

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

Isaiah 43:2

The voice of the LORD is over the waters.

Psalms 29:3

Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:17

“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”

Luke 3:16

Preacher

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistant

Emily Gross

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 (2x)

*Water, River, Spirit, Grace, sweep over me, sweep over me!
Recarve the depths your fingers traced
in sculpting me, in sculpting me.*

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.

Prayer for the Waters

***Hymn 476**

“Crashing Waters at Creation”

Prayer for Wholeness (see insert)

+Kyrie (2x)

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

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

+*Hallelujah 590 (2x)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Blessing the World

Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands

Response 487, v. 1

*These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow:
with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus’ name.*

First Pew

Response 487, v. 4

*Come, Holy Spirit, help us be a nurturing community;
empower us to realize God’s kingdom through our children’s eyes.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Genesis 1:1-2; Luke 3:21-22

Sermon

“Water and Spirit”

***Hymn 479**

“Ho, All Who Thirst”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Baptismal Blessing

Baptismal Serenade

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

† † †

***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 (2x)**

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

***Postlude**

Water carries our thoughts and prayers, as you are water yourself.

Dr. Emoto

Nothing is softer or more flexible than water, yet nothing can resist it.

Lao Tzu

A drop of water, if it could write out its own history, would explain the universe to us.

Lucy Larcom

All water is holy water.

Rajiv Joseph

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Opening Prayer

St. Francis of Assisi

Lessons Translation

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Sanctuary flowers provided by many generous donations from the congregation

Sermons & Information

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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, January 12 • Baptismal Blessing Sunday

Pss. 96; 110, Deut. 33:1–5, 1 John 2:12–17, John 6:41–47

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship with Baptismal Blessing – Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/Hybrid
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Baptismal Blessing – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2

Wednesday, January 15

- 2:30 p.m. Quaker Mid-Week Service – Sanctuary and Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir room

Thursday, January 16

- 3:00 p.m. Oxfam Hunger Banquet Planning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Communications Team Meeting – Zoom

Saturday, January 18

- 2:00 p.m. Celebration of Life Service: Rev. Joel Blunk – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!

Sunday, January 19

Isaiah 62:1–5, Psalm 36:5–10, 1 Corinthians 12:1–11, John 2:1–11

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/Hybrid
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Group Gathering – Downstairs

SERVICE MUSIC IN JANUARY: The late 20th Century Introit is from the Taizé Community in France. The Kyrie is a beloved SPC version from Stefan Waliger. The Hallelujah is a traditional liturgical text. The 21st Century Introduction and Response to First Pew emphasizes the covenantal dimensions of baptism; originally written in French and paired with a 15th Century French tune. The Baptismal Serenade by Libby Roderick is a beloved SPC tradition. The Sending is from the Taizé Community.

TODAY'S HYMNS: The late 20th Century Opening hymn, written by a United Church of Canada minister, recalls significant events in biblical history involving water. The late 20th Century Sermon Hymn brings together biblical references that enlarge our appreciation of the water of baptism.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Baptismal Blessing Sunday

January 12, 2025

11:00 a.m.

Ask Me

Some time when the river is ice ask me mistakes I have made. Ask me whether what I have done is my life. Others have come in their slow way into my thought, and some have tried to help or to hurt: ask me what difference their strongest love or hate has made.

I will listen to what you say.

You and I can turn and look at the silent river and wait. We know the current is there, hidden; and there are comings and goings from miles away that hold the stillness exactly before us. What the river says, that is what I say.

William Stafford

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome