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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

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Office hours
Sunday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
304-876-6466

Sun 10 • Second Sunday of Advent

8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall
10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
12:00 p.m. Youth Christmas party. Fellowship Hall
12:15 p.m. Immigrant & refugee support committee. Classroom No. 1

Tue 12

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

Thu 14

4:00 p.m. Connections @ Blue Moon
7:00 p.m. Session. Fellowship Hall

Fri 15

6:00 p.m. TGIF supper group & yankee swap.
Hosted by Cathy & Don Cross

Sat 16

7:30 a.m. Men's breakfast. Fellowship Hall

Sun 17 • Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table

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.

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. Coupons are on the table in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Make check to SPC; memo, poinsettia.

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
Second Sunday

December 10, 2017
10:45 a.m.

CHRIST CLIMBED DOWN

Christ climbed down
from His bare Tree
this year
and softly stole away into
some anonymous Mary's womb again
where in the darkest night
of everybody's anonymous soul
He awaits again
an unimaginable
and impossibly
Immaculate Reconciliation
the very craziest
of Second Comings

Lawrence Ferlinghetti
Source: A Coney Island of the Mind

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Established 1743
www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

Isaiah 40:1,3-4

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Mark 1:1-3

We wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found at peace.

2 Peter 3:13-14

Piano

Kari Edge

Assistants

Indie Asam
Andrew Rolfe
Chris Morehouse

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)

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.

Call to Prayer

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

Lighting of Advent Candles

† † †

***Hymn 88**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!"

GRACE ABOUNDS

Prayer of Confession

Mothering God, you invite us to give birth to a new world—a world of peace, justice and freedom for all your children. But we cling to the old. We are afraid to let go of power and privileges. We deny our role in systems of oppression. We defend greed and violence. Help us renew our vision of your beloved community and empower us to return to the way of compassion.

Kyrie (2x)

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

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures high and low;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Welcome

Blessing the World

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Yemen, Iran, Iraq

Hymn 21

"Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works"

First Pew

Parish Life

Hymn 93

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Acts 17:16, 22-28a

Sermon

"Christ & Culture"

***Song (insert)**

"God's World Is Changing"

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

Dona nobis pacem, pacem
Dona nobis pacem.

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

G. Toole

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

Advent invites us to grow in patience and to position our lives so that we do not miss what God is doing in the wide expanse of the world. May we slow down, spread out our whole lives before God, and practice patient watching for where the light of God is falling. May we catch a glimpse of this holy light, of the lives and places in the world that need our attention and are illumined by God's radiance so as to draw us near.

Paula Hawkins

Most Christian 'believers' tend to echo the cultural prejudices and worldviews of the dominant group in their country, with only a minority revealing any real transformation of attitudes or consciousness. It has been true of slavery and racism, classism and consumerism and issues of immigration and health care for the poor.

Richard Rohr

Advent - the four-week period that leads up to Christmas - is a series of events designed not to delay the celebration of Christmas, but to enhance it. It's a kind of delayed gratification that culminates in a... satisfaction that is all the richer for the waiting.

Joan Chittister

Listen with the Heart

To wait open endedly is an enormously radical attitude toward life. It is trusting that something will happen to us that is far beyond our own imaginings. It is giving up control over our future and letting God define our life.

Henri Nouwen

Flowers placed by
The Price family fund

*stand if you are able

Lord Have Mercy by Bro. Stefan Waligur.