

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

Praise the LORD!  
**Psalm 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**  
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, 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**

*Jerimaiyah 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

### **Christmastide First Sunday**

**December 28, 2025**

11:00 a.m.

#### **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**

### **SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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### **SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Established 1743*

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