

Is this not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? **Isaiah 58:6**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice. **Psalms 112:5**

Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God. **1 Corinthians 2:12a**

You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. **Matthew 5:13a, 14a**

Preacher
Rev. Mary Jane Hitt

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 (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 314**
“Christ, Be Our Light”

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!

***Passing the Peace**

Blessing the Nations
Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Andorra,
Monaco and San Marino

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 5:13-16
Sermon
“The Salt and Light of Resistance”
***Hymn 853**
“We are marching in the Light of God”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Prayer for Others
Offering Our Gifts
Offertory
“This Little Light of Mine”

† † †

***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)**
*This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine. (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

***Postlude**

If there is no struggle, there is no progress.
Frederick Douglass

Truth is powerful and it prevails. **Sojourner Truth**

Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark.
Rabindranath Tagore

Disobedience is the true foundation of liberty.
Henry David Thoreau

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation
New Revised
Standard Version
Updated Edition

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, 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

Tuesday, February 10

- 6:00 p.m. Property Committee – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 11

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

Thursday, February 12

- 10:00 a.m. Stated Session Meeting – Fellowship Hall/Hybrid

Sunday, February 15

Exodus 24-12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

- 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 with Ordination & Installation – Sanctuary/Zoom
 - Palms to Ashes Litany – Front Steps of Church Building
- 12:30 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Reception for Pastor Gusit – Fellowship Hall

TODAY’S CHORAL ANTHEM: The origins of “This Little Light of Mine” are unclear. It likely emerged from African American oral tradition and was later arranged by gospel musician Harry Dixon Loes. It became a defining anthem of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement as a way to unify people during their fight against oppression. It assures us that we can all make an impact on the world, even with something that may seem small.

TODAY’S HYMNS: “Christ, Be Our Light” is a modern, justice oriented hymn written by Bernadette Farrell and first published in 1993. It emerged from Farrell’s long ministry in Catholic liturgy, community organizing, and social justice advocacy, and it quickly crossed denominational lines to become one of the most widely sung contemporary hymns in English speaking churches. “We Are Marching in the Light of God” is a lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song that originated in a Methodist young men’s group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Ordinary Time
Fifth Sunday

February 8, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Holding the Light

Gather up whatever is
glittering in the gutter,
whatever has tumbled
in the waves or fallen
in flames out of the sky,

for it’s not only our
hearts that are broken,
but the heart
of the world as well.
Stitch it back together.

Make a place where
the day speaks to the night
and the earth speaks to the sky.
Whether we created God
or God created us

it all comes down to this:
In our imperfect world
we are meant to repair
and stitch together
what beauty there is, stitch it

with compassion and wire.
See how everything
we have made gathers
the light inside itself
and overflows? A blessing.

Stuart Kestenbaum

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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