

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:36

Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:13

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. **Psalm 103:8**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Matthew 5:6

Preacher

Rev. Mary Jane Hitt

Assistants

Abigail Barnett
Donna Dettling

Special Music

Wanda Stewart

Accompanist

Terry Tucker

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 399 (3x)

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

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.

Remembering our Baptism

***Hymn 401**

"Here in This Place"

Prayer for Wholeness (see insert)

Response 471 (2x)

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.*

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***Response 523, refrain (2x)**

*You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.*

***Passing the Peace**

Blessing the Nations

Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan

Response 487, v. 1

*These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow;
with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus' name.*

First Pew

Response 487, v. 5

*Then, tender God, each child embrace; God give them blessings, grant
them grace Surprise them, God, with wonders still,
and gently guide them to your will.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Luke 19:1-10

Sermon

"Between Righteousness & Mercy"

***Hymn 435**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Eucharistic Prayer

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

† † †

***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 (see insert)

"Let There be Peace on Earth"

"One who forgives gains the victory"

Zulu proverb

"Each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done."

Bryan Stevenson

"Our human compassion binds us the one to the other."

Nelson Mandela

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation

Rev. Mary Jane Hitt

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.



Season of Lent
Fifth Sunday

March 22, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 22 • Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 Luke 19:1-10

- 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
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Gathering – Downstairs

Monday, March 23

Office Hours 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 25

- 4:00 p.m. Friends of Music Musicians Set up – Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. SPC Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, March 27

- 4:00 p.m. Friends of Music Musicians Set up – Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary

Saturday, March 28

- 1:00 p.m. Friends of Music Musicians Lunch – Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads Group – Library area upstairs
- 3:00 p.m. Friends of Music Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Friends of Music Concert – Sanctuary

Palm/Passion Sunday • March 29

Palms: Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2,19-29

Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 31:9-16 Phillipians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66

- 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
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Gathering – Downstairs

Call Me In

You could call me out.
You could hang me out to dry.
You could list my sins.
You could shrink me down to size.
Or, you could call me in.
You could grab my hand.
You could show me what I've missed.

Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

TODAY'S HYMNS: "Here in This Place (also known as "Gather Us In") was composed in 1979 on behalf of a diverse congregation that longed to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes. "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" reminds us that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The hymn tune is a 17th century Dutch folk melody.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome