

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

Psalm 1:3

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.

John 15:5a

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22a

A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.

Luke 13:6b

Preacher

Rev. Mary Jane Hitt

Assistant

Carol Wood

Choir Director

Sheila Melendez

Accompanist

Sam Jannotta

Tech Support

Pete Spreen

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 293**

"Loving Spirit"

Prayer for Wholeness

Holy God,
there are days when we fail to rest.
We stretch ourselves too thin.
We say "yes" to every invitation.
We run a million miles a minute.
We ignore your command to rest.
There are also days when we fail to act.
We wait for someone else. We take the easy road.
We find excuses and justify our inaction.
God, forgive our imbalance.
Reminds us that birds rest, and they also fly.
Show us how to do the same. Amen.

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

Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

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 13:6-9

Sermon

"Between Rest & Growth"

***Hymn 286**

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Eucharistic Prayer

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

"It Is Well," by John Ness Beck

† † †

***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)

*Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you.
Salaam, salaam. Peace of God be with you.*

She who says, "I didn't understand" is not stupid.

Swahili proverb

Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step. **Laozi**

Faith is not so much something we believe; faith is something we live.

Joseph B. Wirthlin

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation

New Revised
Standard Version

Lord's Prayer:

Rev. Jim Cotter,
Anglican Church in Aotearoa,
New Zealand and Polynesia.

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.



Season of Lent
Third Sunday

March 8, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 8 • Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 Luke 13:6-9

- 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
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Gathering – Downstairs
- 12:30 p.m. SPC Timeline Project – Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Private Recital – Sanctuary
Cookie Exchange following recital – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 10

10:00 a.m. Budget & Finance Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 11

- 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Thursday, March 12

7:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting – Fellowship Hall/Zoom

Friday, March 13

6:00 p.m. Eastern Panhandle Youth Alliance (EPYA) Movie Night – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 15 • Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 Luke 15:1-7

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

TODAY'S HYMNS: "Loving Spirit" is a reminder of the relational ways in which we experience the Holy Spirit. The words, written in 1986, have been put to an ancient tune that may have originated in a folk melody. "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" reminds us that in the both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally be translated as "breath".

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Slow Growth

There's a vine in the South that covers everything.
it chokes out the light. Grows up to twelve inches per day.

In a matter of years, it will blanket a forest.

If you saw it from space, you'd marvel at its reach.

If you saw it from the passenger seat, you'd weep at what it covers.

Those looking for fast shade plant this invasive vine.

Who can blame them? We're all impatient.

But if it's fruit you want –

the tart cherry,

the sticky sweet kumquat,

the soft side of a peach,

the crisp bite of an apple –

then bless the rain.

Thank the sun.

Put your hands in the dirt,

and wait.

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

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome