

Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? Acts 10:47

Sing praises to God with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. Psalm 98:5

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey God's commandments. And God's commandments are not burdensome. 1 John 5:3

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12

**Preacher**

Gusti Linnea Newquist

**Technology Crew**

Nathan Howard  
Bill Howard

**Assistants**

Anya Espinkotter  
Lois Wilkinson  
Yvonne Fisher

**Accompanists**

Bonnie Moore  
Terry Tucker

**Song Leaders**

Sharon Henderson, Suellen Myers,  
Rie Wilson, Carol Wood

**Worship Planning Assistant**

Yvonne Fisher

**THE FONT OF IDENTITY**

**+Introit Hymn 637, v. 1.3,4**

O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.  
O sing to our God; O sing to our God.

O dance for our God and blow all the trumpets ...

O shout for our God who gave us the Spirit ...

**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.

**Prayer**

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**+Hymn 7**

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

**Prayer for Wholeness**

Wisdom is sweeter than honey,  
brings more joy than wine,  
illuminates more than the sun,  
is more precious than jewels.  
She causes the ears to hear  
and the heart to comprehend.

I love her like a mother,  
and she embraces me as her own child.

I will follow her footprints  
and she will not cast me away.

**Declaration of Grace & Gratitude**

**Passing the Peace**

**Blessing the World**  
Angola, Mozambique

**First Pew**

**Welcome and Parish Life**

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**THE WORD OF HOPE**

**First Lesson**

Psalm 98  
Nan Merrill

**Interlude Hymn 836 (v. 5)**

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O God, abide with me.

**Second Lesson**

1 John 5:1-6

**Sermon**

“Mother and Child Reunion”

**Hymn 366**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

**THE BREAD OF LIFE**

**Prayer for Others**

**Offering Our Gifts**

**Offertory**

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**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.

**Charge and Benediction**

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**+Sending (2x)**

The peace of the earth be with you,  
the peace of the heavens, too  
The peace of the rivers be with you,  
the peace of the oceans, too  
Deep peace falling over you;  
God's peace growing in you.

God is our father, but even more is God our mother. **Pope John Paul I**

Our Savior is our true Mother in whom we are endlessly born and out of whom we shall never come. **Julian of Norwich**

A world that does not nurture its weakest, does not know God the birthing mother. **Joan D. Chittister**

The mother and child reunion is only a motion away. **Paul Simon**

**Flowers**

from the garden of Becky Phipps

**Placed by John Burns**

in celebration of Helen's  
92nd birthday (May 13)

**Eastertide Worship Planning Team**

Phil Baker-Shenk  
Yvonne Fisher  
Debbie Romano  
Morgan Sell  
Jeananne Stine  
Rie Wilson

**Liturgical Art**

Adrienne Asam

**Prayer for Wholeness**

Kebra Nagast

**+Hymns**

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*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.



**Sunday, May 9 • Sixth Sunday of Easter**

9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar via Zoom  
11:00 a.m. Service of Worship via Facebook Live!

**Tuesday, May 11**

10:30 a.m. Administrative staff meeting via Zoom  
1:00 p.m. Pastor Portico Pop-In Hours (until 3 p.m.)  
7:00 p.m. Teach the Preacher via Zoom

**Wednesday, May 12**

4:45 p.m. Confirmation Class (8-9 grade) at Morgan's Grove Pavillion

**Thursday, May 13**

7:00 p.m. Session meets via Zoom

**Friday, May 14**

12:00 p.m. Noon Prayer via Zoom

**Saturday, May 15**

8:30 a.m. Men's Virtual Breakfast  
4:00 p.m. Wedding of Mary Bell and Kent Shaffer via Facebook Live

**Sunday, May 16 • Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*Acts 1:15–17, 21–26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9–13; John 17:6–19*

11:00 a.m. Service of Worship via Facebook Live!

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**RISE UP! JOIN THE JOY! GET TO WORK!** Worship through Eastertide invites us to choose hope, even in the midst of sadness and grief, as we follow the risen Christ into a deeper practice of justice and peace. A worship planning team reflecting the broad spectrum of SPC ministries offers prayer and song, liturgical art and reflective imagination on what the "resurrection texts" of ancient Scripture mean for us.

**A GATHERING SPACE FOR PRAYER.** We are a community of prayer, centering on the Love and Grace of God. "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am with you" is our reminder and guide to share this time together. Bring any of your own

joys and concerns, but this is not required. Come as you are—fully human and deeply loved. Planning to hold this space on the 2nd and 4th Fridays each month. Prayer focus for May will include prayers for our Mother Earth (5/14) and memorial Day prayers (5/28).

**LISTENING GROUP** Wednesday, May 19, 10–11 a.m., via Zoom. This is a time of prayerful listening and reflecting in community. We explore poems, essays, meaningful quotations, psalms, and readings from other faith traditions and world religions as possible spiritual resources. May's reading is "The Clear Light of the Present" by Steve Taylor. All are welcome!

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**Eastertide**  
Sixth Sunday

**May 9, 2021**  
11:00 a.m.

**Psalm 98**

O sing to the Beloved a new song,  
for Love has done marvelous things!

By the strength of your Indwelling Presence,  
we too, are called to do great things;  
we are set free through Love's forgiveness and truth.

Yes, your steadfast love and faithfulness  
are an ever-present gift in our lives.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the glory of Love's Eternal Flame.

And proclaiming deliverance to a people  
yet unborn that the Most High dwells among us.

**Nan Merrill**

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Established 1743*  
*Radical Hospitality • Holistic Spirituality • Engaged Compassion*  
*We Choose Welcome*