

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit (2x)

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits
Truly my hope is in you.

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

Lighting of Advent Candle

† † †

*Hymn 88 (vs 1, 2, 6, 7)
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

Mothering God, you invite us to give birth to a new world—a world of justice and freedom for all your children. But we cling to the old. We are afraid to let go of power and privileges. We deny our role in systems of oppression. We defend greed and violence. Help us renew our vision of your beloved community and empower us to return to the way of compassion and peace.

Silence

Kyrie (2x)

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

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Yemen, Iran, Iraq

**Hymn 623

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

First Pew

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. **Mal. 3:1**

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. **Luke 1:78-79**

During the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. **Luke 3:2**

I thank my God every time I remember you **Phil. 1:3**

Preacher

Rev. Bill Sitterley

Organ

Dianne Holliman

Piano

Georgiann Toole

Assistants

William Gonano

Sophia Tuzzio

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.

Parish Life

Hymn 96

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

“The Word in the Wilderness”

*Hymn 163

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

Dona nobis pacem, pacem

Dona nobis pacem

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

“Shepherd’s Carol

Tune: Miklos Rozsa, Words: Duane Alexander, Arr. G. Toole

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

“Excerpt from Cantata 147”
J.S. Bach

The call of Advent is a call to live wide awake so that we can be alert to God working in us and in our world to bring about the Kingdom. . . . Work today to be aware of the needs of people around you, because God calls us through those very needs. Each time we answer to them, the Kingdom of God comes nearer. **Philip Berrigan**
& **Elizabeth McAlister**

To be a Christian means to be one who waits for God’s future. Hence for the Christian perhaps all seasons are essentially an Advent season. **Rudolf Bultmann**

Perhaps if we kept more fully our desert watches—stayed longer where the pain is—we would be different when we left the wilderness. **Elizabeth O’Connor**
Our Many Selves

Be prepared at all times for the gifts of God and be ready always for new ones. For God is a thousand times more ready to give that we are to receive.

Meister Eckhart

Flowers placed last Sunday

were by Mary Bell
in memory of
Sandra Jenkins

Flowers placed today 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

Kyrie 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 9 • Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
10:45 a.m. Confirmation. CR 1

Wed 12

7:00 p.m. Session. Fellowship Hall

Thu 13

7:00 p.m. Choir practice. Choir Room

Fri 14

6:00 p.m. TGIF supper group.
Hosted by Cathy & Don Cross

Sat 15

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

Sun 16 • Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14–20; Isaiah 12:2–6;

Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 3:7–1

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

2019 CHURCH DIRECTORY is ready for proofing (copies in Narthex and Fellowship Hall.) Make sure your listing is included and correct. If so, check box.

PHOTOS for the directory. Get yours updated or taken for first time after services Dec. 9. The photographer will be at the choir loft after the 8:30 service and in Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 service.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS TEEN collects and distributes gifts to needy teenagers in our area. The goal is to provide three items in a gift bag for each of the 3,000 teens identified as in need. Store gift cards or unwrapped teen-appropriate gifts are greatly appreciated. A collection box will be in the Fellowship Hall through Dec. 16.

ONE SERVICE ONLY at 11:00 a.m. Dec. 23; Dec. 30 (Children's Pageant); Jan. 6 (Epiphany and Ordination of Officers).

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: 5:00 p.m. Especially for children; 8:00 p.m. Choirs, homily and candlelight; 11:00 p.m. Carol sing, communion and candlelight.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING will be split between Bluefields, Nicaragua, partner church, and Coalfield Development Corporation, in southern WV, founded by Brandon Dennison, former SPC Youth Director.

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT, Sunday, Dec. 30, at 11 a.m. service. All children are welcome to participate. There are parts for everyone. Please sign up with Chris Morehouse noahsfamily@frontiernet.net. Details to follow.

JOY GIFT DINNER. *The entire congregation together in one place at one time.* **Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:00–7:00 p.m.,** Asbury United Methodist Church. Ham, beverages and tableware provided. Bring a food dish to serve 12. Food assignments per last name: A–H dessert, I–P side dish, Q–Z vegetable or salad. Would you like to help plan, set up or clean up? It's a lot of fun and works best with many helping hands! Contact Cari Simon, via office@shepherdstownpresbyterian.org.

SPANISH LESSONS and Chat at SPC. Join us Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2:00 pm, starting Jan. 9. Half the session will be in Spanish and half in English. If you want to start right away, you can sign on to Duolingo which offers free Spanish lessons on line. Hope you can join us!

The Season of Advent

Second Sunday

December 9, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Preparing a Way

You can't level mountains and valleys;
that's what you've been exhausting yourself
trying to do for too long.

You won't purify yourself.

The Holy One has begun something in you
beyond your control:

a great dawning in you,

an opening of a new way,

a becoming more purely who you are.

A holy pregnancy

of The One within you.

In stillness, let the dawn of God rise in you.

In wonder, cherish the unnamed Coming One

who stirs in you.

Welcome with delight what is only faintly appearing

in the depths of your own soul.

With compassion for this divine infancy in you,

open your heart

and wait.

Steve Garnaas Holmes

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 275 Years

Claiming the Past • Engaging the Present • Imagining the Future

We Choose Welcome

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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