

## ORDER OF SERVICE

A primer for children

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### Prelude

### Welcome

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### Lighting Advent Candles

### Lesson

John 1:1, 14

### Lighting the Christ candle

### Carol

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

### Interlude

### Lesson

Genesis 1:1-3

### Carol

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful, all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim:  
Christ is born in Bethlehem  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King!

### Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6

### Carol

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

## The Nativity Story

### Carol

“Away in the Manger”

### Photo

### Carol

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

### Prayer

### Carol

“The Friendly Beasts”

### Benediction

### Postlude

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**Interim Pastor** Rev. Bill Sitterley  
**Piano & Autoharp** Terry Tucker  
**Nativity Story** Patrick Sell

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**Christmas wreathing**  
Sanctuary guild

**Arch Angels** by Larry Drechsler  
Given by Jim and Sallye Price  
in memory of James Carter Price, III

Offering baskets at exits

**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.



**CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING** will be split between Bluefields, Nicaragua, partner church, and Coalfield Development Corp.

**ONE SERVICE ONLY** at 11:00 a.m. Dec. 30 (Children's Pageant); Jan. 6 (Epiphany and Ordination of Officers).

**CHILDREN'S PAGEANT, Sunday, Dec. 30, at 11:00 a.m. service.** Two rehearsals: Saturday, Dec. 29, 10-12 & Sunday, Dec 30, 9:45 a.m.

**JOY GIFT DINNER.** *The entire congregation together in one place at one time.* **Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:00-7:00 p.m.,** Asbury United Methodist Church. Ham, beverages and tableware provided. Bring a food dish to serve 12. Food assignments per last name: A-H dessert, I-P side dish, Q-Z vegetable or salad.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) CIRCLE** First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.. We continue our discussion of the book *Fierce: Women of the Bible and their Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex and Salvation.* **Jan. 3** is "Widows: Those Left Behind" plus the annual soup and bread luncheon. All women of the church are welcome.

**COMMUNITY DINNER.** First Sundays at 5:00 p.m. Sharing food and fellowship with our homeless neighbors. 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. **Next: Jan. 6.**

**LISTENING GROUPS** Prayerful listening and conversation around scripture, poetry and other selected texts. All are welcome. Third Wed. 7:00 p.m., in the balcony. **Next: Jan. 16.** Third Thur. 10:00 a.m., in Classroom No. 1. **Next: Jan. 17**

**CONNECTIONS SPC's** Shepherd University-based group for college students meets every other Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. at the Blue Moon. **Next: Jan 17**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Discussion, 8:00-9:00 a.m. **Next: Jan. 19**

**SUNDAY SEMINARS** will begin 2019 with continued conversation on gender and sexuality, as we seek to deepen our capacity to welcome and celebrate all people. Jan 20 and 27. Starting in February we will undertake an exploration of anger, using the Richard Rohr periodical *Oneing* devoted to the topic, which includes a dozen essays from a wide variety of writers and perspectives. Rohr writes, "Anger can actually be an expression of compassion, a willingness to uphold boundaries that are sacred or stand up for someone who is being oppressed." Fellowship Hall @ 9:45. All are welcome. Childcare provided.

**CANTERBURY SERVICE** Fourth Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. **Next: Jan. 23**

**SPC KNITTING GROUP** Last Saturdays, 1 p.m., Bring your own project or join us making prayer shawls and baby blankets. **Next: Jan. 26**

**COMMUNITY HYMN SING** Last Sundays, 4:30 p.m., Join us for a solid hour of singing hymns with good tunes and inspiring lyrics. **Next: Jan. 27**

**TAIZÉ SERVICE** First Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. *A Service of Prayer in song, silence, candlelight.* **Next: Feb. 6**

**WE ARE GRATEFUL** to Jefferson Security Bank for the use of its parking lots Sunday mornings and special evening programs.

**The Nativity of Our Lord**  
Festival of the Incarnation

**Christmas Eve 2018**  
5:00 P.M.

## The Friendly Beasts

English, 12th Century

Jesus our brother, kind and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around him stood,  
Jesus our brother kind and good.

I, said the donkey shaggy and brown,  
I carried his mother up hill and down,  
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town.  
I, said the donkey shaggy and brown.

I, said the cow, all white and red,  
I gave him my manger for a bed,  
I gave him my hay to pillow his head.  
I, said the cow, all white and red.

I, said the sheep with curly horn,  
I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn.  
I, said the sheep with curly horn.

I, said the dove from the rafters high,  
I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry;  
We cooed him to sleep my mate and I.  
I, said the dove from the rafters high.

Thus every beast by some good spell,  
In the stable dark was glad to tell  
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel,  
The gift she gave Emmanuel.

## SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Established 1743

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## SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Celebrating 275 Years*

*Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future*  
*We Choose Welcome*