



**WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE  
DECEMBER 5, 2021 8:30AM AND 11:00AM**

**MEDITATION**

*"Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love."*

~ Francis of Assisi

**THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

**8:30AM**..... *"Prepare The Way, O Zion"* ..... Paxton

**11:00AM**..... *"Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine"*..... Paxton

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The Reign of God is drawing near:

**All: We are being encouraged to change our lives!**

One: Prepare the way for the Lord:

**All: We are being encouraged to prepare a loving and peaceful path!**

One: Welcome one another, for Christ welcomes you:

**All: Let us encourage and welcome one another in Christ's name! Let us worship and praise God together as one in the body of Christ!**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Holy God, we long for your peace, and trust in your promise; we hear your call to turn to you, to change and welcome you in our lives. Meet us here in this holy place, fill our minds with your wisdom, and our hearts with your peace, that our worship together may open our hearts to the challenge of your dream of wholeness for all. In the Name of the One whose arrival we await, we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN** ..... *"The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore"* ..... #115

<p>The Baptist shouts on Jordan's shore, the earth shakes with the mighty roar, awake, let lazy sleep now flee: behold, the voice of prophecy!</p>	<p>The earth and sky and sea now feel that which their Author will reveal: the Child now leaping in the womb as God does human form assume.</p>	<p>Clean up your hearts, lay down the way, for God approaches day by day; prepare for such a worthy heir, for such a guest your house prepare.</p>
<p>Through you, O Jesus, you alone salvation, solace, strength are known; without your love we fade like grass, like wilted flowers our lives will pass.</p>	<p>Your hands extend, our pain embrace, Lift up the prostrate, show your face; Though we in part your beauty know O blossom forth your splendor show</p>	<p>O One who comes to set us free, O Child, to you our song will be, with Father, Spirit mothering, to you shall praise for ever ring!</p>

**LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE – THE PROMISE OF PEACE**

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

**Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.**

Where there is division, we long for unity.

**Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.**

Where there is hostility, we long for resolution.

**Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.**

Where there is separation, we long for reunion.

**Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.**

*Candle Lighting*

Today we light two candles. The **first candle** represents the everlasting hope that has touched our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. In a world of division, brokenness and uncertainty, the **second candle** summons our hearts to the One called Prince of Peace. As the light shines, may we embrace and extend the peace of Christ in all that we do and say.

**\*HYMN**. . . . . “Of the Parent’s Heart Begotton”.(Verse 2). . . . . #118

By this Word was all created  
By this Word were all things done.  
Land and air and deepest ocean,  
Harmony of three in one.  
And all glowing in the luminescence.  
Shed forth from the moon and sun  
Forever and forever.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Gracious God, you are the Prince of Peace who lives and reigns forever. As we journey together, we pray you would still our fears, heal our wounds and fill our spirits. Shine forth your perfect peace in our unsettled world throughout this Advent season. Amen.

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**\*HYMN**. . . . . “Jesus Name Above All Names”. . . . . See Insert

Jesus, name above all names  
Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord  
Emanuel, God is with us  
Blessed redeemer, Living Word (Repeat)

**WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY**

Malachi 3:1-4; Philippians 1:3-11

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

**8:30AM** . . . . . “Waiting, Wandering, Wondering”. . . . . Schram

**CHAMBER CHOIR**

**11:00AM**. . . . . “O Come to Us, Emmanuel”. . . . . Martin

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6

**SERMON**

“Prepare the Way of the Lord!”

**\*HYMN**. . . . . “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”. . . . . #120

<p>There’s a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where Emmanuel may go!</p>	<p>O Zion, who offers good tidings, to the heights of mountains dare! Lift your voice to the cities of Judah; “Behold your god!” declare Like the flowers of the field we perish, Our human our works decay, the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away</p>	<p>But the word of our God is forever; Our defender’s will is strong; God stands in the midst of nations, Render right the wrong. Then God shall be as a shepherd, the lambs gathered to God’s breast, and pastures of peace will great them, To give to the weary rest.</p>
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**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 the glory forever. Amen.**

**PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

The Lord is coming. Prepare the way! Prepare to welcome the messiah! Welcome the redeemer with your very lives. Know the Lord’s tender mercy. Let all that you are become an offering pleasing to God. Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Doxology” (by Roger Lynn)**

**Praise God for gifts of hope and peace, Praise God, for gifts of joy and love,  
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts. Let our gifts remind others of your presence in the world through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** *(All are welcome to partake of communion)*

**\*HYMN** . . . . . *Let Us Break Bread Together?* . . . . . #330

1. Let us break bread together on our knees. Let us break bread together on our knees. Refrain: When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, My God have mercy on me.	2. Let us drink wine together on our knees. Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]
	3. Let us praise God together on our knees. Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH** . . . . . #885

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:  
You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.  
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.  
You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.  
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.  
You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.  
You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.  
You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.  
Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.  
Amen.

