

And they shall live secure.
Micah 5:4

God has filled the hungry.
Luke 1:53

“See, I have come to do your will.” **Hebrews 10:9**

“Blessed are you among women.” **Luke 1:42**

Preacher
Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants
William Gonano
Sophia Tuzzio & Family
Frances Marshall

Choir Director
Sheila Melendez

Offertory
Handbell Choir

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 Love

***Hymn 646 (6x)**
“Sing Out My Soul”

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

Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

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

Choral Anthem

“A la media noche,” Greg Gilpin

Lesson

Luke 1:46b-55

Sermon

“The People’s Magnificat”

Hymn 100

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Eucharistic Prayer

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

† † †

***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.

Prepare the Way! 95 (6x)

*Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.*

***Postlude**

Mary sings hope into the world as she nurtures it within herself.

Lindsey Paris-Lopez

*Please rise in body and spirit.

The Candle of Love

Aristotle

Lesson Translation

New Revised Standard
Version Updated Edition

Poinsettias were donated to decorate the Sanctuary by many generous family & friends of SPC

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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 22 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80:1–7 Hebrews 10:5–10 Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)

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

Tuesday, December 24

8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Family-friendly elements – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service – Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 25

Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 26

Church Office Closed

4:00 p.m. Shepherdstown Historic Houses of Worship Tour until 7 p.m.

Friday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 28

1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads Group Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 29 • First Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12–17 Luke 2:41–52

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary and Facebook Live!

5:00 p.m. Joy Gift Dinner – Fellowship Hall

SERVICE MUSIC IN ADVENT: The late 20th Century Introit adapts four of the “Great O” antiphons of Advent. 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 late 20th Century Communion hymn from the Philippines connects farmyard experience and Jesus’ lament over Jerusalem (Mt 23:37/Lk 13:34). The late 20th Century Sending Hymn is set to an Argentine folk melody.

TODAY’S HYMNS: The late-20th Century Opening hymn is a Taizé chant based on the *Magnificat*. The late-20th Century Sermon Hymn employs an energetic Irish folk song for its melody with a ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*.

TODAY’S CHORAL ANTHEM, “A la media noche”: “At the hour of midnight in the icy harshness, born was Jesus Christ Redeemer of Heaven. At the hour of midnight the rooster crowed and his voice declared: Christ is born!”

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 (she/her) • gusti@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Christa Joyce (she/her) Director of Children and Youth Formation • christa@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sheila Melendez (she/her) Choir Director • sheilamelendez@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Advent

Fourth Sunday

December 22, 2024

11 a.m.

Holding the Light

for Kait Rhoads

Gather up whatever is
glittering in the gutter,
whatever has tumbled
in the waves or fallen
in flames out of the sky,
for it’s not only our
hearts that are broken,
but the heart
of the world as well.
Stitch it back together.
Make a place where
the day speaks to the night
and the earth speaks to the sky.
Whether we created God
or God created us
it all comes down to this:
In our imperfect world
we are meant to repair
and stitch together
what beauty there is, stitch it
with compassion and wire.
See how everything
we have made gathers
the light inside itself
and overflows? A blessing.

Stuart Kestenbaum

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome