

Welcome to this time of worship at
Shiloh United Church of Christ

2251 Willow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17408

717-764-3569

DECEMBER 6, 2020 – 9:15 AM

Our Mission Statement

“Shiloh United Church of Christ is called to show Christ’s love for all through witness, word, and worship.”

CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL by the people of God
gathered in the meeting house of Shiloh United Church of Christ

Meditation

Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding.
- Albert Einstein

The Prelude to Christian Worship. “The King Shall Come” Broughton

Welcome and Concerns

***Call to Worship**

One: In the middle of dark times, our Lord cries out:

All: “Comfort, comfort my people!”

One: When it seems as though we cannot see the light at the end of the tunnel,

All: Our Lord says to us, “Be at peace, for your time of difficulty has ended.”

One: Lord, we await the time of comfort and peace!

All: Lord, we are thankful for your compassion and never-failing love for us. Amen.

***Unison Prayer of Invocation**

Lord, in the midst of our busy time, when we are in the rush to Christmas, you burst into our lives with the tantalizing promise of something new. Open our hearts and spirits to the glorious possibilities of hope and peace to come. Help us to prepare our lives to receive you. We thank you for all the blessings you pour on us and for the privilege we have in sharing these blessings with others. Be with us all this day and all these days that we may serve you better by helping others in need. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn. “The Baptist Shouts on Jordan’s Shore” No. 115

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.

Witness to Our Sacred Story

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Second Lesson: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Third Lesson: Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

“Prepare!”

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

(Offering plates are located next to the bulletins in the Narthex)

Invitation to the Offering

In response to the promise of God, let us give thanks through the presentation of our gifts and offerings.

***Offertory Response** “Doxology”No. 780

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, You heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let our gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your dream for the world through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

Hymn of Communion

“As We Gather at Your Table” (Verse 2)No. 332

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #887 A New Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

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, 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.)*

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" Insert

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing The Bread and The Cup

***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.

Hymn “Lead Us from Death to Life” No. 581

***Benediction** *(those who are able, please stand)*

One: God is bringing light into our darkness. We are called to go out into the world, confident in God’s loving presence, to serve others. Go, bringing hope and peace to this darkened world. Go in God’s love. **All: Amen.**

The Postlude “Prepare Thyself, Zion” Bach

Prayers for Our Community of Faith

Nancy Hamme, Helen Luckenbaugh, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Helen Byers, Charles Smith, Mary Emma Elicker, Elmer Duttera, Catherine Lochman, Elona Ellis, Mary Ann Downs, Vanessa Seifarth, Bev Kirk, Julene Bechtel, Jim Bentzel Sr. Phil Myers, Joanne Overviller, Milton Hoak, Dottie Limbert, Donna Krone, Elva Winter, Mary Rodgers, Oscar Bupp, Bob and Margie Behler, Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Sandy Barnes, Staff and Residents at Providence Place, Audrey Gerber, Richard Gruver

Those Who Grieve for Their Loved Ones

The Minck Family, The Fix Family, The Harper Family, The Arnold Family, The Krout Family

Prayers for the Week

Morning Prayer: (for the Second Sunday in Advent)

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8605/worship-connection-december-6-2020>

O God, in this Advent season we long for hope and peace. We strain our ears to crying in the wilderness of our lives. The voice cries to us to make ready the remove the obstacles which we have placed there; to respond with acts of react in violent ways. Lord, attune our ears to hear the voices of those who cry our hearts to respond in caring ways. Teach us again the great truths about how children. Forgive our failings and help us to try again and again to be the kind you would have us be. As we cry to you, offering the names of loved ones who are sick, who mourn, who are lost, who live in anguish and in anger, keep us mindful of the ways in which we can be of help. Likewise, as we rejoice with all those who are happy, who dance with delight at the wondrous gifts you have given, remind us that joy and peace is what we all seek and what we can accomplish. In the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, we offer this prayer. Amen.



hear the voice of one pathway for our God, to compassion rather than out in their need. Open we should live as your of faith-filled people

Evening: (by Topher Haddox)

Holy God, Loving Heavenly Father,
Thank you for holding me together today. I needed you, and you were there for me. Thank you for every bit of love, mercy, and grace that was shown to me though I did not deserve it. Thank you for your faithfulness even in my suffering. To you alone be the glory. Amen.



