

Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church is an open and inclusive spiritual community seeking to practice the radical hospitality of Jesus. We cultivate a holistic spirituality that, while rooted in the Christian faith, welcomes the wisdom of all faith traditions. We are a house of prayer and a school of love, seeking to serve the world in the way and in the spirit of Jesus.



Sun 15 • 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday seminar. Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Immigrant & refugee support committee. Classroom No. 1

Mon-Fri 16-20

5:00 p.m. Teen week. Lutheran Parish

Wed 18

7:30 p.m. Storied Evening. Sanctuary

Sat 21

7:30 a.m. Men's breakfast. Fellowship Hall

Sun 22 • 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 *Samuel* 7:1–14a; *Psalms* 89:20–37;
Ephesians 2:11–22; *Mark* 6:30–34, 53–56

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday seminar. Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship

DELECTABLE DESSERTS sign up in Fellowship Hall and Narthex to bring desserts for Storied Evenings **July 18 and 25**.

SUMMER SUNDAY STUDIO has been cancelled for the remainder of July. Please have your children return to their seats after First Pew.

STORIED EVENINGS. *Stories, Music and Art!* Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. **July 18:** Keith Snyder, *Chief of Resource Education & Visitor Services, Antietam National Battlefield.* Music by Jason Labrador, *violin*; Camilo Pérez-Mejía, *cello*. **July 25:** Rachael Meads, *Director of Student Activities & Leadership Fraternity & Sorority Life, Shepherd University.* Music by Eric Avey, *guitar & vocals*; Kate Avey, *bass*; Dave Asti, *banjo*; Jesse Shultzaberger, *drums*. Plus... Art exhibit by the Community Art Show and Delectable Desserts.

SUMMER SEMINAR July 22, 9:45 a.m. A discussion on the rising rate of Americans self-sorting into conservative and liberal enclaves. Brené Brown looks at *America's Crisis of Disconnection Runs Deeper than Politics*.

SHARE YOUR GARDEN surplus with others. Place your surplus vegetables and fruit in boxes or bags and leave in the Fellowship Hall.

YOUR FAITHFULNESS and generosity to the church has been outstanding again this year. Remember that expenses continue through the summer months. Your continuing support is needed and greatly appreciated. SPC Finance Committee.

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443
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Interim Pastor: Bill Sitterley • BSitterley@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Director of Spiritual Formation: Ethel Hornbeck • ethel@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Ordinary Time
Fifteenth Sunday

July 15, 2018
11:00 a.m.

The Invitation

It doesn't interest me what you do for a living.
I want to know what you ache for
and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart's longing.

It doesn't interest me how old you are.
I want to know if you will risk looking like a fool for love,
for your dream, for the adventure of being alive.

It doesn't interest me what planets are squaring your moon.
I want to know if you have touched the centre of your own sorrow,
if you have been opened by life's betrayals
or have become shrivelled and closed from fear of further pain.

I want to know if you can sit with pain,
mine or your own, without moving to hide it, or fade it, or fix it.

I want to know if you can be with joy, mine or your own;
if you can dance with wildness and let the ecstasy fill you
to the tips of your fingers and toes without cautioning us to be careful,
be realistic, remember the limitations of being human.

I want to know if you can see Beauty even when it is not pretty every day.
And if you can source your own life from its presence.

I want to know if you can live with failure, yours and mine,
and still stand at the edge of the lake and shout to the silver of the full moon, 'Yes.'

It doesn't interest me to know where you live or how much money you have.

I want to know if you can get up after the night of grief and despair,
weary and bruised to the bone and do what needs to be done to feed the children.

It doesn't interest me who you know or how you came to be here.
I want to know if you will stand in the centre of the fire with me and not shrink back.

It doesn't interest me where or what or with whom you have studied.
I want to know what sustains you from the inside when all else falls away.

I want to know if you can be alone with yourself
and if you truly like the company you keep in the empty moments.

Oriah Mountain Dreamer

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 275 Years

Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future

We Choose Welcome

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **Mark 1:4**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the Compassionate One may come in. Who is the Compassionate One? The Beloved, strong and steadfast, the Beloved, firm and sure!

Psalms 24:7-8

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. **Ephesians 1:4**

Preacher
Rev. Bill Sitterley
Piano
Kari Edge
Offertory
Wanda Stewart
Assistants
Indie Asam
William Gibbs
Frances Marshall

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.

Childcare Available

In the nursery at the 11:00 service
See ushers for assistance.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit (2x)

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,
and glorify your name.
Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

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.

Call to Prayer

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

† † †

*Hymn 624

"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

Gracious God, we need your help to make it through each and every day. But sometimes we act as though we need nothing from you or anyone else. Sometimes we wallow in self-pity and are blind to the wounds of others. And sometimes we fail to put your gracious gifts to good use. Forgive us. Help us to forgive ourselves and others so that we may be joyful channels of your love and mercy.

Silence

Kyrie eleison (2x)

Declaration of Grace & Gratitude

*Response

Love, I will love you, Lord...

Welcome

Blessing the World

Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

**Hymn 188

"Jesus Loves Me!"

First Pew

Parish Life

*Hymn 79

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Mark 6:17-29

Sermon

"Dancing With Empire"

*Hymn 342

"Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor"

SERVING THE WORLD

Prayers for Others

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"How Great Thou Art"

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.

*Response

Serve, I will serve you, Lord...

† † †

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

There's really no such thing as the voiceless. There are only the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard.

Suzanna Arundhati Roy

What sort of power is it that really and truly renders the deity present? Human beings automatically think of God as someone who possesses and wields power. Jesus forces people to consider whether that deeply rooted conviction is true or not. In historical terms it is readily apparent that power, left to its own inertial tendencies, tends to be oppressive in fact. So it cannot be the ultimate meditation of God, though human beings might tend to think so.

Jon Sobrino

All John tried to do was get himself out of the way so that all God's people could know the gift that Jesus was and is.

Rev. Dr. Janet H. Hunt

Every empire, however, tells itself and the world that it is unlike all other empires, that its mission is not to plunder and control but to educate and liberate.

Edward Said

Flowers placed by
the Price family fund

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and
younger to the first pew

Sermons & Newsletters
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers
sign up in office