

LENT

SEARCH ME, O GOD,
AND KNOW MY HEART.

PSALM 139:23



Welcome to Shiloh United Church of Christ
Worship
April 6th, 2025 @ 10:00AM

MEDITATION

"So which side wins?" Mitch wonders. [Morrie] smiles at me, Mitch reports...

"Love wins. Love always wins." ~ Mitch Albom: Tuesdays with Morrie

PRELUDE

"Savior, Your Dying Love"

Smith

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Please stand as you are able!)*

One: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

All: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

One: Come and let us worship with great joy!

All: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!

One: God is about to do something new in our lives!

All: Let God's will become strong in our lives.

One: Come, People of God, for the Holy One has done great things for us!

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN**

"My Faith Is Built on Nothing Less"

#403(vs. 1-2)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

All: Almighty God, come to this sanctuary, and let us receive you with lavish welcome. You are the Restorer of our fortunes, the promise of new life – we pour out our praise to you. Fill Shiloh UCC with your Holy Spirit: and fill our hearts with your compassion, not just in this time and place, but in all times and in all places, so that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us, we may also embody the love you give to all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S STORY *(All children of God who desire to come forward for the Children's Sermon are welcome. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to accompany their young child during the message.)*

***HYMN**

"Word of God Speak"

Video

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 126

Second Reading: John 12:1-8

Chancel Choir

“Sanctuary”

Arr. Larson

Third Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21

SERMON:

“Look to the Future”

Pastor Melinda

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory forever. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Beloved, there will always be need in the world, and the church is called respond to this need. Mary gave what may have been her most precious possession. Paul gave his status, his privilege, his power. Let us give of ourselves – share what we have – not just from the abundance that has been given to us, but from the devotion and dedication inspired in us by the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. And now, let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

“A Lenten Doxology”

**Praise God through- out these forty days.
Praise Christ, Our Lord, whom God did raise,
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s love in Christ into our hearts. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Let us pray!

All: What we own is nothing, Generous God – what we have is worthless, if it is only for our own satisfaction. All that we have and all that we are, belongs to you, and giving is a blessing in itself. We dedicate this day, not only the things we can put in a plate or write on a piece of paper, but also the things we cannot touch: our hearts, our spirits, our passion, our resolve. Use them, and us, to restore the fortunes of all your people: to seek your will, to strengthen your church, and to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(All are welcome to partake of communion)

***HYMN**

“Here I am, Lord”

Insert

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“A New Creed”

NCH #887

INVITATION

One: Jesus Christ said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

All: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

One: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

CONFESSION OF SIN

One: God is present to us, but we don't always feel it. God is good to us, but we can't always accept it. Fact is, there are things within and around us that attempt to step between us and our relationship to God's goodness. There are things that we think, things that we do, that act to separate us from God. The church calls that “sin.”

All: God of all mercy, I confess that sin grips me and I cannot break free. The sin is in my mind, on my lips, in my acts done or even ignored and stands between me and you. My entire heart is not always yours. My love of neighbor falls short. In the name of Jesus, have mercy on me. Grant me your renewing forgiveness. Lead me on your paths of righteousness, and I shall delight in you, and I shall follow you, giving glory to your holy name. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who gives, gives all. The God who loves, loves all. The God who forgives, forgives all. Through Christ, our sins, every one of them: the sins of commission, the sins of omission, the sins we confessed with contrition – all are forgiven.

All: By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *(Please wave to one another)*

One: Let us greet each other in Christian Friendship. The peace of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

***HYMN** *“Let There Be Peace on Earth”* #14 Special Hymnal

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP *(The members of Consistory will serve you the bread and juice. To demonstrate our unity in Christ, we will take the elements together. Please wait until everyone has been served.)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Let us pray!

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *“In the Bulb There is a Flower”* #433

***BENEDICTION**

May God, the Father’s arms protect you.
May Jesus Christ’s love infuse and transform you.
And may the Holy Spirit inspire and empower you
to be God’s witnesses in this world today and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *“God Loved the World”* Lau

**WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR
WORSHIP TODAY! PLEASE COME AGAIN!**

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (<https://www.davidtorkington.com>)

O God come to my aid. O Lord make haste to help me. O God you are my God for you I long; For you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like dry weary land without water. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen. (Psalm 62)

Evening Prayer (<https://www.davidtorkington.com>)

Lord, help me to put aside everything that has fragmented me throughout this day, if only for a few moments. Teach me how to be still and come to know that you are my God not just with my head, but with every feeling in every fiber of my being. Then, let me experience something of “the peace that surpasses the understanding”, to draw me together again in you and in Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, Judy Feeser, Dick & Helen Hodgson, Brad Jacobs, Joe Jordan, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Elaine Krout, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Arlene Myers, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Steve Snyder, Rick & Sue Trimble, Romaine Walton, Elva Winter, Susan Emmons, Jane Harrison, Theo Shoff



THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Smith Family, The Taft Family, The Robertson/Jordan Family, Suzanne Kozuch Family

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE WORSHIP SERVICE!

THE ALTAR FLOWERS & BULLETINS: Presented in loving memory of Gordon “Skip” Heath by Ginny and Family

VIDEO TEAM: Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht,

LITURGIST: Carol Burns

GREETERS: John and Mary Reiber

USHER: Lin Heckert

NURSERY: Tim and Katie Bentzel

COFFEE CONNECTIONS: Katie Bentzel



*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here at Shiloh UCC, where God is still speaking."*

THIS WEEK

SUN	10:00	Worship
	9:00	Sunday School (202) & Wired Word (124)
	9:15	Coffee Connections (gallery)
MON	1:30	Woman's Guild(202)
	6:00	Gospel Choir (100)
	6:30	Consistory(202)
TUES	8:30	Men's Breakfast
	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	6:30	Engaging Woman(Parlor)
WED	8:00	Men's Chorus
	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (202)
THUR	7:00	Lent Study (202)
	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Choirs
SUN	10:00	Worship

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 75

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohuccyorkpa.org
717-764-3569

Pastor Melinda office hours: Tues., Wed., and Thurs 9AM-1PM

Director of Music Stephanie Limbert

Organist Sandra Bamberger

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