

I will recount the gracious
deeds of the LORD.
Isaiah 63:7

Praise the LORD!
Psalms 148:1

“I will put my trust in
him.” **Hebrews 2:13**

An angel of the Lord
appeared to Joseph in a
dream. **Matthew 2:13**

Preacher
Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistant
Mica Martin

Special Music
Terry Tucker
Ardyth Gilbertson

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 155 (2x)
*Raise a song of gladness, people of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!*

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 142**
“’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”

Prayer for Sabbath (see insert)

+Response 144, v. 1, 4
“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***+Response 110**
“Love Has Come”

***Passing the Peace**

Blessing the World
Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

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

Interlude

Lesson
Matthew 2:13-15

Communal Proclamation
“Protecting Sabbath With Us”

***Hymn 138**
“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Prayer for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory
“Coventry Carol”

† † †

***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 136, refrain (2x)**
*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

***Postlude**

Power is no blessing in it-
self, except when it is used
to protect the innocent.
Jonathan Swift


*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation
New Revised
Standard Version

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, December 28 • First Sunday of Christmastide

Isaiah 63:7–9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2:10–18 Matthew 2:13–23
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary and Zoom

Tuesday, December 30

Church Office Closed
6:00 p.m. SPC Game Night – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 31

Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 1 • Happy New Year 2026!

Church Office Closed

Friday, January 2

7:00 p.m. Youth Group Star Camp – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 3

10:00 a.m. Deacon’s Meeting – Fellowship Hall
12:30 p.m. Listening Sessions Overview – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 4 • Epiphany Sunday

Jerimaiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-9
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary and Zoom
5:00 p.m. Community Meal – Zion Episcopal Church Social Center,
215 E. Washington St., Charles Town, WV 25414

For Anna

My daughter says
that the night is
God’s black cloak
spread across the sky
and that unseen stars
are halos hidden deep
within its folds.

My daughter says
that the earth is
a small brown box
held with care
in God’s great hands.

My daughter says all that.

Nancy Baillie Strong