

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, July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-11, 45b Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary / Zoom

Sunday Studio Summer Program – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2

Monday, July 20 – Pastor Gusti Vacation Day

Happy Birthday Christopher!

Tuesday, July 21

Church Office Closed

5:30 p.m. Immigration & Refugee Support Committee via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Worship Team Meeting – Sanctuary

Saturday, July 25

1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads Group – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 26

Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b 1 Kings 3:5-12 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary / Zoom

PASTOR GUSTI WILL BE TAKING VACATION ON MONDAY, JULY 20

to celebrate Christopher's birthday. She will not check email but will be available by cell for pastoral emergencies: 681-283-5314.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org • www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist (she/her) • gusti@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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

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

Sixteenth Sunday Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026
11:00 a.m.

One Body

Of course we don't believe that.
We think we're separate.
We thank God
we don't live in that war zone
as if we don't,
as if those who live there are not us,
not our flesh and blood.
(And so their suffering is less real than ours.)
It comes naturally to assume
that the stranger is not part of us,
that the grief of a distant tribe is not ours,
that the lake on the tundra
has nothing to do with the flow of our blood.
It is our life's work
to overcome the delusion,
to live in the Spirit in which we are one,
rather than by the flesh
by which we seem to be separate.
If claiming the suffering of the whole world
seems too wearisome,
too much grief for one person to take on,
that is because we still believe
we're one person, one small individual.

Steve Garmaas-Holmes

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1743

*Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion
We Choose Welcome*

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

Psaln 139:1

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!”

Genesis 28:16

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. **Romans 8:14**

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field.”

Matthew 13:24

Assistant

Mica Martin

Guest Reflections

Than Hitt

Keri Mahoney

Guest Choir Director

Leslie Williams

Speical Music

Adult Choir

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 288 (2x)

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on 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 true God, whom alone we worship and serve.

Remembering our Baptism

***Hymn 29**

“O God, You Search Me”

Prayer for Wholeness

Holy God,

we confess that we long for easy answers and quick judgments.
We separate people into categories of worthy and unworthy,
friend and enemy, neighbor and stranger.
We are impatient with the slow work of grace.

We focus on the failures of others while ignoring the weeds within our own hearts. Forgive us for the harm we have caused through harsh words, indifference, and self-righteousness.
Teach us to trust your mercy more than our judgment.
Give us patience to live faithfully in a complicated world, and courage to keep choosing love while your reign grows among us.

+Response 286, v. 1, 2

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.*

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***+Response 583**

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia.*

***Passing the Peace**

Blessing the World

Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia

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 13:24–30, 36–43

Wisdom of Solomon 12:16–19

Reflections

“God’s Wisdom and Peace”

***Hymn 834**

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

+ + +

Prayers for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

“Twenty-Third Psalm” by Bobby McFerrin

+ + +

***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 753, v. 1, 2**

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.
Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there’s sadness ever joy.*

***Postlude**

Christ has no body now
but yours. **Teresa of Ávila**
Do all the good you can, by
all the means you can, in all
the ways you can.

John Wesley

God has entrusted us with
the ministry of making
visible the love with which
God loves us.

Henri Nouwen

Joy is the serious business
of heaven. **C. S. Lewis**

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Lesson Translation

New Revised

Standard Version,

Updated Edition

Sermons & Information

shepherdstowpresbyterian.org

*Hymns reprinted with permission
Oriel Kenne: com #A-07243. All rights reserved.

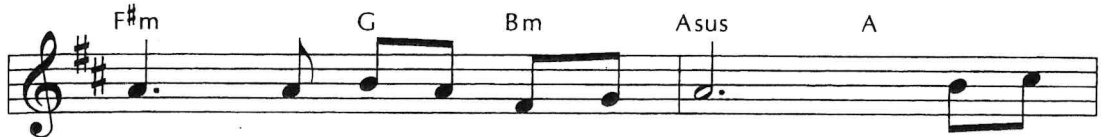
O God, You Search Me

(Psalm 139)

29



1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my
 2 You know, my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
 3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have
 4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I
 5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
 cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with
 known its mean - ing through and through. You are
 search for shel - ter from your light. There is
 life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the



walk or lie down you are be - fore me: ev - er the
 love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: in ev - ery
 with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
 no - where on earth I can es - cape you: e - ven the
 won - der of who I am, I praise you: safe in your



mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
 dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
 hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Psalm 139 is one of the most introspective and most intimate of all the psalms, showing an acute mindfulness of God's presence in all aspects of one's life. Sometimes resisted, this omnipresence ultimately becomes a ground of hope, a promise that we never stray beyond God's care.

