Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

October 12, 2025 - 10:00 a.m.

* Please stand in body or in spirit.
Bold print indicates congregational response.

We acknowledge that our church is on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe.

The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

Choral Prelude

"Proclaim the Glory of the Lord!"
(Arr. Lloyd Larson)

Shepherd Choir

Welcome

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship

Dona Johnson

Come, you who thirst for grace.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Come, you who are a stranger in a strange land.

Come, you who are like a child at home.

Come, for Christ welcomes you to this time and place.

We have come to worship our King.

* Song

"Build Your Kingdom Here"

(see screen)

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We look at a world undone by strife, torn by violence, separated by hatred. Yet you call us to walk the way of peace. Forgive us, O Lord, for refusing to follow you on this path because the cost is too high, the direction too confusing, the conditions too harsh. Forgive us our complacency. Grant us clarity of vision to see the light, and the strength to walk behind you. In the power of your Spirit we pray, Amen.

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, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Song

"Jesus Does"

(see screen)

Blessing Younger Congregants

Leader: "Go in peace to learn and grow in God's love!"

People: "The Lord be with you!"

Kids: "And also with you!"

Sermon

"Faith Beyond the Fence"

Rev. John Asher

Scripture

Select Passages from the Book of Ruth

Hymn # 436

"We Are Your People"

Welcome to the Table

Rev. John Asher

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

Shepherd Choir

Communion Prayer

<u>Offering</u>

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Community Life

* Song

"Live Like Jesus"

(see screen)

* Benediction

Rev. John Asher

* Postlude

We live stream each service. By your presence, you agree the church may publish, transmit, or telecast images that may be taken of you for use in communications related to the church. If you prefer to not sit in a visible area, we recommend the section on the right side of the sanctuary when entering. Please reach out to the office with any questions.

Call to Worship: Adapted from writing by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

Burden's Prayer: From the PCUSA's World Communion 2025 Liturgy.

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We would love to share with you what's happening! Please scan the code and fill out the form to receive weekly email announcements.

We Welcome All

"We welcome all people to worship the living God..."

We want to care for, appropriately and effectively, anyone who wants Shepherd to be their spiritual home. This Spirit-led desire feels even more poignant when we consider those who have been disenfranchised, including those in the LGBTQIA+ community, those born in other places or of a different skin color, those experiencing economic hardship, and others.

To be inclusive means to accept all people as loved by God. We recognize that all who receive Christ belong in the community of faith. We also recognize and honor the rich complexity and diversity of people God calls to our faith community, including people who disagree with this statement. Though not all may agree, we find our unity in Christ who loves each of us and all of us together.

We welcome all people into all parts of the church's life and ministry, including ordained ministry as a Ruling Elder, Teaching Elder, or Deacon. We seek to appreciate the vital worth of each human being, and will intentionally work to provide welcome and inclusion of all people in the life of our congregation.