**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 FORGIVENESS**

One: The God who gives, gives all. The God who loves, loves all. The God who forgives, forgives all. Through Christ, our sins, everyone 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)*

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

**And also with you.**

**\*HYMN** . . . . . *“ Let There Be Peace on Earth”* . . . . . See Insert

Let there be peace on earth	Let peace begin with me
And let it begin with me	Let this be the moment now.
Let there Be Peace on Earth	With ev'ry step I take
The peace that was meant to be	Let this be my solemn vow
With God as our Father	To take each moment and live
Brothers all are we	Each moment in peace eternally
Let me walk with my brother	Let there be peace on earth
In perfect harmony.	And let it begin with me

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

*To demonstrate our unity in Christ, we will take the elements together. Please open the cup containing the bread first, then please open the juice. Thank you!*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**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** . . . . . *“Toda La Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)”* . . . . . #121

1. All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows the sowing of our God. All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty; it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.	2. Thus says the prophet to those of Israel: 'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,' one whose name is 'God with us' our Saviour shall be; Through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.
3. Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain; open new highways, new highways for our God. Who now is now coming closer, so come all and see, and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.	4. In lowly stable the Promised One appeared; yet feel that presence throughout the earth today, for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now; again, on arriving Christ brings us liberty.

**BENEDICTION** (Inspired by Philippians 1)

One: May your love overflow in mercy and compassion, as you walk pure and blameless in the ways of Christ. May you produce a harvest of righteousness as you grow in faith as Christ’s disciples, to the glory and praise of God. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

**8:30AM.** . . . . . *“Lift Up Your Heads”*. . . . . Ritter  
**11:00AM.** . . . . . *“Journey to the Manger”*. . . . . Burroughs

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

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and to those who lost their lives to Covid by Rick and Sue Trimble.
- **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband Emerson (Bud) Rogers by Mary Rogers.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God our Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. The Harvest Season is over – Thanksgiving is past and as we head to the Christmas Season, let us all remember the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and what the birth and Christmas really stand for. Praise be to God the Father and Jesus the Son – our Lord and Savior.
- **ACOLYTE: 11:00AM:** Isaac Pituch
- **CANDLE LIGHTERS: 8:30AM:** Tim, Katie & Dani Bentzel, **11:00AM:** Shelley Steward and Family
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Brad Jacobs, **11:00AM:** Katie Bentzel
- **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Joe & Gladys Seigman **11:00AM:** Volunteer
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Beverly & Milton Hoak **11:00AM:** Volunteer
- **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Jessie Sechrist, **11:00AM:** Marsha Reiber?
- **MUSIC: 8:30AM: Sandy Bamberger & Chancel Choir, 11:00AM: Jessie Sechrist & Chamber Choir**
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Dani Bentzel, Sallie Hagerman, Reen Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, Jaron Flickinger

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS FOR PROVIDING THE WORSHIP MUSIC!**

**PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:**

**Morning Prayer** ([abide.co/blog/5-powerful-morning-prayers-to-start-your-day](http://abide.co/blog/5-powerful-morning-prayers-to-start-your-day))

Our Father in heaven, how we love you; how you love us. A new day unfolds, and we desire that it is infused with our worship of you. As we turn our eyes on the beauty of you, so our spirits lift and find peace. Please pour out your Spirit upon us today, so we can worship in fresh ways. We humbly ask for a deeper relationship with you, so we can have a heightened awareness of your presence in us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Evening Prayer** (Rachel Olsen)

Dear Jesus, teach me to daily lay my burdens at your feet. Show me I can trust in your loving care. Grant me, your beloved, the nourishing blessing of rest and peaceful sleep. Amen.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Oscar Bupp, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Mary Rodgers, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Elva Winter, Sue Trimble.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:**

From the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak, Shiloh UCC has relied on Community Transmission rates (i.e. low, moderate, substantial, high) to guide our recommended precautionary measures. Our benchmark for social distancing and masking requirements go into effect when transmission rates in York County reach substantial (50-100 cases/100,000 and percentage of positive cases >5%). As of December 1, the Community Transmission rate for York County is HIGH (407/100,000 and positivity rate is 20.51.%). **The CDC recommends that everyone in York County, should wear a mask in public, indoor settings.**



We are updating our volunteer list and we would love to have you involved. We have included a survey for you to take – you only need to fill it out once, but you can do it with your phone, online or with paper. Please consider serving our church, Shiloh UCC. Thank you.

