

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. **Isaiah 55:1-3**

Then Jesus told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none." **Luke 13:6**

No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing will also provide the way out. **I Corinthians 10:13**

Preacher
Rev. Bill Sitterley
Organist
Alan Ogden
Choir Director
Georgiann Toole
Assistants
Gino Santacroce
William Gibbs
Emily Gross

To Our Guests
Glad you're 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.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit (2x)

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres, Señor.

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.

Call to Prayer

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

† † †

*Hymn 509

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

O Holy One, we hunger and thirst for you. We long for healing, wholeness and wisdom. We long for justice, peace and freedom. But we are impatient and easily discouraged. We do not trust in your love. Free us from fear, anxiety and impatience. Walk with us and lead us toward your Beloved Community.

Silence

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy on us

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Welcome

Blessing the World

Djibouti, Somalia

**Hymn 21

"Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works"

First Pew

Parish Life

Hymn 470 (vs. 1-3)

"There Is a Longing in Our Hearts"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

Sermon

"Misreading the Headlines"

*Hymn 696

"O God, You Are My God Alone"

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord,
broken and shared, life for the world.

Let us be wine, love freely poured
Let us be one in the Lord

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"
arr. Ronald Nelson

Affirmation

† † †

*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.

**Blessing Song

May the blessing of God go before you,
May Her grace and peace abound
May Her Spirit live within you
May Her love wrap you round.
May Her blessing remain with you always
May you walk on holy ground.

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

I am growing accustomed to the grace of gradual illumination, so it is a delight and no real surprise when I see God's messages to me in the scattered rainbows on my wall at sunrise. **Luci Shaw**

It is no easy task to walk this earth and find peace. Inside of us, it would seem, something is at odds with the very rhythm of things and we are forever restless, dissatisfied, frustrated, and aching. We are so overcharged with desire that it is hard to come to simple rest. Desire is always stronger than satisfaction. **Ronald Rolheiser**

Perhaps if we kept more fully our desert watches—stayed longer where the pain is—we would be different when we left the wilderness. As it is, we often have learned very little and so are destined to suffer in the same ways again. **Elizabeth O'Connor**

Come, come, whoever you are. Wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving. It doesn't matter. Ours is not a caravan of despair. Come, even if you have broken your vows a thousand times. Come, yet again, come, come. **Jelaluddin Rumi**

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and younger to the first pew

Flowers placed by
the Price family fund

Lord have Mercy
by Bro. Stefan Waligur
Blessing Song
Words & Music by
Miriam Theresa Winter

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.



Sun 24 • Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship & Communion
9:45 a.m. Sunday Seminar. FH
12:00 p.m. Youth community service
12:15 p.m. Immigration & Refugee support.
CR 1
5:30 p.m. Lenten soup supper. FH
6:15 p.m. Lenten program. Sanctuary

Tue 26

5:30 p.m. Worship committee. CR 1

Wed 27

10:45 a.m. Service of song & prayer
at Canterbury
12:30 p.m. Spanish lessons. FH
7:30 p.m. Choir practice. Choir Room

THE OFFICE will be closed March 26-April 2

COMMUNION TODAY: All are welcome to participate. The bread is gluten free; the “wine” is alcohol free.

SUNDAY SEMINARS are exploring anger, using the Richard Rohr periodical *Oneing*, which includes a dozen essays from a wide variety of writers and perspectives. March 31: “The Second Sacred Gate” and “Anger, Contemplation and Action”

LENTEN SUNDAY EVENINGS, Soup & Bread Supper: 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Program 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Speakers: Season Jones and Bob Tucker.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, April 7, 5:00 p.m., Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Go to PerfectPotluck.com; coordinator Wright, password 5777. Drop off hot food 3:45–4:15 p.m. that Sunday. Leave other food in the SPC refrigerator anytime (marked Community Dinner). Please use disposable containers.

Sat 30

1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads. FH

Sun 31 • Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship & Communion
9:30 a.m. Youth group. CR 3
9:45 a.m. Confirmation class. CR 1
9:45 a.m. Sunday Seminar. FH

EASTER OFFERING OGHS (One Great Hour of Sharing) Turn in fish boxes by April 28. Donations will be shared: 50% to humanitarian ministries of the PCUSA (hunger relief, disaster assistance, self-development of people projects), 25% to Jefferson County Community Ministries (JCCM), and 25% to Good Shepherd (GSIVC). Make checks to SPC; memo: OGHS.

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 18, 7:30 p.m. Prayer in song and silence. Communion around the table.

PRAYER VIGIL to follow at 9:00 p.m. until noon Good Friday. Sign up in Narthex & Fellowship Hall.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE. Gather at 6:15 a.m. at Rumsey Monument. Bring a reading, poem or song to share. (Bring something to sit on). A light breakfast will follow at the nearby home of Becky Phipps.

EASTER SERVICES: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Liturgy of Word & Table.

Season of Lent

Third Sunday

March 24, 2019

11:00 a.m.

THIRST

Another morning and I wake with thirst
for the goodness I do not have. I walk
out to the pond and all the way God has
given us such beautiful lessons. Oh Lord,
I was never a quick scholar but sulked
and hunched over my books past the hour
and the bell; grant me, in your mercy,
a little more time. Love for the earth
and love for you are having such a long
conversation in my heart. Who knows what
will finally happen or where I will be sent,
yet already I have given a great many things
away, expecting to be told to pack nothing,
except the prayers which, with this thirst,
I am slowly learning.

Mary Oliver

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 275 Years
Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future
We Choose Welcome