

“Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand.” **Jeremiah 18:6**

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
**Psalms 139:1**

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God. **Philemon 1:4**

“Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.”  
**Luke 14:27**

**Preacher**  
Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquest

**Assistant**  
Leslie Williams

**Accompanist**  
Bob Sykes

**Tech Support:**  
Mark Nutwell

**To Our Guests**  
We are glad you are 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.

THE FONT OF IDENTITY

† † †

+Introit 628 v.1

*Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.*  
*O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.*  
*Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.*  
*In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!*

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 Worship

\*+Hymn 5  
“God the Sculptor of the Mountains”

Kintsugi

On the days  
when you feel  
ashamed of your scars,  
your mind only registering  
how ugly they are  
rather than the beauty  
they prove of you having survived,  
remember that  
there is an entire art form dedicated  
to filling the cracks of broken things with lacquered gold.  
An entire art form that proves that  
even the broken and damaged history of an object  
is beautiful and should be treasured.

+Response 628, v.2

*Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart.*  
*In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!*

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

\*+Response 628, v. 3  
*Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart.*  
*In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!*

Blessing the World

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia

First Pew

+Response 507, v. 5

*Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy.*  
*This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine.*  
*Come to the table of joy.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Jeremiah 18:1-6

Sermon

“On Potters and Planters”

\*Hymn 695 (2x)

Change My Heart, O God”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Memorial Moment

Eucharistic Prayer

Response

*Let us be bread blessed by the Lord,*  
*broken and shared, life for the world.*  
*Let us be wine, love freely poured,*  
*let us be one in the Lord.*

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

\*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

† † †

\*Sending 583 (2x)

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!*  
*Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

\*A Potter’s Blessing

Postlude

Good pots require the ardor of vocation and the devotion of a lifetime. **Bernard Leach**

A vessel is formed from a lump of clay with care, however, it is the empty space within the vessel that makes it useful. **Lao Tzu**

In such a porcelain life, one likes to be sure that all is well lest one stumbles upon one’s hopes in a pile of broken pottery.

Emily Dickinson

This is the opposite of an instant gratification activity.

Amanda Moffat

*\*Please rise in body and spirit.*

**Kintsugi Declaration**  
Nikita Gill

**Lesson Translation**  
New Revised  
Standard Version

**Potter’s Blessing**  
Sylvia Hardy

**Flowers**  
Provided by many  
generous donations from  
the congregation

**Sermons & Information**  
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

*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.



**Sunday, September 4 • Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time**

*Jeremiah 2:4–13; Psalm 81:1, 10–16; Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16; Luke 14:1, 7–14*

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship and Communion - Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship and Communion - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!  
Sunday Studio - Children ages 3-5th Grade (Classroom and Recorded)  
4:00 p.m. Hymn Sing - Portico  
5:00 p.m. Community Dinner - Zion Episcopal Church Social Center,  
215 E. Washington St., Charles Town, WV 25414

**Monday, September 5 - Labor Day**

Holiday for SPC Staff - Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, September 6**

7:30 p.m. Choir Women Rehearsal - Choir Room

**Thursday, September 8**

- 12:00 p.m. ShepConnections Information table in Student Center until 2 p.m.  
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, September 9**

12:00 p.m. Gathering Space for Prayer - via Zoom

**Sunday, September 11 • Twenty-fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

*Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12–17; Luke 15:1–10*

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship - Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar - Fellowship Hall  
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!  
Sunday Studio - Children ages 3-5th Grade (Classroom and Recorded)  
6:00 p.m. 11th Hour Calling

**MUSIC IN WORSHIP:** Introit and Responses to Kintsugi Prayer and Declaration are from a pilgrimage song based on Psalm 9. The Opening Hymn describes the divine-human connection. The Sermon Hymn is a bilingual reflection on the divine-human connection of potter and clay. The Communion Response is a late 20th century contemplative refrain. The Sending Hymn is from the Taize community.

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**Ordinary Time**

Twenty-third Sunday

**September 4, 2022**

11:00 a.m.

**The Firing**

**I thought I'd calmed you,**

**old potter, old jug-maker;  
I thought I'd bought you  
retirement at last: to wander**

**with me on the grey clay sand  
at the farthest summer tide  
and relinquished evening,  
so you could ease your cramped  
foot off the treadle          rinse  
your hands at the cracked white sink;**

**but here is your thumb again  
pressing my nipple back,  
your palm warping my lip.**

**You load me into the kiln.  
Here again is the searing  
saffron and ash-scoured dark.**

**Ruth Valentine**

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Established 1743*

*Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion  
We Choose Welcome*