

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.



Twenty-fifth Sunday
Ordinary Time

September 20, 2026
11:00 a.m.

- Sunday, September 20**
Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Psalm 145:1-8 Matthew 20:1-16
8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/Zoom
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary/Zoom
Sunday Studio Program – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2

Tuesday, September 22
7:00 p.m. The Liberating Word: A Biblical Overview for Progressives – Fellowship Hall/Zoom

Wednesday, September 23
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Choir room

Saturday, September 26
1:30 p.m. Yarns & Threads Group – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 27
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32
8:30 a.m. Early Service of Worship – Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar – Fellowship Hall/Zoom
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship – Sanctuary/Zoom
Sunday Studio Program – Children K-5th Grade – Classroom 2
12:30 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting – Classroom 1

RED RIBBON RITUAL. In a nod to our Commitment to Holistic Spirituality, today we mark the last Sunday of Summer. Upon the conclusion of our worship service, the congregation is invited to recess to the front steps, dancing to the recessional, waving their red ribbons, and welcoming the change of seasons. Please tie your red ribbons alongside the yellow ribbons placed along the front gates from last Sunday's Yellow Ribbon Ritual.

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 Imnea 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

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established 1743
Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion
We Choose Welcome

rivers

every river

has a name

and carves its own path

cutting unique shapes

into surrounding rocks

sculpting a picture of its life

no two are the same

but every river

flows into the ocean

connected

Xavier Hersom

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. **Exodus 16:13**

They asked, and he brought quails and gave them food from heaven in abundance.

Psalms 105:40

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. **Philippians 1:27**

“So the last will be first and the first will be last.”

Matthew 20:16

Preacher

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants

Erin Snook

Maya Rebollo-Snook

Nora Rebollo-Snook

Diana Eldridge

Percussion, Offertory

Terry Tucker

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

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Introit (2x)

*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 true God, whom alone we worship and serve.

Baptismal Blessing

***Hymn 70 (7x)**

*What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you? (Repeat)
To seek justice, and love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God. (Repeat)*

Prayer for Wholeness (see insert)

***Response 577 (2x)**

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

***Response 587**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Passing the Peace**

Blessing the World

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal

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. 4

*Come, Holy Spirit, help us be a nurturing community;
empower us to realize God’s kin-dom through our children’s eyes.*

Welcome and Parish Life

THE WORD OF HOPE

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Reading

Interlude

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Lesson

Micah 6:1-4, 6-8

Sermon

“HOLISTIC SPIRITUALITY — Everything Belongs”

***Affirmation (see insert)**

***Hymn 372**

“O for a World”

THE BREAD OF LIFE

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Prayer for Others

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

“Need It, Need It”

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Red Ribbon Ritual

***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.

***Postlude**

“September,” *Earth, Wind, and Fire*

Just as a reservoir is of little use when the whole countryside is flooded, scriptures are of little use to the illumined man or woman, who sees the Lord everywhere.

Bhagavad Gita 2:46

*Please rise in body and spirit.