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST

834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in 3/4 time and the key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The score consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system includes two verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the song with a final line of lyrics.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

TEXT: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938

MUSIC: George N. Allen, 1844; arr. Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938

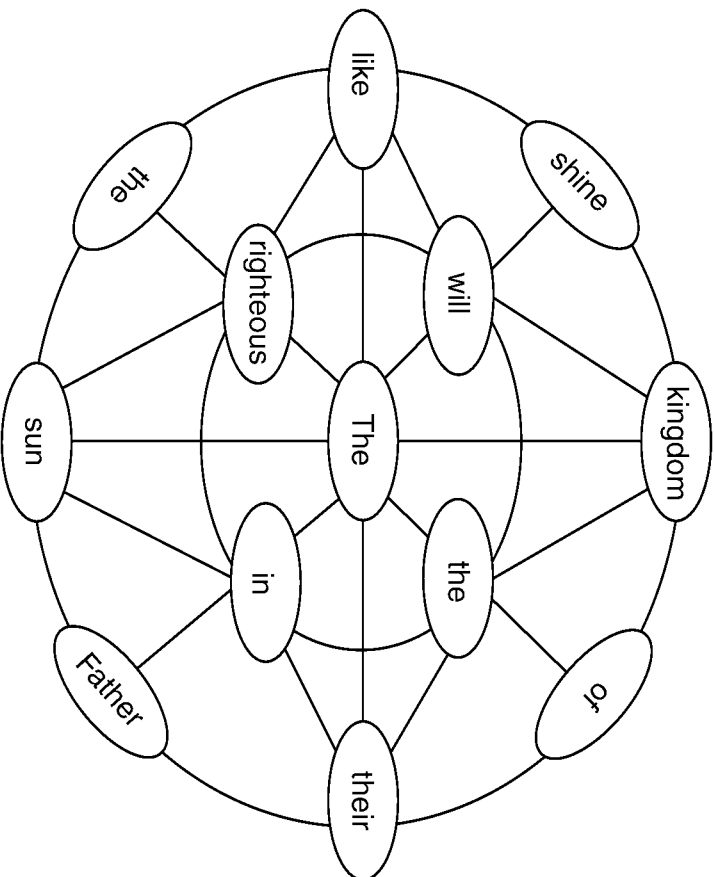
Text and Music Arr. © 1938, ren. Warner-Famerlane Publishing Corp. (admin. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

PRECIOUS LORD
6.6.9.D



What does this story
tell us about the people
who follow God?

Start at the center and follow the arrows to fill in the blanks.



_____ ↖

_____ ↗

_____ ↘

_____ ↙

_____ ↖

_____ ↗

_____ ↘

_____ ↙

Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

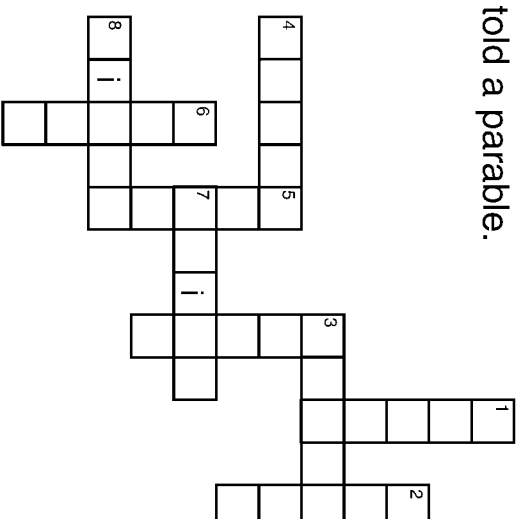
July 19, 2026 • Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds

Jesus told a parable.

Fit these words into
the boxes. Then write them
on the correct lines below.

enemy weeds
field wheat
sowed while
there would
until



A man _____ good seed

5

in his _____ everyone

8 7

was sleeping, his _____ came and planted _____

6

also. The _____ sprouted. Then the _____ grew. The servants

3 across

4

wanted to pull the _____ out. The owner said, "No." He was afraid

4

the good _____ also get pulled out. He said to wait

3 across 3 down

_____ the harvest. They _____ separate the _____ from the

2

3 down

4

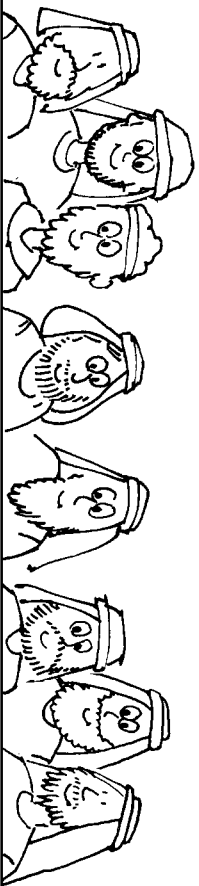
_____ and burn them. The _____ go to the barn.

3 across

3 across

3 down

What happened next?



Use the code to fill in the blanks.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A

G S V M Q V H F H

O V U G G S V X I L D W

Z M W D V M G R M G L

G S V S L F H V S R H

W R H X R K O V H

X Z N V G L S R N

Z M W H Z R W,

“

V C K O Z R M G L F H

G S V K Z I Z Y O V

L U G S V D V V W H

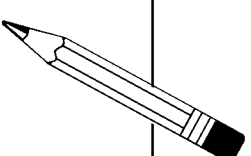
”.

R M G S V U R V O W

What did Jesus say the parable of the wheat and the weeds was about?

Use the graph to find the answer.

	A	E	H	M	T	L
	C	F	I	N	U	R
	D	G	K	O	V	Q



and

