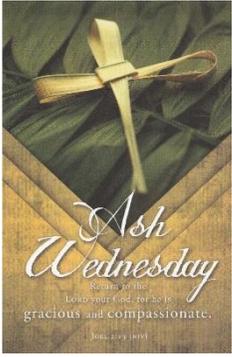


**WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
MARCH 2 2022  
7:00 PM



**MEDITATION**

**Journeying to Jerusalem** (by Gay Williams)

*Lent – an invitation To reflect, to reconsider, To slow down, to discover. Invited by Jesus To join him on the journey. Invited to humble ourselves. ...*

*Silence*

**PRELUDE**                    “I Lay My Sins on Jesus”                    Kendall

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 51)

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**All: Keep our eyes on Jesus, our crucified Lord.**

One: Put a new and a right spirit within me.

**All: Keep our hearts in Jesus, our crucified Lord.**

One: My footsteps falter and I lose my way.

**All: Restore us to the joy of your salvation.**

One: Turn me toward you, O God.

**All: Open our lips that we may declare your praise.**

*Silence*

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

**All: O God, passionately righteous and just, we are not always righteous and just. Do not cast us away from your presence. We bring to you broken and contrite hearts. O God, steadfastly loving and merciful, accept our worship and have mercy on us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**                    “Change My Heart, O God”                    See Insert

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Eternal and most merciful God, we are children of dust without you. We have not loved as you have loved us, nor have we lived as we ought. God, have mercy upon us. Lift us above every past regret and present failure; reveal to us our true selves; and give us grace to accept your mercy. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

*Silence*

**Meditation on Ash Wednesday**

*Rend your hearts and not your garments, the prophet said (Joel 2:13). The gift of the day is personal reflection, a season of confession, and change. Start the arduous journey from shadow to substance, from ritual to reality, from façade to faith. Today, choose the harder course; follow Jesus Christ.*

*Silence*

**WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY**

First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-12, Second Lesson: Psalm 51:1-17

**CHANCEL CHOIR**                    “I Surrender All”                    Smith

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

## \*HYMN

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, as the Ordinary season now turns to Lent, we pray that you will guide us in the days ahead. As we journey with Jesus Christ, give us an abiding sense of your presence, an unguarded sense of ourselves, and an awareness of the needs of this world.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Loving God, as we are marked with the ashes of earth, we bring before you the frailty of our very human lives: the fragility of our health, the tenuousness of our accomplishments and plans, the changing nature of even our closest relationships.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, grant us patience in suffering and healing from our ills. Give us in equal measure humility and hope in our pursuits. Bind us in covenantal love that is both constant yet able to change according to the needs and circumstances before us.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Just God, you call us to loosen the bonds of injustice, to care for those in need, to lift the burdens that bind others. We ask you to increase our courage and our will to work for the freedom and peace you envision and demand. We pray for an end to warfare and conflict, accepting our calling to be peacemakers. We pray for an end to hunger and homelessness, knowing we are called to share our bread and to open our doors. We pray for an end to false righteousness, evil speech, and shallow piety in our lives, in the church, in our national life, and among all the nations.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we pray that your kingdom will come in fullness; that what is perishable will be raised imperishable; and that death itself will be swallowed up in victory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior who has taught us to pray saying:

**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 the glory forever. Amen.**

**PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD****INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

## \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Doxology” #778

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Great God, who created us and continues to sustain us in this world, we give you thanks and praise for the blessings we have received through your bountiful grace. Use our lives and the resources you have given us, so that we may glorify you in all we say and do. Unite us in our journey of faith, that we may strengthen and support one another as we minister to all in need in this world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES**

*(You may receive ashes on your forehead or the back of your hand.)*

Pastor: Creator God who fashioned us from the dust of the earth,  
bless these ashes that they may a sign of our mortality,  
and a reminder of your forgiving grace  
through the death and resurrection of your Son,  
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*(Those who desire may come forward where ashes will be imposed.)*

Pastor: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. **Amen.**

*Silence*

Pastor: Listen to the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all who repent and believe:  
“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him”. – John 3:17  
Believe the Good news!

**All: In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**     *“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”*                   # 547

**BENEDICTION**

Go, now, marked as God’s beloved. Look at the people you meet, and remember they are also God’s beloved. Go, knowing your days on earth are numbered. Make the most of each day you are given by showing kindness and love. Go to embark on this Lenten journey. Go where the Spirit leads you to do God’s work. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**           *“Renew My Soul, O Lord”*                   Broughton

**PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Joyce Bowers, Oscar Bupp, Uble & Nan Frost, Mark Garber, Beverly Hoak, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Cindy Repman, Jessie Sechriest, Gladys Seigman, Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

**THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES**

The Jordan Family, The Hohenshilt/Jordan Family, The Rodgers Family, The Matthews/Curren Family, The Myers Family, The Keith Family, The Anstein Family, The Wagner Family, The Heath Family

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**



Pastor Melinda would like to start a **grief group in March**, at the beginning of Lent. Please let her know if you, a family member or a friend is interested in joining it. The group will follow the book called “Good Grief” by Granger Westberg that goes through the stages of grief and helps us integrate a painful loss into our daily lives. You can never “get over” losing someone, but you can still live a meaningful life, filled with hope, joy, and love. If you have any questions about the group, please call the office or Pastor Melinda.

Due the decreasing volume of Covid 19 cases in York County, starting **March 6th**, mask wearing in the church will be voluntary for fully vaccinated people. If you are not fully vaccinated, please continue wearing a mask in the church. We will continue to practice social distancing at this time. The Consistory will continue to monitor the York County numbers to determine our next steps.



In case of inclement weather for church and Sunday school, please check our **website, Facebook page, or your email for closings or delays**. We will also submit the information to **Fox 43 News and WGAL**. If services are held, please use your best judgement as to whether you are able to attend.

**GREETERS** and **USHERS** this evening are Consistory Members

**LITURGIST:** Jane Harrison



**OFFERING:** The Ash Wednesday loose offering and the special Lenten Offering envelopes will be donated to the Shiloh Fire Company.

**THE CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor

Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.  
[pastormelinda@shilohucc.com](mailto:pastormelinda@shilohucc.com)

**Pastor Melinda office hours:**  
**Please call for an appointment**

**Wednesday 9 AM-2 PM & 5-8 PM**  
**Thursday 9 AM-11:30AM & 6-8:30 PM**  
**Friday 9AM-2 PM**

Director of Music  
Organist  
Missionaries in Costa Rica  
Administrative Assistant  
Early Learning Center  
Church Office Phone Number  
Church Email Address  
Website

Stephanie Limbert  
Sandy Bamberger  
Crosby and Sally Jane Johnson  
Maira Rivera  
Allison Hartnett  
717-764-3569  
[office@shilohucc.com](mailto:office@shilohucc.com)  
[www.shilohuccyorkpa.org](http://www.shilohuccyorkpa.org)



[www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa](http://www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa)

**SHILOH UCC**  
**2251 WILLOW ROAD**  
**YORK, PA 17408**

