

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations. **Isaiah 42:6**

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. **Psalms 29:7**

Then Peter began to speak to them, "I truly understand that God shows no partiality." **Acts 10:34**

A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

Matthew 3:17

Preacher

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants

Adalyn Hartman
Michael Joyce
Hazel Hitt

Accompanist

Sam Jannotta

Special Music

Mary Anne Hitt
Than Hitt

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 744**, v.1-2

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.
Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.*

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

***+Hymn 484**

"Out of Deep, Unordered Water"

Prayer for Wholeness

Blessed river,
speak to me of stillness and change.
As your path caresses
the skin of the earth,
may I also dance
over, through, and around
the obstacles in my life.

As your gentle strength and insistence
carves the hardest stone,
may I also know the value
of holding my course.

May I flow calmly
and leap skyward in joy.
Whisper your stories
to my dreaming heart,
and sing songs of the land
to my awakened mind.

Sweet River,
please carry me home.

Amen.

+Response

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

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***+Response 475**, v. 1

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Blessing the Nations

Ireland, United Kingdom

+Response 486, v. 1-2

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

First Pew

+Response 486, v. 3-4

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Genesis 3:1-2 and Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon

"Breaking Through"

***Hymn 375**

"Shall We Gather at the River"

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Baptismal Blessing

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

† † †

Children's Blessing

***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 744**

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

***Postlude**

Water carries our thoughts and prayers, as you are water yourself. No matter where you are, your prayers will be carried to the rest of the world.

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

Opening Prayer

St. Francis of Assisi

Lessons Translation

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

White Rose

In Memory of
David Colbert

Flowers

Made possible 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 8 • Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service Worship with Baptismal Blessing - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Baptismal Blessing - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio - Children K-5th Grade (Classroom and Recorded)
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Gathering - Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Hymn Sing - Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 10

7:00 p.m. Teach the Preacher via Zoom

Wednesday, January 11

10:30 a.m. Exploring Spiritual Practices (ESP) via Zoom

Thursday, January 12

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

Friday, January 13

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

Sunday, January 15 • Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40-1:11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio - Children K-5th Grade (Classroom and Recorded)

MUSIC IN WORSHIP: The late 20th Century Introit and Sending Hymn updates a 19th century tune with inclusive an inclusive language text. The late 20th Century Opening Hymn connects the water in the font with the waters of creating, liberating, and sustaining grace. The Response to the Prayer for Wholeness is a late 20th Century meditative chant. The Response to the Declaration was written for Pentecost by a British Baptist Pastor. The Response to Blessing the World and First Pew is a late 20th Century “song of encouragement.” A Baptist preacher wrote the late 19th Century Sermon Hymn while seated at his parlor organ.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Baptism of the Lord

January 8, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Breaking the Ice

To break through nature’s glass door was the one.
That first hit, as the cold embraced your skin
and made a warm cocoon, was like a sun
forged from the iciest glaciers. The river ran in
to drench your every inch, a cold caress
that flooded you with heat. As midnight tolls
deep in some distant city, every stress
within your body ebbs away as shoals
of bioluminescence flood the waters.
This is how you will be reborn. The rush
of those million tiny fireflies, baby swimmers,
is a return to one’s own origins. The fish
fill the dark with their glow. Life quickens. Night
bursts into new possibilities of light.

Oliver Tearle

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

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