

GATHERING OUR HEARTS

Introit

Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior,
Come O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.
Come, hope of unity; make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.

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 108** (v. 1-3)

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

ENCOUNTERING GRACE

Prayer for Wholeness

Spirit of Christ, in your advent you come to form us into a people of hope, peace, joy, and love. But so often we fail to make space for you. We have been deformed by a world of cynicism, despair and alienation. Stories of scarcity and systems of violence shape us. Free us from all that separates us from you. Awaken in us a sense of wonder and mystery and appreciation for the miracle that is your creation and the magic of our deep connection with all that is. Lead us again in your way of choosing love every minute of every day. Amen

Kyrie (2x)

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

Declaration of Grace and Gratitude

*Response

Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Blessing the World

Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. **Isaiah 7:11**

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. **Psalms 80:19**

The gospel of God was promised beforehand through the prophets in the holy scriptures. **Romans 1:1b-2** (paraphrased)

When Joseph awoke from sleep he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.

Matthew 1:24a

Pastor

Rev. Gusti Linnea Newquist

Assistants

Flora Tzortzinis
Sophia Tuzzio
Leslie Williams

Organ

Alan Ogden

Choir Director

Georgiann Toole

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.

****Hymn 137**

“He Came Down”

First Pew

Welcome and Parish Life

***Hymn 107**

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Interlude

Mountain Song “Buciumeana”
Béla Bartók

Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

“Re-Enchanting Joseph”

***Hymn 753**

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
truly my hope is in you.
(choir on verses, all on refrain)

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

“Amid the Cold of Winter”
Arr. Bret Rhoades

† † †

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 100** (v. 1)

“Canticle of the Turning”

Charge and Benediction

† † †

Prepare the Way

It is now, at Advent, that I am given the chance to suspend all expectation ... and instead to revel in the mystery.

Jerusalem Jackson Greer

If the world is enchanted, by definition it must have a voice, because a chant is made by a voice, and so for enchanted living we need to hear voices ...

Thomas Moore

The Re-Enchantment of Everyday Life

We are born to love, we live to love, and we will die to love still more.

St. Joseph

Noble fathers have noble children.

Euripedes

* stand if you are able

** children grades 5 and younger to the first pew

Flowers placed by

Georgia & Skye
in loving memory of
Mark Benedict

Sermons & Newsletters

shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Sunday flowers

sign up in office

Lord have Mercy

by Bro. Stefan Waligur

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 22 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
9:15 a.m. Immigration & Refugee. CR 1

Tue 24 • 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

Thu 26

2:00 p.m. Historic Churches tour

Sat 28

1:00 p.m. Yarns & Threads. FH
1:00 p.m. Earthcare committee. CR 1

Sun 29 • First Sunday of Christmastide

Isaiah 63:7–9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10–18;
Matthew 2:13–23
11:00 a.m. Worship

OFFICE CLOSED: Dec. 24 through Jan 2.

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

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the Fellowship Hall. If yours is missing, or don’t want them, see Kathy in the office.

FRIDAY PAINTERS are presenting a small sampling of their work in the Fellowship Hall. If interested in purchasing, please make checks out to the individual artist.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING will be split between Bluefields, Nicaragua, partner church, and Coalfield Development Corporation, in southern WV.

ONE SERVICE ONLY 11 a.m. **Dec. 29** (no Sunday Studio, children are welcome to sit with family) and **Jan. 5** (children’s pageant).

HISTORIC CHURCHES TOUR **Thursday, Dec. 26, from 2-6 p.m.** Docents will be provided with an information sheet. If interested in helping, contact Suellen Myers at willowsp@earthlink.net.

CHILDREN’S PAGEANT, Sunday, Jan. 5, 11:00 a.m. All children are welcome to participate. There are parts for everyone. Rehearsals: **Saturday, Jan. 4, 10-12 noon & Sunday, Jan. 5, 9:30 a.m.** before the service. Sign up in the classroom or email Chris Morehouse at christopher-morehou@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY DINNER. Sunday, Jan. 5, 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.

JOY GIFT DINNER. Sunday, Jan. 5, 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–R: salad / vegetable or side dish; S–Z: dessert.

INSTALLATION SERVICE for Pastor Gusti Newquist. **Jan. 12, 3:00 p.m.** “Installation” is the formal act of Shenandoah Presbytery to establish a pastoral relationship. The installation service completes the call process and formally establishes the ministry of the new teaching elder. All members of the congregation, interested community members, as well as Gusti’s family and friends are invited to attend this very special occasion in the life of the church. A reception will follow the installation service. Childcare available.

WINTER RETREAT DAY *Cultivating Hope.* **Jan. 31, 9:30–3:30,** Shepherd’s Spring Retreat Center, led by Trish Stefanik. Contact the office to register.

Advent
Fourth Sunday

December 22, 2019
11:00 a.m.

LOVE DOES THAT

All day long a little burro labors, sometimes
with heavy loads on her back and sometimes just with worries
about things that bother only
burros.

And worries, as we know, can be more exhausting
than physical labor.

Once in a while a kind monk comes
to her stable and brings
a pear, but more
than that,

he looks into the burro’s eyes and touches her ears
and for a few seconds the burro is free
and even seems to laugh,
because love does
that.

Love frees.

Meister Eckhart

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrating 276 Years

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

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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