

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people.

2 Samuel 7:8

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.

Luke 1:52

... to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever!

Romans 16:27

For nothing will be impossible with God. **Luke 1:37**

Preacher

Gusti Linnea Newquist

Technology Crew

Bill Howard

Mike Murdock

Pete Spreen

Assistants

Michael Joyce

Hazel Hitt

Sarah Santacroce

Accompanist

Bonnie Moore

Song Leaders

Georgiann & Brad Toole

THE FONT OF IDENTITY

+Introit (2x)

Come, Savior, quickly come;
come, Savior, quickly come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

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

Advent Prayer

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+Hymn 98 (v. 1, 4, 5)

“To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary”

Prayer for Wholeness

Dear God,
If I could speak every language in the world,
but missed the language of your love,
the music of my life would be nothing but noise.
If I could speak the future,
and knew every secret of your perfect plan
and even possessed a colossal knowledge,
but failed to love others,
my life accounting would equal zero.
If I sacrificed all my time, my resources, and my body,
I could hold bragging rights,
but it would be a total loss without love.
Amen.

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

Passing the Peace

Blessing the World

Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

First Pew

Welcome and Parish Life

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THE WORD OF HOPE

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

“Power and Strength”

+Hymn 100 (v. 1, 3)

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

+Hymn 100 (v. 4)

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

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.

Charge and Benediction

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Prepare The Way

Out of your vulnerabilities
will come your strength.

Sigmund Freud

You never know how strong
you are until being strong is
your only choice. **Bob Marley**

Mastering others is strength.
Mastering yourself is true
power. **Lao Tzu**

Community means strength
that joins our strength to do
the work that needs to be
done. **Starhawk**

“Prayer of Love to God”

Based on 1 Corinthians 13

by Rachel Wojo

+Hymns

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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 20 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship & Communion via Facebook Live!

Monday 21

4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 8-9 grades via Zoom

Wednesday 23

7:00 p.m. Advent Reflections via Zoom

Thursday 24 • Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Service via Facebook Live!

8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols with Communion via Facebook Live!

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Carol Sing in front of the church

Sunday 27 • First Sunday of Christmastide

Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4–7; Luke 2:22-40

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship via Facebook Live!

OFFICE CLOSED Friday, December 25.

ENVELOPES. If you would like your 2021 offering envelopes mailed to you, please let the office know. They will be mailed out last week of December.

WALKING PARADE around Canterbury Nursing Home, **Sunday, Dec. 20, 2:00 p.m.** All are welcome, dress silly in costume, hats, etc, and bring a sign that brings some cheer to the residents. Contact morgan-sell311@gmail.com for more info.

ADVENT REFLECTION. **Wednesday December 23,** at 7:00 p.m. via a 30 minute Zoom. Reflect together on the Advent theme of Love through readings, silence, and sharing. Led by Yvonne Fisher.

STRENGTHENED TO THE END. Our worship in the seasons of Advent through Epiphany invites us to experience the strengthening of the Spirit in ways we might not expect. Pay attention to places of “Sudden Hope” emerging in your life. If you are willing to share those experiences with others, you will be

invited to record a message to be included in worship on Dec. 27.

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SING, 11:00 p.m., led by Terry Tucker and Pastor Gusti. We will spread out along Washington Street in front of the church. Please wear a mask, dress warmly, and bring a flashlight. Bring your own readings and/or prayers to share on the theme of “Sudden Hope.” A basket will be available to collect our Christmas Eve offering.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING. Please join in our Christmas offering to support two important project partners: the Coalfield Development Corporation in southern WV, founded by our own Brandon Dennison with its many powerful people and business development initiatives; and the VERBO church and school in Bluefields, Nicaragua helping respond to the many needs among its Community. Indicate Christmas offering in the memo line of your check or in the comments section of your online contribution.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443 • 304-876-6466

office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org • www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist • gusti@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Director of Campus Ministry and Youth Programs: Morgan Sell • youth@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Children’s Education Coordinator: Christa Joyce • jalayoga.christa@gmail.com

Advent
Fourth Sunday

December 20, 2020
11:00 a.m.

I admired her
not for her smile,
though it was beautiful.
Not for her eyes,
though they shone brightly.

I admired her
for the battle scars
and war wounds
that she displayed
proudly for the world to see.

I admired her for her strength
and her courage.

S. Marie

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome