

Is there no balm in Gilead?  
**Jeremiah 8:22**

Help us, O God of our salvation.  
**Psalm 79:9**

I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for every-one.  
**1 Timothy 2:1**

“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much.”  
**Luke 16:10**

**Preacher**  
Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

**Assistant**  
Mica Martin

**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** (7x)  
*Breathe in, present moment.*  
*Breathe out, wonderful moment.*

**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 Sabbath**

**\*+Hymn 713**  
“Touch the Earth Lightly”

**Prayer for Sabbath**  
O God, you made the earth and called it good.  
*Sabbath is God’s gift: rest for the land.*  
The soil groans under our striving.  
*Sabbath is God’s gift: rest for the land.*  
Let rivers, fields, and forests be renewed in you.  
*Sabbath is God’s gift: rest for the land.*

**+ Response** (7x)  
*Let things ripen and then fall.*  
*Force is not the way at all.*  
*Just let go and we will see.*  
*The way to do is to be.*

**Declaration of Grace and Gratitude**

**\*+Response 843** (7x)  
*My soul is at rest in God alone.*  
*My salvation comes from God.*

**Blessing the World**  
India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

**Response 474**, refrain (2x)  
*As a child rests in its mother’s arms, so will I rest in you.*  
*As a child rests in its mother’s arms, so will I rest in you.*

**First Pew**

**Response 474**, refrain (2x)  
*As a child rests in its mother’s arms, so will I rest in you.*  
*As a child rests in its mother’s arms, so will I rest in you.*

**Welcome and Parish Life**

**THE WORD OF HOPE**

† † †

**Reading**

**Interlude**

**Lesson**  
Exodus 23:10-11

**Sermon**  
“Sabbath and the Cry of the Land”

**\*+Hymn 715**  
“The Earth Belongs to God Alone”

**THE BREAD OF LIFE**

† † †

**Prayer for Others**

**Offering Our Gifts**

**Offertory**  
“Who Is the Alien?,” *arr. Marty Haugen*”

† † †

**Yellow Ribbon Retrieval**

**\*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** (7x)  
*Out beyond ideas*  
*There is a field*  
*There is a field*  
*I will meet you there*

**\*Postlude**

Rest, beloved, upon the earth—let the soil cradle you in its song of stillness. The minerals of the earth, the dust of stars, whisper to your soul: “Be still, and remember your roots.”  
**Jenna Jones**

\*Please rise in body and spirit.


**Lesson Translation**  
New Revised  
Standard Version

**Prayer for Others**  
Archibald MacLeish

**Sermons & Information**  
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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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, September 21**  
*Jeremiah 8:18–9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 Timothy 2:1–7 Luke 16:1–13*  
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 2  
4:00 p.m. Shepherdstown Ministerial Association Prayer at Morgan’s Grove Park
- Wednesday, September 24**  
4:00 p.m. Friends of Music Set-up – Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Sanctuary  
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- Thursday, September 25**  
6:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- Friday, September 26**  
7:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- Saturday, September 27**  
1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads Group Fellowship – Library  
1:00 p.m. Friends of Music Lunch & Set-up – Sanctuary  
3:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Sanctuary  
7:30 p.m. Friends of Music Concert – Sanctuary
- Sunday, September 28**  
*Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15 Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16 1 Timothy 6:6–19 Luke 16:19–31*  
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 2  
3:00 p.m. Friends of Music Concert – Sanctuary

**MUSIC IN WORSHIP:** The Introit, Response to the Prayer for Sabbath, and Sending are from Laurence Cole. The Opening Hymn is from New Zealand, based on an Australian Aboriginal saying. The Response to the Declaration is from the Taizé community. The Introduction and Response to the First Pew is based on Psalm 131. The Sermon Hymn is based on the call for periods of “land sabbaths” in Torah.

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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**Ordinary Time**  
Twenty-fifth Sunday

**September 21, 2025**  
11:00 a.m.

**1985, V**

How long does it take to make the woods?  
As long as it takes to make the world.  
The woods is present as the world is, the presence  
of all its past, and of all its time to come.  
It is always finished, it is always being made, the act  
of its making forever greater than the act of its destruction.  
It is a part of eternity, for its end and beginning  
belong to the end and beginning of all things,  
the beginning lost in the end, the end in the beginning.

What is the way to the woods, how do you go there?  
By climbing up through the six days’ field,  
kept in all the body’s years, the body’s  
sorrow, weariness, and joy. By passing through  
the narrow gate on the far side of that field  
where the pasture grass of the body’s life gives way  
to the high, original standing of the trees.  
By coming into the shadow, the shadow  
of the grace of the strait way’s ending,  
the shadow of the mercy of light.

Why must the gate be narrow?  
Because you cannot pass beyond it burdened.  
To come in among these trees you must leave behind  
the six days’ world, all of it, all of its plans and hopes.  
You must come without weapon or tool, alone,  
expecting nothing, remembering nothing,  
into the ease of sight, the brotherhood of eye and leaf.

**Wendell Berry**

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*Established 1743*  
*Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion*  
*We Choose Welcome*