

*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 25 • Christ the King/Reign of Love**

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship

Alternative Christmas Fair after each service

**Mon 26**

7:00 p.m. Adult Ed committee. CR 1

**Tue 27**

7:30 p.m. Choir practice. Choir Room

**Wed 28**

10:30 a.m. Exploring Spiritual Practices. Library

10:45 a.m. Service of song & prayer at Canterbury

2:30 p.m. Strategic Visioning. CR 1

7:00 p.m. Youth committee. CR 1

7:00 p.m. Movie Night. Fellowship Hall

**Fri 30**

6:30 p.m. Civil War Christmas. Sanctuary

**Sat 1**

10:00 a.m. Deacon meeting. Fellowship Hall

3:00 p.m. Memorial service for Sandra Jenkins. Sanctuary

**Sun 2 • First Sunday of Advent**

*Jeremiah 33:14–16; Psalm 25:1–10;*

*1 Thessalonians 3:9–13; Luke 21:25–36*

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Blood pressure clinic. Narthex

10:45 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall

1:00 p.m. Finance committee. CR 1

5:00 p.m. Community dinner. Zion Episcopal

**ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS FAIR.** Projects sponsored this year are: Columbia Accompaniment Program to help pay for peacemakers; PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) to assist immigrants with needs at the border; and JCCM to help fund hotel rooms for the cold weather shelter overflow. **Nov. 25 & Dec. 2.**

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS TEEN** is a volunteer group that collects and distributes gifts to needy teenagers, identified through schools and community agencies. Each gift bag, with three items each, is delivered by law enforcement personnel. The list of teen-appropriate new gifts (unwrapped) and a collection box will be at SPC **through Dec. 16.** Also, give store gift cards/certificates to either Steve Warner or Chris Cubby. Questions? Contact Steve Warner: 304-676-4422.

**MOVIE NIGHT.** Join Adult Ed, Social Justice and More Light for the fun and frolicking coming out movie, *Love Simon*, **Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7 p.m.**

Seventeen year old Simon Spear has yet to tell his family and friends he's gay and he's fallen for an anonymous classmate online. What ensues is a thrilling ride of finding yourself and falling in love.

**COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, Dec. 2, 5:00 p.m.,** Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town. Go to [PerfectPotluck.com](http://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.

**COLDWEATHER SHELTER AT SPC Dec. 8-14.** Overnight guests will arrive 7 p.m., leave 7 a.m. Volunteers needed in two separate efforts: morning meals, and overnight stays. At least one man and one woman is needed each night. Contact Paul Hodder, [phodder@frontiernet.net](mailto:phodder@frontiernet.net) if you can help. If you can help with breakfast, or ensure there are adequate supplies, contact Helen Burns, [helenhibbardburns@gmail.com](mailto:helenhibbardburns@gmail.com).

Christ the King  
Reign of Love

November 25, 2018

11:00 a.m.

**Imagine Integrity**

Mighty and tender God,  
you, the deep within all,  
you, the encompassing heart of all,  
we enter now into your kin-dom,  
your community of wholeness,  
a realm of peace.

We bring our hunger,  
and the hunger of our world.  
We bring our inner stranger,  
and the exiled of the world.  
We bring our hurting selves,  
and the hurting of the world.

We open to healing.

Inspired,  
we dare to imagine integrity  
in our inner life, our relationships,  
our planet, and our political systems.  
We dare to imagine the reign of Christ,

Love's Servant,  
your heart  
for an unfolding cosmos.

Amen.

**Bruce Sanguin**

*If Darwin Prayed: Prayers for Evolutionary Mystics*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Celebrating 275 Years*

*Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future*

*We Choose Welcome*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

100 W. Washington Street • PO Box 268, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443

office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org • www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Interim Pastor: Bill Sitterley • BSitterley@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

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

The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. **2 Samuel 23:1-4**

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**Revelation 1:4-5**

Jesus answered Pilate, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the authorities. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." **John 18:36**

**Preacher**

Rev. Bob Shefner

**Organ**

Dianne Holliman

**Piano**

Georgiann Toole

**Assistants**

Trixie Gibbs  
Evelyn Bailey  
Mary Ellen Lloyd

**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)**

The kingdom of God is justice and peace  
and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom

**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 643**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

**ENCOUNTERING GRACE**

**Prayer for Wholeness**

Merciful and Mothering God, you hold us in the palm of your hand. And yet we fear the raging storm. We dread a future we cannot see or predict. Help us be still and know that you are with us always. Help us trust the promise of your new creation arising. Help us keep singing the song of hope.

**Silence**

**Kyrie eleison (2x)**

**Declaration of Grace & Gratitude**

**\*Response**

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah. Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.  
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah. Halle-lu-jah, halle-lu-jah.

**Welcome**

**Blessing the World**

The seas and continents

**\*\*Hymn 399**

"God Welcomes All"

**First Pew**

**Parish Life**

**Hymn 692**

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

**HEARING THE WORD**

**Reading**

**Interlude**

**Lesson**

Matthew 25:31-46

**Sermon**

"Why?"

**\*Hymn 203**

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

**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**

"Christ the King"

C. Anders / arr. D. Bussard

*So shall the church at last be one. So shall God's will on earth be done.*

*New lamps be lit, new tasks begun. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**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.

**\*Hymn 765**

"Song of Hope"

† † †

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

"Chaconne"

Diderik Buxtehude

Gratitude begins in our hearts and then dovetails into behavior. It almost always makes you willing to be of service, which is where the joy resides.

**Anne Lamott**

*Help Thanks Wow:  
The Three Essential Prayers*

There is no royal road, except through living the creed in your life which must be a living sermon... Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and everything else shall be added unto you. The Kingdom of Heaven is Ahimsa (nonviolence) **Mahatma Gandhi**

Christ's power is the power of love, not coercion. And that power truly reigns over all Creation. Christ, the Sovereign of the Universe, is present. Open your eyes.

**Steve Garnaas-Holmes**

Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude. **A.A. Milne**

**FLOWERS PLACED BY**

Lynn Coddington  
in beloved memory  
of her grandmother  
Elizabeth Mandel

\* stand if you are able

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

**Sermons & Newsletters**

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

**Sunday flowers**

sign up in office