

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, April 12 • Second Sunday of Eastertide

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 Psalm 111:1 1Peter 1:3 John 20:19-31

8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service – Sanctuary / Zoom

9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall / Zoom

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary / Zoom
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2

12:15 p.m. Youth Group – Fellowship Hall / Downstairs

Tuesday, April 14

Office Hours 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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

Wednesday, April 15

Office Hours 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

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

Thursday, April 16

Office Hours 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday, April 17

Office Hours 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

10:00 a.m. Guns to Gardens (G2G) Training Session – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 19 • Third Sunday of Eastertide

Iaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 34:1-10 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35

8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service – Sanctuary / Zoom

9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall / Zoom

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary / Zoom
Sunday Studio – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2

Eastertide
Second Sunday

April 12, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Gentle love

Christ, the Gentle One, has been crucified,
and raised from the dead.

So you have nothing to fear:
be gentle and know
that the hidden power in simple love
conquers all things.

Let the power of resurrection
raise in you the strength of love,
the steadfastness of compassion,
the wisdom of forgiveness,
the confidence of Christ,
the glory of God.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion

We Choose Welcome

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

Psalm 16:1

You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.

Acts 2:28

Although you have not seen hi, you love him . . .

1 Peter 1:8a

Do not doubt, but believe.

John 20:27b

Officiant

Rev. Mary Jane Hitt

Reflection

Wanda Stewart

Assistants

Nora Rebollo Snook

Mica Martin

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

† † †

Easter Proclamation

Christ Is Risen!

Christ Is Risen, Indeed!

Introit (3x)

Christ is risen, alleluia. Love is risen, alleluia.

Proclamation

Please join me in our 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 240**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Prayer for Wholeness (see insert)

Response (2x)

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***+Response 243 (3x)**

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

***Passing of the Peace**

Blessing the World

Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda

Response 250, v. 1

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

First Pew

Response 250, v.3

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

† † †

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

John 20:19-31

Reflection

***Hymn 744**

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

† † †

Prayer for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

† † †

***Acclamation**

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 246, v. 1, 5

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news

to this and every age,

till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy,

with justice, love, and praise.

God is nearer to us than our own soul.

Julian of Norwich

The morning wind forever blows; the poem of creation is uninterrupted.

Henry David Thoreau

Doubt is not the opposite of faith; it is one element of faith.

Paul Tillich

Faith is a journey through the mist, not a leap into the clear.

George MacDonald

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation

New Revised

Standard Version,

Updated Edition

Sermons & Information

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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Prayer for Wholeness

Risen Christ,
You come to us still—
through locked doors,
into fearful rooms,
across the places where our faith feels thin.

Speak peace into us again.
Let your breath steady what trembles,
soften what has grown guarded,
and gather what feels scattered within us.

Where we carry wounds,
touch us with gentleness.
Where we cling to certainty,
open us to wonder.
Where we struggle to believe good news,
meet us with patience and joy.

Make us whole in your presence—
not by erasing our questions,
but by holding them in love;
not by removing our scars,
but by transforming them into signs of life.

And as you breathe peace upon us,
send us out as people of resurrection—
menders of what is broken,
bearers of compassion,
witnesses to the quiet miracles
still unfolding in this world you love.

Amen.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Refrain E C#m F#m B
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name. *Fine*

E C#m F#m B E
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B
1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.

- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

He is the King of cre - a - tion.

E C#m F#m B *to Refrain*
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.

Now we shall live for - ev - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

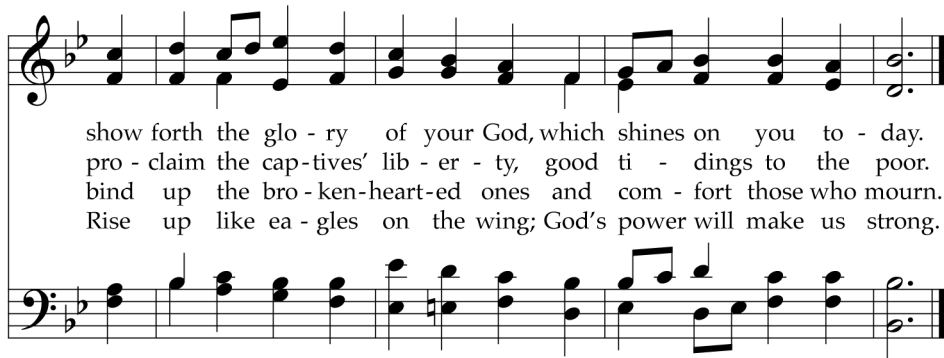
This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
SM
(this tune in a lower key, 815)



PLEASE SUPPORT SPC'S UPCOMING
EVENT TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

- **GIVE** to the Special Offering on April 12 and 19, to help meet our fundraising goal of \$2,000. These funds will be used to buy gift cards for people who turn in guns. The gift cards are a gesture of gratitude and a proven way to increase gun owner participation in the event. Donate in church, by mail, or online.
- **NOTE** 'Guns to Gardens' in the memo on your check to SPC, or if you give online. Envelopes for this special offering are in the pew pockets and in the narthex.
- **BRING** your unwanted firearms to be dismantled at the *Guns to Gardens* event on **May 2, 1-3:30 p.m. at the Shepherdstown Fire Department**. Please help us spread the word!

Sponsored by Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church

GUNS TO GARDENS

A Safe Gun Disposal Event

Unwanted Firearms Are Made into Garden Tools

**Please Bring Unwanted Firearms to
Shepherdstown Fire Department
8052 Martinsburg Pike, Shepherdstown, WV
Saturday, May 2, 2026, 1 - 3:30 pm**

*Guns are carefully
dismantled on site*



Guns must be:

- Unloaded
- Stored in car trunk or back end of vehicle
- In working order

You will receive thank you gift cards to local grocery stores:

- \$50 per handgun
- \$100 per rifle/shotgun
- \$200 per semiautomatic



For Further Information:
(571) 577-9211
guns2gardens@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

**SHEPHERDSTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SPC Autism Acceptance Workshop

The deacon's Workshops and Educational Events Ministry is hosting an Autism Acceptance Workshop on Sunday, April 26 from 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.

See Zoom link provided in the eNews.

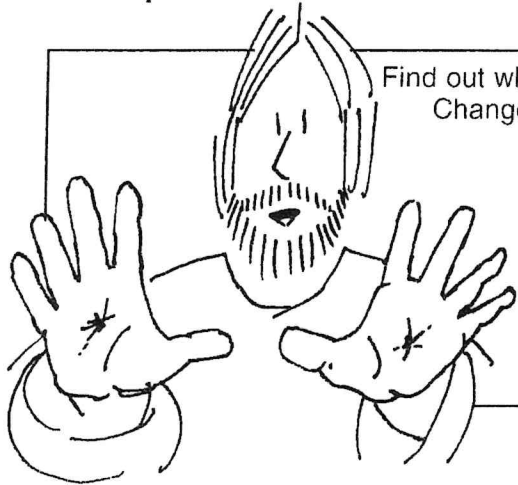
A group of panelists will present segments on understanding, accepting, and accommodating the neurodiverse, followed by a period of Q and A. After this conversation, we will ask you to consider ways SPC might be more welcoming to those of all abilities.

A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to:
donna.dettling@gmail.com





Thomas was not with the other disciples when Jesus appeared to them. He doubted what they told him. He needed to see the nail marks to know it was Jesus.



Find out what Jesus later said to Thomas. Change the letters as shown here.

- | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|
| T to S | Q to R | W to V |
| G to B | M to L | C to D |
| V to U | R to P | H to G |
| S to T | L to N | K to M |
| I to O | Z to Y | E to A |
| O to I | A to E | |

“ T S I R C I V G S O L H

E L C G A M O A W A !”

And what did Thomas say?

“ K Z M I Q C E L C K Z H I C !”

Children's Worship Bulletin™

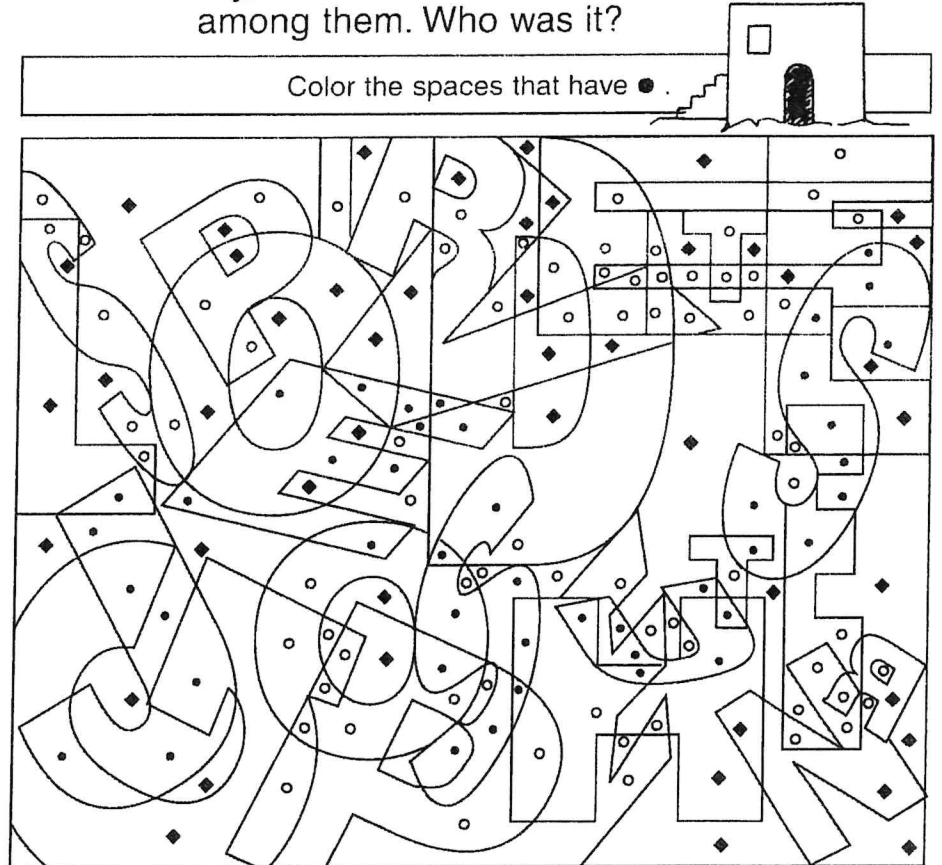
Ages 7+

April 12, 2026 • John 20:19-31

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

It was evening on the first day of the week. The disciples were in a room with the door locked. Suddenly, someone came and stood among them. Who was it?

Color the spaces that have ●.



Imagine

Imagine a time when you're supposed to be quiet but you need to say something important. Write or draw about what would happen.

Draw

Draw a picture of you talking or listening.

Color

Color the things that help us speak up and listen.

