

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

August 2, 2026 – 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.

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship

Dona Johnson

We come to you, God, to thank you for what is good.

We come to you, God, to cry out for what is wrong.

We come to you, God, to ask for help and restoration.

We come to you, God, with aching hearts and glad souls.

Let us worship God!

* Song

“Sing a Song”

(see screen)

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Holy One, as a community of believers, we open ourselves to your restorative presence. We are surrounded by beauty, yet we often fail to wonder. We are symbols of hope, yet we often succumb to despair. We are blessed beyond measure, yet we often allow greed to shape our generosity. We are uncommonly free, yet we often bind ourselves to yesterday's failures. We are gifted and graced as a people of faith, yet we often fail to let our light shine. We are loved beyond measure, yet we often fail to pass on your love unconditionally. Encourage us to lay down our burdens, release our fears, forgive our failures, reclaim our hopes, and align ourselves with your deep wisdom. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

We are the light of the world, by the power of God's grace.

Our freedom is a gift: receive it fully;

Our purpose is justice: do it right;

Our hope is peace: pursue it faithfully;

Our calling is life: live it well.

God is faithful in all things and so it is.

Alleluia! Amen!

Hymn #293

"This Is My Father's World"

(see screen)

Children's Blessing

People: “The Lord be with you!”

Kids: “And also with you!”

Sermon

"Schitt's Creek and the Life Underneath"

Rev. John Asher

Scripture

2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Philippians 3:4b-9NIV

Song

"I Surrender"

(see screen)

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

Hymn # 370

“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

(see screen)

Communion Prayer

Community Life

* Song

“Raise a Hallelujah”

(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.

CCLI License # 1452675/ Streaming License CCLI#20581555

Attribution Notes: Call to Worship: Adapted from writings by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’. Used with permission

Burden’s Prayer: from God’s Freedom is Beyond Measure, written by Reverend Dr. June C. Goudey, and posted on the United Church of Christ website. <http://www.ucc.org/>



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

Care at Shepherd

Over the past three years, Shepherd's average worship attendance has grown by approximately 40 people, while our membership has increased by 60. We are grateful for this growth—but growth also brings challenges. As more people become part of our community, the need for compassionate, consistent care grows as well.

Currently, 16 people serve or are training in dedicated roles to walk alongside members of Shepherd through life's most difficult seasons:

Deacons: Our nine deacons regularly reach out to members of the congregation. Each month, they gather to share updates and pray over an average of 70 prayer requests from people within our church community. They also coordinate practical care, such as meal trains and visitations.

Stephen Ministers: Our three active Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one spiritual care for people experiencing grief, illness, transition, or other difficult circumstances. They have remained consistently in demand, and this ministry will soon expand as three additional Stephen Ministers complete their 50 hours of training.

Pastor John: Last year, Pastor John spent approximately 80 hours providing direct pastoral care, including support during spiritual crises, hospital and home visits, grief care, and premarital counseling.

No one should have to navigate life's joys and struggles alone. When you need care, or know someone who may, please reach out to the church office, a deacon, or Pastor John. Shepherd seeks to be a community of siblings in Christ who walk alongside one another through all the ups and downs of life.