

He is like a refiner's fire
and like washers' soap.

Malachi 3:2

Guide our feet into the
way of peace. **Luke 1:79**

I hold you in my heart.

Philippians 1:7

The word of God came to
John son of Zechariah in
the wilderness. **Luke 3:2**

Preacher

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants

Ava Joyce
Sarah Wagner

Choir Director

Sheila Melendez

Accompanist

Sam Jannotta

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 89, v. 1

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

*O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,
your radiance shines in all who look to you;
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.*

*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.

The Candle of Peace

***Hymn 366**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Prayer for Hope (see insert)

+Kyrie 576 (2x)

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

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

+*Alleluia 586, (2x)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Blessing the World

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar,
United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Iran, Iraq

Response 158, v. 1-2

*Born in the night, Mary's Child, a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child, born in a borrowed room.
Clear shining light, Mary's child, your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child, dawn on our darkened day.*

First Pew

Response 158, v. 3-4

*Truth of our life, Mary's Child, you tell us God is good;
yes, it is true, Mary's Child, shown on your cross of wood;
Hope of the world, Mary's Child, you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child, walk in our streets again.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

"Cantate Domino"

Lesson

Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon

"What Really Matters"

Hymn 104

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Memorial Moment

Eucharistic Prayer

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

† † †

***Credo**

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 765**

*May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

***Postlude**

Holding on to hope
when everything is dark
is the greatest test of
faith.

Yasmin Mogahed

*Please rise in body and spirit.

The Candle of Peace

Aristotle

Lesson Translation

New Revised Standard
Version Updated Edition

Sanctuary flowers
provided by
many generous donations
from the congregation

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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, December 8 • Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1–4 Luke 1:68–79 Philippians 1:3–11 Luke 3:1–6

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary/Hybrid
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2
- 3:00 p.m. Community Christmas Caroling – Front area of McMurrin hall

Wednesday, December 11

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir room

Thursday, December 12

- 7:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting – Fellowship Hall/Hybrid

Saturday, December 14

- 7:30 p.m. Winchester Musica Viva Concert – Sanctuary

Sunday, December 15 • Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14–20 Isaiah 12:2–6 Philippians 4:4–7 Luke 3:7–18

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Group Gathering – Downstairs

MUSIC IN WORSHIP: The late 20th Century Introit adapts four of the “Great O” antiphons of Advent. The early 17th Century harmonization of the Opening Hymn traces its origin to a 15th century German text. The late 20th Century Kyrie is a traditional liturgical text. The late 20th Century Alleluia is from the Taizé Community. The mid 20th Century Introduction and Response to the First Pew reflects the full arc of the Incarnation. The mid-20th Century Sermon Hymn is set to a mid-16th Century tune from the Genevan Psalter. The late 20th Century Agape Meal Hymn is from the Philippines. The late 20th Century Sending Hymn is set to an Argentine folk melody.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Advent
Second Sunday

December 8, 2024

11 a.m.

Because

So I can't save the world —
can't save even myself,
can't wrap my arms around
every frightened child, can't
foster peace among nations,
can't bring love to all who
feel unlovable. ...

And sometimes, daunted by a task too big,
I tell myself what's the use of trying?
But today, the invitation is clear:
to be ridiculously courageous in love.
To open the heart like a lilac in May,
knowing freeze is possible
and opening anyway.
To take love seriously.
To give love wildly.
To race up to the world
as if I were a puppy,
adoring and unjaded,
stumbling on my own exuberance.
To feel the shock of indifference,
of anger, of cruelty, of fear,
and stay open. To love as if it matters,
as if the world depends on it.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome