

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 16 • 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship  
9:45 a.m. Expanding our Welcome. FH  
12:15 p.m. Stewardship committee. CR1  
1:00 p.m. Youth picnic with St. Agnes

**Tue 18**

9:00 a.m. Peacefest planning. FH  
7:30 p.m. Choir practice. Choir Room

**Wed 19**

2:30 p.m. Strategic Visioning. FH  
4:15 p.m. Social Justice meeting. CR 1  
7:00 p.m. Listening group. Balcony

**REGISTRATION.** All children must be registered for Sunday Studio, even if you completed the form last year. Forms are available in the church office and classrooms. We encourage your participation in your children's spiritual education. Contact Amanda Groff via the office for more information.

**SUNDAY SEMINAR.** Expanding our Welcome: *Pastoral Care for LGBTQ Youth.* We will use a More Light teach-in video to help us review current language and terminology, explore the landscape facing LGBTQ persons, and discuss ways that we can expand our welcome, especially to youth. **Sept. 16 & 23, 9:45 a.m.** Fellowship Hall.

**RETREAT:** *Cultivating a Spiritual Heart.* We will explore together simple practices of gratitude and compassion; cultivate stillness and peace; and listen deeply for the Divine Presence. The day will include input, guided meditations, journaling, sharing and periods of silence. \$25, or pay what you can. Lunch provided. **Register by Sept. 16** at [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org) (including special dietary needs.) Led by Patience Robbins. **Friday, Sept. 21, 9:45-3 p.m.,** Priestfield Retreat Center.

**Thu 20**

10:00 a.m. Listening group, CR 1  
5:30 p.m. Mission committee. CR 1

**Fri 21**

10:00 a.m. Retreat at Priestfield

**Sun 23 • 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Proverbs 31:10–31; Psalm 1; James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a; Mark 9:30–37*

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship  
9:45 a.m. Expanding our Welcome. FH

**EXPLORING SPIRITUAL PRACTICES.** We will explore and practice various spiritual disciplines including silence, meditative music, insight meditation, passage meditation, loving kindness, and prayer. No experience necessary. Questions? e-mail [office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org). Facilitated by Larry Neumark. First meeting **Wednesday, Sept. 26, 10:30 a.m.** SPC library.

**SUNDAY SEMINAR.** Have you ever wondered what it means to be deeply grateful? Join us as we study Diana Butler Bass' *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks.* Books in the church office for \$23 (or pay what you can). **Sunday's at 9:45.** beginning **Sept. 30,** Fellowship Hall.

**JCCM** (Jefferson County Community Ministries) needs the following items for their food pantry: tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, pork and beans, macaroni and cheese, syrup, pancake mix, canned fruit, canned chicken, rice, spaghetti sauce. Please place items in the baskets outside the office and in the narthex.

Ordinary Time  
Twenty-fourth Sunday

September 16, 2018  
11:00 a.m.

**Forget Enlightenment**

Sit down wherever you are.  
Feel the love, the longing, the fear in your bones.

Open your heart to who you are, right now,  
Not who you would like to be,  
Not the saint you are striving to become,  
But the being right here before you, inside you, around you.

All of you is holy.  
You are already more and less  
Than whatever you can know.  
Breathe out,  
Touch in,  
Let go.

**John Welwood**

*Celebrating 275 Years*

*Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future*  
*We Choose Welcome*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.

**Proverbs 1:20**

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**Psalms 19:1**

Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

**Mark 8:31-32**

For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

**James 3:7-8**

**Preacher**

Rev. Bill Sitterley

**Piano**

Kari Edge

**Assistants**

Patch Sell  
Milner Bailey  
Christa Joyce

**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 triune God,  
whom alone we worship and serve.

**Call to Prayer**

Lift up your hearts

*We lift them up to the Lord*

**Prayer**

† † †

**\*Hymn 53**

"O God Who Gives Us Life"

**ENCOUNTERING GRACE**

**Prayer for Wholeness**

O God, we live and move and have our being in you. And yet we live in the shadow of sin: in all the ways we abuse your creation; in our violence and betrayal of one another; in all the ways we hide from your Spirit. Forgive us that we may forgive one another, heal us that we may be people of healing, free us that we may channel your love and be makers of peace. Amen

**Silence**

**Kyrie eleison (2x)**

**Declaration of Grace & Gratitude**

**\*Response**

Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart...

**Welcome**

**Blessing the World**

The Indian Ocean islands:  
Comoro, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Maldives

**\*\*Hymn 399**

"God Welcomes All"

**First Pew**

**Parish Life**

**\*Hymn 79**

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"

**HEARING THE WORD**

**Reading**

**Interlude**

**Lesson**

Mark 8:27-38

**Sermon**

"And Your Expectations?"

**\*Hymn 169 (vs. 1, 2, 4)**

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

\*or "Dear Lord, Creator good and kind"

**SERVING THE WORLD**

**Prayer for Others**

**Presenting Offerings**

**Offertory**

"Sing a New Song"

Michael Praetorius

**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, with all my heart...

† † †

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

It is the Christ of Bethlehem who must teach us to identify with the poor. It is the Christ of the beatitudes who must be in the measure of what we value in life. It is the Christ of Golgotha who must show us what in life is worthwhile laying down our lives for.

**Joan Chittister**

Following Jesus is not a respectable religion, and I suspect it was never meant to be. It is a call to truth, justice and liberation for those oppressed, excluded and disempowered.

**Diarmuid O'Murchu**

If you're bored, one thing is for sure: You're not following in the footsteps of Christ.

**Mark Batterson**

When you sacrifice, you force others to sacrifice. It's an extremely powerful weapon.

**Cesar Chavez**

**Flowers placed by**

Linda Kelso  
in memory of  
Jim Price's birthday

\* stand if you are able

\*\* children grades 5 and  
younger to the first pew

**Sermons & Newsletters**  
shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

**Sunday flowers**  
sign up in office