

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, February 1

Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Education Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship with Communion – Sanctuary/ Zoom
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group Gathering – Downstairs
- 5:00 p.m. Community Meal – Zion Episcopal Church,
215 W Washington Street, Charles Town, WV

Tuesday, February 3

- 7:00 p.m. Wisdom and Witness from Minneapolis – Sanctuary/ Zoom

Wednesday, February 4

- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Thursday, February 5

- 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women – Fellowship Hall/ Hybrid
- 6:00 p.m. Bible at the Bar — The Meck, 128 E German Street, Shepherdstown

Sunday, February 8

Isaiah 58:1-9 Psalm 112:1-9 Corinthians 2:1-12 Matthew 5:13-20

- 8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Education Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary/ Zoom
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group Gathering – Downstairs

Ordinary Time
Fourth Sunday

February 1, 2026
11:00 a.m.

The Hill We Climb, excerpt

This is the era of just redemption. We feared -- at its deception. We did not feel prepared to be the heirs of such a terrifying hour, but within it we found the power to author a new chapter, to offer hope and laughter to ourselves.

So, while once we asked, “how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?”, now we assert, “how could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?” We will not march back to what was, but move to what shall be, a country that is bruised but whole, benevolent but bold, fierce and free. We will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation.

Because we know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next generation. Our blunders become their burdens. But one thing is certain. If we merge mercy with might and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change, our children’s birth right.

Amanda Gorman

. . . and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? **Micah 6:8**

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? **Psalms 15:1**

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong. **I Corinthians 1:27**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. **Matthew 5:6**

- Preacher**
Rev. Mary Jane Hitt
- Assistant**
Carol Wood
- 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 (2x)

*Water, River, Spirit, Grace, sweep over me, sweep over me!
Recarve the depths your fingers traced in sculpting me,
in sculpting me.*

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.

Prayer

*Hymn 753

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Prayer for Wholeness (see insert)

+Kyrie 575 (2x)

*Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

+*Alleluia 587 (2x)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessing the Nations

Germany, France

Response 486, v. 1

*Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit’s sign,
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.*

First Pew

Response 486, v. 2

*Child of love, our love’s expression,
love’s creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits;
into joy and laughter lead.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon

“A Manifesto of Holy Resistance”

*Hymn 769

“For Everyone Born”

*THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Memorial Moment

Eucharistic Prayer

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

† † †

Commissioning Our Guest Pastor

*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 (2x)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

If today’s church does not recapture the sacrificial spirit of the early church, it will lose its authenticity, forfeit the loyalty of millions, and be dismissed as an irrelevant social club with no meaning.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation

New Revised
Standard Version

Sermons & Information
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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Sabbatical Transition

Pastor Mary Jane will begin preaching today and leading worship in its entirety next week.

Pastor Gusti's pastoral care responsibilities have concluded as of yesterday.

Please reach out to your Deacon or to Pastor Mary Jane with pastoral concerns.

Next Sunday Pastor Gusti will worship in the pews with the congregation and be commissioned for her sabbatical.

The hospitality committee will host a reception following the second service to welcome Pastor Mary Jane and send Pastor Gusti off in style.

Pastor Gusti will continue to shadow Pastor Mary Jane through February 14, to ensure a smooth transition.

Prayer for Wholeness

Resistance, *excerpt*

I must be the heavy globe
of hydrangea, always bowing
by summer's end. Must be salt,
like sadness at a burning city,
an ethical disobedience. I must be
a violet thorn of fire. These days
I don't taste good, but I must
be singing and boneless, a lily.
I must beg for it, eyes flashing
silver as a fish. Must be a rosary
of listening. This is how I know
to love.

Traci Brimhall

Sung Response 575 (2x)

*Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God:

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Eternal Spirit

Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
source of all that is and that shall be,

Parent of us all.

Loving God, in whom is heaven.

The hallowing of your name echoes
through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed
by the peoples of the earth!

Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory
of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

Sung Response

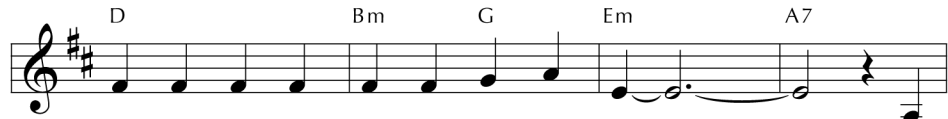
All shall be well. All things shall be well.

753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis



1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.



3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Though popular opinion credits this prayer to Francis of Assisi, the earliest known printing was in a French religious magazine in 1912. Yet that gentle saint's spirit seems evident in these words, a quality that has spurred many paraphrases and musical settings such as this one.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

un - der-stood as to un - der - stand, to be

loved as to love with all my soul.

to Stanza 4

769 For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

Refrain



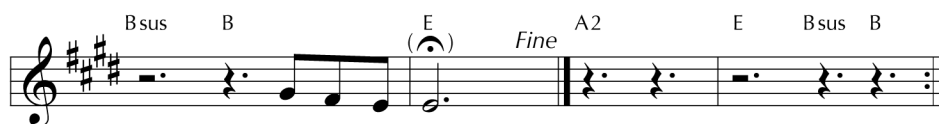
and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!