

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*

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. **Psalm 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.

*Singing (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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Prayer for Wholeness

In the Light

We are indeed children of Light. What an endless mart goes on in the Light.

In the Light is our sleeping and waking, the play of our life and death.

Beneath one great canopy, in the ray of one great sun, slowly, very slowly,

burn the unnumbered lamps of life.

In the midst of this unending Light I lose myself;

amidst this intolerable radiance I wander like one blind.

We are indeed children of Light. Why then do we fear when we see the Light?

Come, let us look all around and see, here no one hath cause for any fear.

In this boundless ocean of Light, if a tiny lamp goes out, let it go;

who can say that it will not burn again?

Kamini Roy

Sung Response 575 (2x)

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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Sabbatical Transition Rescheduled for Next Sunday

Pastor Gusti's Sabbatical Leave begins next Sunday, February 15.

She will worship in the pews with the congregation,

and we will bless her as we send her on her journey.

The hospitality committee is hosting a soup and sandwich lunch

immediately following the second service next week

to welcome Pastor Mary Jane

and send Pastor Gusti off in style.

THE CHURCH

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light

Em Am7 Bm7 Esus Em

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

Am7 Bm7 Esus Em Am7

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

D G C Am Dsus D

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain

G C G Em Bm Em

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

Am7 D G Dsus D Em Em7

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

C Am7 D G Am7 G

church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

853 We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba



We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God;
nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',

we are marching in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are marching in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen -, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are marching in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song 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. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo

oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo

oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing...
We are praying...
We are singing...