**Coffee Connections** will return to the welcome center beginning, December 5. Food and drinks will be individually wrapped or served.



*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	8:30 & 11	<b>Communion/Election of Consistory</b>
	9:45	Sunday School
	6:00	Christmas Concert
MON	1:00	Women's Guild (202)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:30	TOPS (100)
THUR	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Hand bell Choirs
	7:00	Chamber Choirs
	7:30	Chancel Choirs
FRI	5:00	Sunshine Class (100)
SUN	8:30 & 11	Worship/Tree of Warmth/Blanket Sunday



**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 74**

Pastor

Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.  
 pastormelinda@shilohucc.com  
 717-764-3609

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Please call for an appointment.**  
**Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 5-8PM**  
**Thursdays 9:00-11:30AM & 6-8:30PM**  
**Fridays 9AM-2PM**

Director of Music.....Stephanie Limbert  
 Organist .....Sandra Bamberger  
 Missionaries in Costa Rica..... Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson  
 Early Learning Center Director ..... Allison Hartnett  
 Administrative Assistant ..... Maira Rivera  
 office@shilohucc.com

Website: [www.shilohuccyorkpa.org](http://www.shilohuccyorkpa.org)

Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa](https://www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa)



Beginning **November 28**, the **SOUP KITCHEN** crew is asking for donations of wrapped candy (i.e. any snack-sized wrapped candy or mini candy canes). Please put candy donations in the boxes labeled “Soup Kitchen” in the church Gallery or kitchen. The **deadline for donations is Sunday, December 12**. We will fill small gift bags with the candy and distribute them at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in December. Thank you!

The **Sunday School** will again collect items for the **Tree of Warmth**. We will start collecting gloves, hats, scarves and other warm items from **November 7th through December 12th**. All youth items will be given to the Dover Clothes Closet. Adult items will be given to York Giving Helping Hands to hand out to those in need. Thank you for your support!!



**The Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.** is conducting a cookie collection and distribution event. Individuals from local churches and other groups prepare homemade cookies and place 6-8 cookies in decorated bags along with a note, tract or Bible verse. These bags are dropped off at the trailer and then distributed to the local truck stops, trucking depots, restaurants, motels, and businesses to be handed out to drivers, employees and motel guests. The purpose is to let our truckers and travelers know that we are thinking of them and to provide a taste of home while they are on the road. **This year at Shiloh there will be a table placed in the gallery near the parlor on Sunday November 28 to collect cookies until December 12.** On the twelfth the cookies will be collected and taken to the Carlisle Trucker’s Ministry. Please contact Brian Curren with any questions.

The **Sunshine Class** is selling cashews again this year. **The cost is \$7.00 for a half pound bag and \$14.00 for a pound.** They are available in salted or unsalted. We will be making them on **Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> and they can be picked up that evening in room 100 from 7-8 p.m. or on the following Sunday morning.** Order forms can be found in the Welcome Center, church office, and room 100, or you may just let a class member know what you'd like to order.



Consistory has started a **special fund** for making renovations and improvements to the church's kitchen and social hall (Room 100). This year's special **Christmas Offering** will be used to help build this



The **Soup Kitchen Crew** needs volunteers to prepare spaghetti and serve lunch one day a month at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in downtown York. Shiloh UCC is one of many local churches that support Our Daily Bread by supplying and serving food to those in need. Four volunteers are needed to serve lunch on the third Thursday of the month, and we prepare spaghetti the day before. If you would like to help or want more information, please call Susan Reidy at 610-533-9745 or contact the Church office.

The **Women's Guild** will be meeting **December 6 at 1:00 pm in room 202.** A Christmas program will be presented by Pat Roth and Marvel Burg. ***We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.***



**Engaging Women will be meeting on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** They will continue with the book called "The Power of a Woman's Words," by Sharon Jaynes.

Just in time for Christmas! Call the York State Fair ticket office at 717-848-2033 to purchase your tickets to see the Christian band For King & Country on July 24th 2022. If you would like to hear what they are like check them out on YouTube.



**OFFERING** is continually being collected for our missionaries, **Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson.**

**GROCERY GIFT CARDS = CONTRIBUTION TO CHURCH.** Weis and Giant grocery gift cards are available for purchase in the gallery. For every dollar of gift cards purchased, \$.05 is donated to the church by the grocery store. This contribution is used to support our Missionaries, Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson in Costa Rica.

