

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

October 25, 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

Liam Chynoweth

God, whose love is vast and measureless, wider than the universe, unlimited and infinite: In wonder,

We worship you.

God, whose love will never run dry, will never fall short, will never fail: In wonder,

We worship you.

God, whose love knows nothing of our distinctions, our notions of 'deserving' and 'undeserving', and which encompasses everyone: In wonder,

We worship you.

We praise you that your love reaches us, in our struggles and our joys, in our hidden place of fear and shame, in our sorrow and disappointment. We praise you that in your love you meet us as we are, where we are, sweeping aside any sense of inadequacy, overturning misplaced dependencies, and opening a window of light and hope, until we see in you our one true home. We praise you that your love comes gently, a warm scented breeze in the winter hurricane, a creeping tide smoothing rough sand, a depth of stillness to a heart in turmoil. God, your love is beyond all we can tell, yet we know that you are here with us, and that you care for every detail of our lives.

We offer you joyful hearts filled with gratitude. In wonder:

We worship you. Amen.

* Song

"Happy Day"

(see screen)

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Lord Jesus, by your cross and resurrection, **deliver us**
by your witness to the truth, **deliver us**
by your passion and death, **deliver us**
by your victory over the grave, **deliver us**
from the lust of power, **deliver us**
from the conspiracy of silence, **deliver us**
from the worship of weapons, **deliver us**
from the slaughter of innocents, **deliver us**
from the nightmare of hunger, **deliver us**
from the peace that is no peace, **deliver us**
from security that is no security, **deliver us**
from the politics of terror, **deliver us**
from the plundering of the earth's resources, **deliver us**
from the dispossession of the poor, **deliver us**
from the despair of this age, **deliver us**
by the light of the gospel, **give us peace**
by the good news for the poor, **give us peace**
by your healing of our wounds, **give us peace**
by faith in your word, **give us peace**
by hunger and thirst for justice, **give us peace**
by the coming of your kingdom, **give us peace**.
Amen.

Hear the good news: The love of God is stronger than our fear, the grace of Christ is greater than our sin, and the power of resurrection is greater than death. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to become instruments of God's love.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

Song

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

(see screen)

Children's Blessing

People: **"The Lord be with you!"**

Kids: **"And also with you!"**

Sermon

"The Cross of Wonder"

Rev. John Asher

Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:14-21; Ephesians 3:14-19 NIV

Hymn # 298

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Offering

Special Music

"You Sing Over Me"
(Heather Sorenson)

Shepherd Choir

The 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.**

Prayer of Dedication

Community Life

* Song

"Love of God"

(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.

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Attribution Notes: Call to Worship: Adapted from liturgy written by Louise Gough. Posted on Worship Words. <http://worshipwords.co.uk/> Burden's Prayer: From Let Justice Roll Down: A Worship Resource for Lent, Holy Week and Easter, edited by Geoffrey Duncan; published by Pilgrim Press (August 2004)



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

Help Shape the Future of Our Children's & Youth Ministries!

YOUTH MINISTRY ASSESSMENT – NOVEMBER 8-9

Help shape the future of Shepherd's children and youth ministries! As part of our 2026–2027 Vision of Ministry, we are partnering with Ministry Architects for a two-day assessment on Sunday, November 8, and Monday, November 9, to listen to the experiences, hopes, and ideas of our congregation.

Listening sessions are available for:

Parents of Children & Youth — Sunday, 11:30 AM

General Congregation — Sunday, 12:45 PM

Middle and High School Youth — Sunday, 6:00 PM, during a special Youth Group event

Church Staff & Leadership — Monday, 12:00 PM, with a hybrid/Zoom option

Childcare is currently being arranged. You only need to attend one session, even if you fit more than one group. Additional sessions are being offered to volunteers and youth staff. Everyone who cares about the future of these ministries is welcome.