

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
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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

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443 • 304-876-6466

office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org • www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Rev. Mary Jane Hitt (she/her) • maryjane@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Christa Joyce (she/her) Director of Children and Youth Formation • christa@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sheila Melendez (she/her) Choir Director • sheilamelendez@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome

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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HOLY WEEK 2026:

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29

Early Service 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. with Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 2

7 p.m. with Communion

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3, 7 p.m.

*Asbury United Methodist Church
The Seven Last Sayings of Jesus*

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, April 5, 6:30am

Rumsey Monument Park, at the end of Mill Street.

*Please bring a chair and gather
on the grass area below the monument.*

*You are also invited to bring a reading,
a poem, or a song to share with the group.*

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5, 11 a.m.

No Sunday Studio Nursery is available for children under 5.

Prayer for Wholeness

Merciful God,

We know that our faith calls us to live
with both mercy and righteousness,
but somewhere along the way
we have forgotten that truth.

Somewhere along the way,
we began arguing about who deserves mercy
and whether or not they are righteous enough to
receive it. Forgive us, we pray.

When we fail to be righteous,
show us mercy.

When we fail to be merciful,
show us what is right.

Again and again, bring us closer to you.

Again and again, show us the way.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...

At this table we taste your never-ending Hope,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has come.
Christ is with us.
Christ will be all in all.

...

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Parent, siblings all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;

To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Look & See

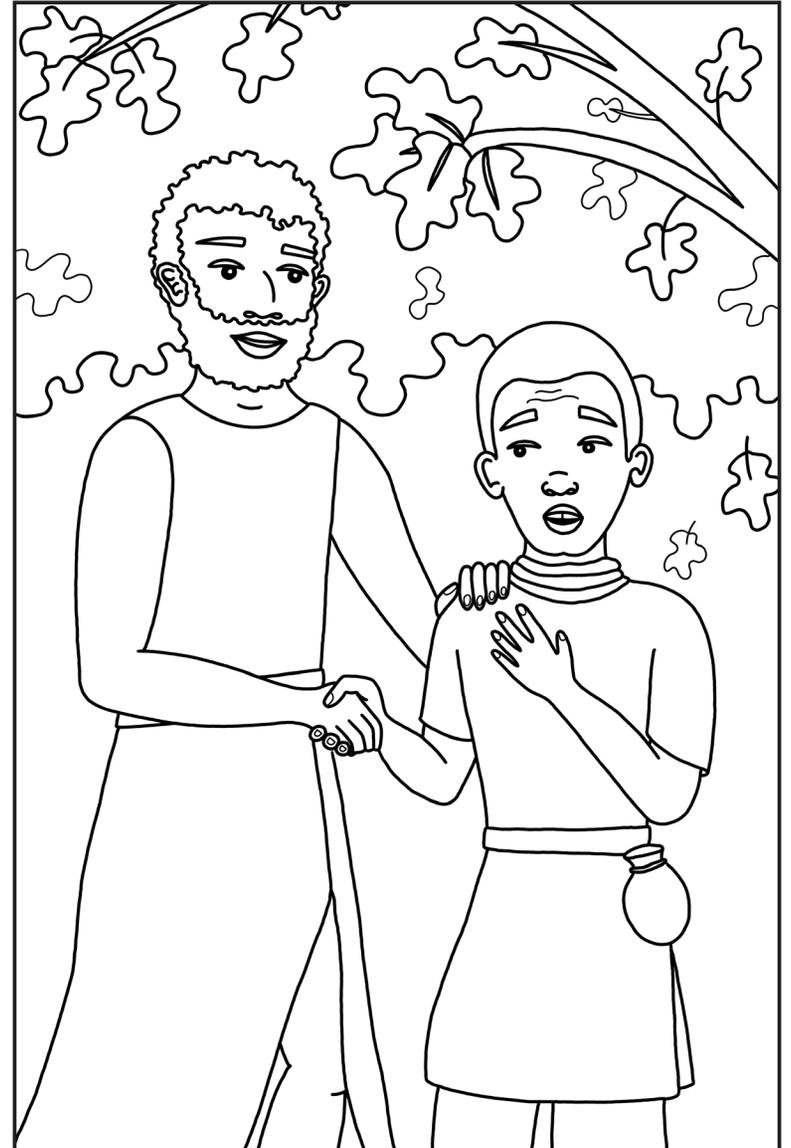
What do you see in the art?
How does the art make you feel?



