldorf

Judy York

Ministers-at-large

All our members

* * *

Office hours

Sunday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

304-876-6466

Sun 3 • First Sunday of Advent

8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

9:15 a.m. Blood pressure clinic. Narthex

9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall

10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

5:00 p.m. Joy Gift dinner. Community Club

6:00 p.m. Community dinner. Zion Episcopal Church

Tue 5

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

Wed 6

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

Thu 7

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

4:00 p.m. Connections @ Blue Moon

Sat 9

6:00 p.m. Colonial history talk. Sanctuary

Sun 10 • Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 85:1–2, 8–13; 2 Peter 3:8–15a; Mark 1:1–8

8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

12:15 p.m. Immigrant & refugee support committee. Classroom No. 1

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

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the Fellowship Hall. If yours is missing, or you don't want them, see Kathy in the office.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, Dec. 3, 6:00 p.m., Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Drop off hot food 4:45–5:15 p.m. that Sunday. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). Please use disposable containers.

JOY GIFT DINNER. Sunday, Dec. 3, 5:00–7:00 p.m. Community Club (formerly Men's Club). Ham, beverages & tableware provided. Bring a dish to serve 12. Food assignments per last name: A-H vegetable or salad; I-P dessert; Q-Z side dish. Six people each needed to help set up and clean up. Contact the office if you can help.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS TEEN collects and distributes gifts to needy teenagers in our area. The goal is to provide three items in a gift bag for each of the 3,000 teens identified as in need.

Store gift cards or unwrapped teen-appropriate gifts are greatly appreciated. A collection box will be in the Fellowship Hall through Dec. 17.

ONE SERVICE ONLY (10:45 a.m.) Sunday, December 24 (carols and lessons; informal) and December 31 (children's Christmas/Epiphany pageant). No 8:15 service on those two Sundays.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 5:00 p.m. especially for children; 8:00 p.m. choirs & homily; 11:00 p.m. carol sing & communion.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT will be performed on Sunday, Dec 31, at 10:45 a.m. All children from Sunday Studio or other aspiring thespians are welcome to participate. There are parts for everyone. Please sign up as soon as possible in the Fellowship Hall, or during Sunday Studio, or email the office. There will be two rehearsals: **Friday, 5:30 p.m.** (dinner provided) and dress rehearsal **Sunday, Dec 31, at 9:00 a.m.**, before the 10:45 a.m. service. Don't miss this chance for your budding actress or actor to shine on the stage!

The Season of Advent

First Sunday

December 3, 2017

10:45 a.m.

BLESSED ARE YOU WHO BEAR THE LIGHT

Blessed are you
who bear the light
in unbearable times,
who testify
to its endurance
amid the unendurable,
who bear witness
to its persistence
when everything seems
in shadow
and grief.

Blessed are you
in whom
the light lives,
in whom
the brightness blazes—
your heart
a chapel,
an altar where
in the deepest night
can be seen
the fire that
shines forth in you
in unaccountable faith
in stubborn hope
in love that illumines
every broken thing
it finds.

Jan Richardson

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268

Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Established 1743

www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

Isaiah 64:1-2

Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cock crow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.

Mark 13:35-37

Restore us, O Holy One; let your face shine upon us, teach us to love!
Psalm 80, Nan Merrill

Piano

Kari Edge

Assistants

Gino Santacroce
Evelyn Bailey
Phil Baker-Shenk

Sermons & Newsletters

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers

sign up in office

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.

Childcare Available

In the nursery at the 10:45 service
See ushers for assistance.

BEHOLD! IT IS GOOD

Introit (2x)

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
truly my hope is in you.

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

Lighting of Advent Candles

† † †

***Hymn 82**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

GRACE ABOUND

Prayer of Confession

Spirit of Christ, in your advent you come to form us into a people of hope, peace, joy, and love. But instead of peace, we allow fear to form us. Instead of hope, we allow cynicism to shape us. Instead of joy, we allow worry to rule us. Free us. Inspire us to welcome your spirit in our hearts and grant us courage to walk in the way of love. Amen

Kyrie (2x)

Kyrie eleison

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

***Response**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Love the Lord your God with all your soul.
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

Welcome

Blessing the World

Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria

Hymn 399

"God Welcomes All"

First Pew

Parish Life

Hymn 92

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

John 10:11-16

Sermon

"The News is Bigger Than You Thought"

***Hymn 435**

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

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres, Señor.

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"Longing for Light"

Joel Ramey

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.

***Response**

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

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

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

I live my life in widening circles that reach out across the world. I may not complete this last one but I give myself to it.

Rainer Maria Rilke

You keep us waiting.
You, the God of all time,
Want us to wait
For the right time
in which to discover
Who we are,
where we are to go,
Who will be with us,
and what we must do.
So thank you
for the waiting time.

John Bell

We are all meant to be mothers of God. What good is it to me if this eternal birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? And what good is it to me if Mary is full of grace if I am not also full of grace? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his Son if I also do not give birth to him in my time and my culture? This, then, is the fullness of time. When the Son of God is begotten in us.

Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)

Hope inspires the good to reveal itself.
Emily Dickinson

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 Lamott

Flowers placed by

Anne Teresa
in honor of Eugenia Hancock's
97th birthday

*stand if you are able