Prayer for Wholeness, Affirmation

Based on the
SPC Session Statement

Lesson Translation

New Revised
Standard Version,

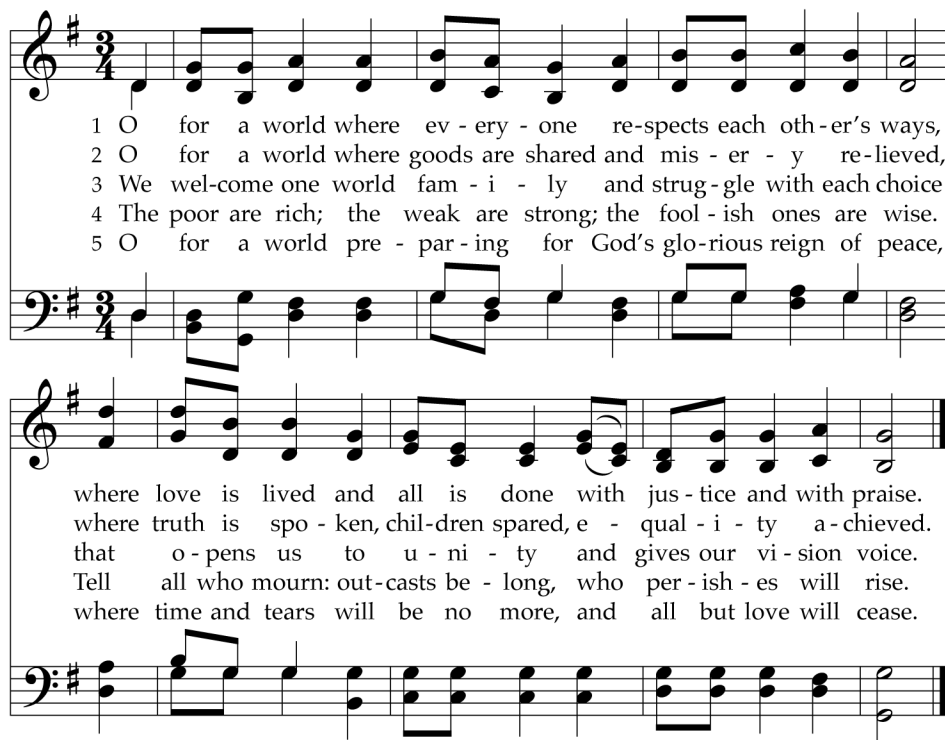
Sermons & Information

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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O for a World

372



1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987
 MUSIC: Carl Gottlieb Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

AZMON
 CM

“SPC Statement of Faith” September Worship with SPC

Pastor Gusti will reflect on the themes expressed
in the SPC Statement of Faith
drafted by the Session while she was on sabbatical

September 13 (Kickoff Sunday)

RADICAL HOSPITALITY:

We Choose Welcome

John 6:37

Prayer for Wholeness

In this time of national and international
division, distrust, and despair,
we affirm the core values —
Radical Hospitality,
Holistic Spirituality
and Engaged Compassion —
that drive this congregation
as we walk in the Way and the Spirit of Jesus.

September 20

HOLISTIC SPIRITUALITY:

Everything Belongs

Micah 6:8

September 27

ENGAGED COMPASSION:

God Is Love

1 John 4:16

As the world around us changes
and looks less like the beloved community,
we affirm that our values,
grounded in our faith,
will not change.

To paraphrase Martin Luther,
“Here we stand. We can do no other.”

SPC Statement of Faith

Affirmation

We believe that the Way of Jesus
is a path of transformation,
and that doubt and questions
are essential to faith.

We are on a journey of discovery.
We embrace multiple
wisdom traditions and sources,
believing that the truths
of many other faith traditions
give further depth and meaning to our own.

This value is under attack
in our current national environment,
where Christian Nationalism promotes
a narrow view of the Christian faith,
demonizing Christian and other traditions
where the understanding of faith
differs from theirs.

As people who walk
in the Way and in the Spirit of Jesus,
we at Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church
are committed to engaging with those of
other faith traditions that share our core values.
We invite conversation and collaboration
with Interfaith partners
who, joining with us, may speak as one,
united in love to do justice for all.

This we declare to the world we live in.

The Liberating Word:

A Biblical Overview for Progressives

Led by Pastor Gusti, 7-8:30pm, selected Tuesdays

Learn why Archbishop Desmond Tutu, pastor of the anti-apartheid struggle, says,
*The most dangerous thing people in power can do — if they want to keep their power —
is put the Bible in the hands of people they are oppressing.
The oppressed will find a God who seeks their liberation!*

This course offers an overview of the Bible through the lens of collective liberation.

There is no requirement to attend all of the sessions or do any “pre-work,”
but those who do so will receive the most benefit.

Likewise, there is no required textbook.

However, those who wish to engage the texts will receive the most benefit:

Erlander, Daniel. *Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God’s Unfolding Plan to Mend the Entire Universe*
The Bible. *The HarperCollins Study Bible* NRSV or the translation of your choice

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE, 7-8:30pm, Fellowship Hall and Zoom

(Contact church office for link, Pre-Work Materials, and / or full syllabus)

Each session includes three options of Pre-Work, non of which is required.

1. Overview for those who don’t have much time.
2. Dipping In for those who have a little bit of time.
3. The Whole Enchilada for those who want a robust background to the theme of the week.

September 22: How We Read the Bible

1. Overview of Presbyterian Guidelines
2. *Presbyterian Understanding and Use of Holy Scripture*
3. “The Authority of Scripture,” *Faith Seeking Understanding* by Daniel Migliore

September 29: Beginnings

1. Erlander, Chapter One
2. Genesis 1-2:4a and / or Genesis 2:4b-25; Genesis 3:1-7 and / or Genesis 6:5-7; Genesis 9:8-17
3. Genesis 1-9 and reading on “Adam and Eve”

NOMINATIONS!

The Nominating Committee seeks your input for who to consider as upcoming Ruling Elders and Deacon Shepherds.

