

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. **Isaiah 9:2**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it. **Psalm 96:11**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. **Titus 2:11**

To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. **Luke 2:11**

Gathering Music

Christmas Lullabies
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Arr. Lani Smith
Alan Ogden, organ;
Georgiann Toole, piano
Christmas Time is Here
Bob Sykes, piano
Five Romanian Christmas Carols
Béla Bartóle
Alan Ogden, piano

Pastor

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Readers

Frances Marshall
Christa Joyce
Mabel Patchell
Donald Sykes
Brad Toole
Isabella Tuzzio

Organ

Alan Ogden

Choir Director

Georgiann Toole

Acolyte

Michael Joyce

Gathering Music

† † †

Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Hymn 103

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

Lesson

Genesis 1:1-3

Hymn 7

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

Reading

“Alleluia-verse for the Virgin”

Advent Wreath Lighting

† † †

Welcome

Hymn 133 (v. 1, 3)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Hymn 134 (v. 1,4)

“Joy to the World”

Reading

“The Enchanted Child”

Thomas Moore

Hymn 124

“Still, Still, Still”

Piano Interlude

Silence

Lesson

Luke 2:8-14

Hymn 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Lesson

Luke 2:15-20

Choir Anthem

“Shepherds, Come a-Running”

Henry V. Gerike

Meditation

“Re-Enchanting Christmas”

Hymn 158

“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

Prayer for Others

Offertory

“Amid the Cold of Winter”

Arr. Bret Rhoades

Reading

“The Child Is Born Again”

Hymn 137

“He Came Down”

Silence

Lesson

John 1:1-5, 14

† † †

The Light of Christ

***Silent night, holy night!**

Soloist, Alan Ogden, then congregation

Silent night, holy night

All is calm, all is bright,

Round yon virgin mother and child!

Holy Infant, so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight,

Glories stream from heaven afar,

Heavenly hosts sing: “Alleluia;

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.”

Silent night, holy night!

Son of God, love’s pure light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face,

with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Benediction

† † †

Postlude

**stand if you are able*

Jesus, fully human, enters the world as do all other babies.
Amy-Jill Levine

O Lord, you were born!
Ann Weems

Nothing is more magical than the birth of a child.
Thomas Moore
The Re-Enchantment of Everyday Life

You do not solve the mystery, you live the mystery.
Frederick Buechner

Christmas Wreathing

Sanctuary guild

Arch Angels

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

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.



OFFICE CLOSED: Dec. 24 through Jan 4.

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

ONE SERVICE ONLY at 11:00 a.m. Dec. 29 (no Sunday Studio, children are welcome to sit with family) and January 5 (children's pageant).

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT, Sunday, Jan 5, 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. 5, 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–R: salad/vegetable or side dish; S–Z: dessert.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) CIRCLE First Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. Jan. 2 discussion is Ch. 5 "Jesus is the Norm of the Bible" in our study book, Marcus Borg's *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most.* This meeting is our 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. 5.**

INSTALLATION SERVICE for Pastor Gusti Newquist. January 12, 3:00 p.m. "Installation" is the formal act of Shenandoah Presbytery to establish a pastoral relationship. The installation service completes the call process and formally establishes the ministry of the

new teaching elder. All members of the congregation, interested community members, as well as Gusti's family and friends are invited to attend this very special occasion in the life of the church. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

LISTENING GROUP Third Thursday, 10:00 a.m. Classroom No. 1. Prayerful listening and conversation around scripture, poetry and other selected texts. All are welcome. **Next: Jan. 16.**

CONNECTIONS SPC's Shepherd University-based group for college students meets every other week at the Blue Moon.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Third Saturdays. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Discussion, 8:00–9:00 a.m. **Next: Jan. 18**

SUNDAY SEMINARS (for adults) Starting Jan. 19, 9:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Childcare provided.

CANTERBURY SERVICE Fourth Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. **Next: Jan. 22**

SPC KNITTING GROUP Last Saturdays, 1 p.m., Bring your own project or join us making prayer shawls and baby blankets. **Next: Jan. 25**

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. 26**

WINTER RETREAT DAY *Cultivating Hope.* **Jan. 31 9:30–3:30,** Shepherd's Spring Retreat Center, led by Trish Stefanik. Contact office to register.

TAIZÉ SERVICE First Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. *A Service of Prayer in song, silence, candlelight.* **Next: Feb. 8**

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 2019
8:00 P.M.



Alleluia-verse for the Virgin

Alleluia! light
burst from your untouched womb
like a flower on the farther side
of death. The world-tree
is blossoming. Two
realms become one.

Hildegard of Bingen

(tr. by Barbara Newman)

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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