Zacchaeus | Lauren Wright Pittman
Digital painting

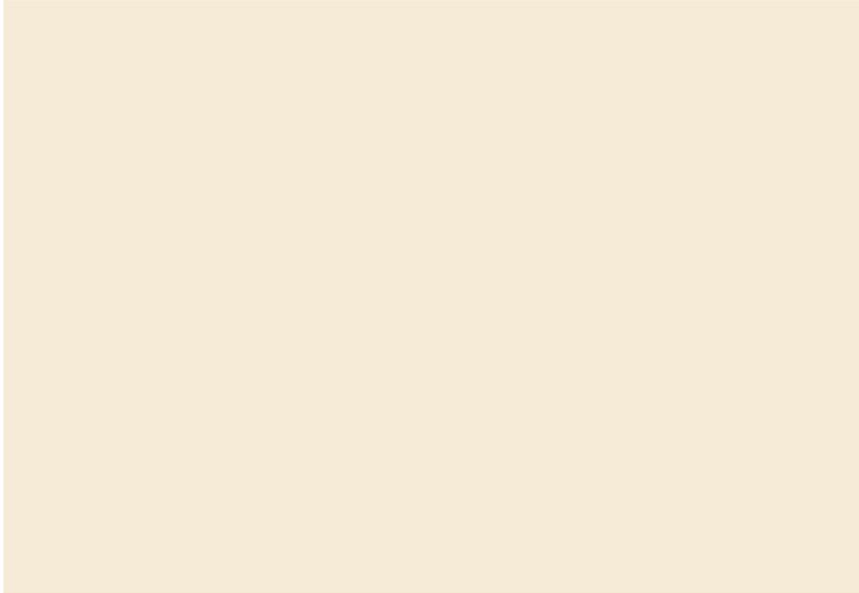


LUKE 19:1-10
Zacchaeus greets Jesus
MAIN IDEA: It's never too late to do the right thing.

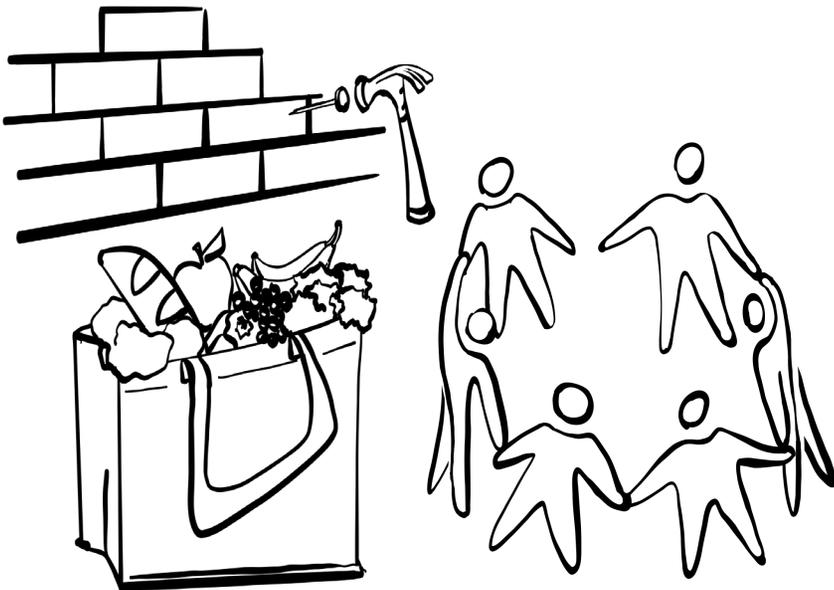


Color in the story of Zacchaeus. | Illustration by Rev. Anna Strickland

Draw Draw a picture of you fixing a mistake.



Color Color the things that help us make things better.



Find Color the words from scripture when you hear them spoken in worship.

SAID JESUS SEE
ZACCHAEUS
HOUSE CAME
TODAY GIVE WILL
CLIMBED CROWD
LOOK COLLECTOR
RICH SAVE PAY
SINNER TAX
TREE SYCAMORE
HALF GRUMBLE
WELCOME POSSESSIONS

Pray

Dear God, thank you for forgiving us when we make mistakes or hurt others. Help us to always do the right thing, apologize when we do something wrong, and extend the same grace and forgiveness to others that we receive from you. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.