

“This day shall be a day of remembrance for you.”

Exodus 12:14

Sing to the LORD a new song.

Psalms 149:1

Owe no one anything, except to love one another.

Romans 13:8

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Matthew 18:20

Preacher

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants

Evelyn Groff

Rie Wilson

Choir Director

Leslie Williams

Offertory

Manny Mellis

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 399 (2x)**

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God’s love is strong and it never ends.

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 Worship

In the beginning was the Word,

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

All things came into being through the Word.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth!

***+Hymn 462**

“I Love to Tell the Story”

Prayer for Wholeness

We are spendthrifts with words,

We squander them,

Toss them like pennies in the air –

Arrogant words,

Angry words,

Cruel words,

Comradely words,

Shy words tiptoeing from mouth to ear.

But the slowly wrought words of love

and the thunderous words of heartbreak –

Those we hoard.

+Response 455 (2x)

Listen to the word that God has spoken;

listen to the One who is close at hand;

listen to the voice that began creation;

listen even if you don’t understand.

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***+Response 586**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessing the World

Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia,

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

+Response 188, v. 1

“Jesus Loves Me!”

First Pew

+Response 188, v. 2

“Jesus Loves Me!”

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

“Be Thou My Vision”

Lesson

Nehemiah 8:1-12

***+Hymn 459**

“O Word of God Incarnate”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Prayer for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

“Wanna Be Happy”

† † †

***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 583 (2x)**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

***Postlude**

Without knowing the force of words, it is impossible to know more. **Confucius**

Words are the sum of their histories. **Richard Kenney**

Silence is the language of god, all else is poor translation. **Rumi**

I believe God is a librarian.

Sarah Smith

**Please rise in body and spirit.*

Prayer for Wholeness

Pauli Murray

Lesson Translation

Gusti Linnea Newquist

Flowers

Made possible by many generous donations from the congregation

Sermons & Information

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+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.



Ordinary Time
Twenty-third Sunday

September 10, 2023
11:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 10 • Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service Worship - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Special Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio - Children K-5th Grade - Classroom 1
- 1:00 p.m. Youth Gather at Morgans Grove Park Pavilion
- 3:00 p.m. Church Picnic and Talent Show - Morgans Grove Park Pavilion until 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 12

- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday, September 14

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

Saturday, September 16

- 7:30 a.m. Mens Breakfast Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 17 • Twenty-fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Guns to Gardens Reflections & Questions - Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship - Sanctuary and Facebook Live!
Sunday Studio - Children K-5th Grade - Classroom 1

MUSIC IN WORSHIP: The Introit is a “short song” from the Iona Community, set to South African music. The 19th Century Opening Hymn was written during the author’s recovery from a serious illness. The Response to the Prayer for Wholeness is a short song from Canada. The Alleluia is a traditional liturgical text. The Response before and after the First Pew is a 19th Century summary of Christian teaching. The 19th Century Sermon Hymn is set to a tune from Felix Menelsohn’s Elijah. The Sending is a traditional liturgical text.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Words are Birds

words
are birds
that arrive
with books
and spring

they
love
clouds
the wind
and trees

some words
are messengers
that come
from far away
from distant lands ...

... the letters
on this page
are the prints
they leave
by the sea

Francisco X. Alarcón

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743
Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion
We Choose Welcome