Ruling Elders are people of wisdom and maturity of faith chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. They exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment and discipline.

Deacon Shepherds care for and nurture a small group ("flock") of members/ participants, in collaboration with the Parish Care Committee and the Pastor; and collaborate with other committees and guilds to support the care and nurture of the congregation.

HYMN and SERMON TOPIC REQUESTS

Pastor Gusti welcomes your requests for Hymns, Introits, Special Music, etc. Peruse the hymnal for Titles and Hymn Numbers. Or you may submit requests from other musical sources (please include where to find songsheets, etc.)

Hymn Title/ #: _____

Hymn Title/ #: _____

Hymn Title/ #: _____

Hymn Title/ #: _____

Hymn Title/ #: _____

In addition, Pastor Gusti welcomes your requests for future sermon topics and/ or biblical Lessons:

Topic/ Lesson: _____

Topic/ Lesson: _____

Topic/ Lesson: _____



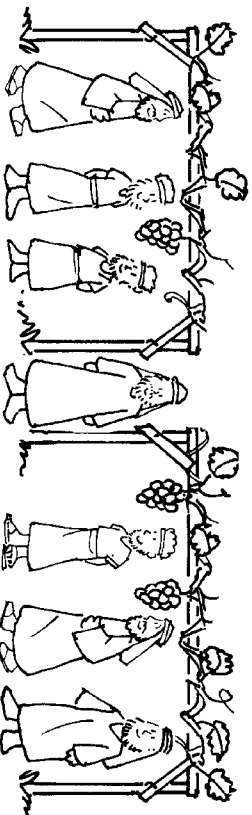
What did Jesus say
to end this parable?

Write the letter that is in the first word
but not the second. Then fill in the blanks.

- 1) told - old = _____ 8) sober - rose = _____
- 2) deal - ale = _____ 9) lawn - naw = _____
- 3) team - met = _____ 10) wink - ink = _____
- 4) meal - alm = _____ 11) time - met = _____
- 5) trash - star = _____ 12) after - tear = _____
- 6) smile - lime = _____ 13) kneel - leek = _____
- 7) moose - some = _____ 14) rate - tea = _____

“ _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 1 _____ 5 _____ 4 _____ 9 _____ 3 _____ 6 _____ 1 _____
_____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 9 _____ 9 _____ 8 _____ 4 _____ 12 _____ 11 _____ 14 _____ 6 _____ 1 _____

_____ 3 _____ 13 _____ 2 _____ 1 _____ 5 _____ 4 _____ 12 _____ 11 _____ 14 _____ 6 _____ 1 _____
_____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 9 _____ 9 _____ 8 _____ 4 _____ 9 _____ 3 _____ 6 _____ 1 _____”



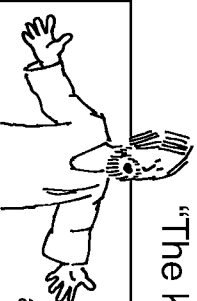
Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

September 20, 2026 • Matthew 20:1-16

The Workers in the Vineyard

Jesus told a parable. He said,
“The kingdom of heaven is like ...



Solve the sudoku puzzle. All the numbers
1-9 must be used once in each row, column
and box. Then use the code to fill in the blanks.

_____ 5 _____ 2 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 9 _____ 1 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 4 _____ 1 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____
_____ 1 _____ 7 _____ 6 _____ 9 _____ t _____ ut _____ 7 _____ 5 _____ 4 _____ 2 _____ y _____
_____ 3 _____ 6 _____ t _____ 8 _____ 7 _____
m _____ 9 _____ 4 _____ 6 _____ 3 _____ 6 _____ 9 _____
t _____ 9 _____ 8 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 7 _____
_____ 1 _____ 9 _____ 4 _____ 7 _____ 4 _____ s _____
f _____ 9 _____ 4 _____ 8 _____ 3 _____ s _____
v _____ 3 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 5 _____ 4 _____ d _____

6		L	A		O	7	3	1		R	8
7	8		W		5	2		9	6		3
4	3		O		H	W	6	2		E	5
5		R	L		6	8	1	7		I	9
9	6	8	7		I	2	4	5			1
3		W	7	4	9	5		N		H	2
2		E	3		W	N		A	9		4
8	5	6	2	4	9			I	1		7
1		O	4	3	5		E		H	L	6

What happened when evening came?

Use this code to fill in the blanks.

pay the workers and sent them into his vineyard. He went out again at nine, noon and five p.m. and hired more people to work on his land, agreeing to pay them all.

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

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