We are now taking orders for **Poinsettias**. Price is \$6.50 each. Envelopes for your orders are available in a box in the Welcome Center. The orders may be placed in the box or turned in at the Sing Along on Dec. 6. The deadline to order is **December 7**. Please make checks payable to Shiloh UCC. Thank you.



Please join us for the **Drive-in Carol Sing Along and Donation Collection this afternoon at 1:00 PM.** We will meet in the parking lot (closest to handicap and stand by or sit in our cars to sing while music to accompany the carols is played from the steeple of the church. Song sheets with words will be provided and are also available on our website. Donations for the Soup Kitchen, Truck Drivers, Tree of Warmth and Adopt a Family will be collected while we sing. Someone will come to your car for any of the donations you might bring. We look forward to sharing this unique celebration for the holiday! Stay tuned for additional activities as circumstances develop during the Advent/Christmas season.

PS Yes, masks should be worn, and social distancing needs to be practiced even though we are outside.



If in-person worshipping is held, **Christmas Eve services will be at 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM.** Consistory would like your help with planning these services. They are asking you to complete a brief survey related to your plan for attending one of the services. If you are planning to attend one of the services, please email or call the office with your answer to these three survey questions:

- Which service to you plan to attend, the 3:00 PM or the 8:00 PM service?
- How many people will be in your group?
- Would you like this to be your reservation?

Social distancing creates a challenge for the services, and Consistory would like to accommodate everyone's needs. With your input, plans can be made to make this evening a memorable and meaningful event. Please respond by **Friday, December 11.** Thank you for help.

The **Sunday School and Youth Fellowship** are adopting families again for the Christmas season. This year we have a family with a single mother and 2 children plus a grandmother who is raising her two grandchildren. Because of the uncertainty of being in church each Sunday, we decided not to place a tree in the gallery. This year we are asking you to support the families by donating money to **Adopt-A-Family.** We have volunteers who will use that money to purchase as much as we can from the requested items on their lists. Using a separate envelope designated for Adopt-a Family you can place your donation in the collection plate or mail it in by **December 9.** You can also designate an amount for Adopt -A-Family on your church offering envelope. Thank you for your support during this Christmas season.



Youth Fellowship will be selling **Texas Roadhouse Gift cards** for Christmas. Sign-up sheets are in the Gallery and office to sign up. **Deadline to order is December 6, 2020** and cards will be delivered on **Sunday December 13.** Youth Fellowship will receive 10% of the sales.



The **Women's Guild will not meet Monday, December 7** for their **Christmas program.**

Since Sunday School is not meeting yet, we will not be putting the tree up in room 100. However, we will have a collection box for the **Tree of Warmth** donations in the gallery of the church. We will collect the donations from **November 15 to December 13.** Donations will be given to the Dover Area Schools. Now more than ever, donations are greatly needed and appreciated.



Beginning **November 29,** 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 13.** We will fill small gift bags with the candy and distribute them at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in December. Thank you!

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH A FESTIVE MASK!

The cost is whatever you wish to donate. Please use the envelopes provided and place them in the offering plate in the Narthex. Proceeds will benefit Shiloh UCC Missionaries Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson in Costa Rica. Thank you for your support!

- Masks are made with 100% cotton fabric
- Two styles: Surgical (pleated) and Olson (No Pleats)
- Adult Size Large: Universal, one size fits all
- Adult Size Small: scaled down version providing a snugger fit for young adults and women with smaller faces
- Both styles have an inside pocket, providing the option to insert a filter for added protection
- Stock will be replenished regularly, so please check back!
- If you have a request for a specific fabric, quantity, or child size, please email Mary Reiber at mreiber125@gmail.com.

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. **This year at Shiloh there will be a table placed in the gallery near the parlor on November 29 to collect cookies until December 13.** On the 13th the cookies will be collected and taken to the Carlisle Trucker’s Ministry. Please contact Brian Curren with any questions.



I have grown up in this church and have witnessed how much of a giving church this is. I have many items made in **Costa Rica for sale to benefit our Missionary there.** I will have them located in the gallery after church starting **November 22 through December 20 as permitted.** Below are items listed that are available. Visit shilohuccyorkpa.org to view the items. You can reach Linda Little at 717-309-4523 if you are interested.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Suggested donation</u>
Wooden ornaments	\$10
Butterfly hot plate	\$6
Wall Crosses	4-\$13.50 (ex. Small-large)
Clay nativity	\$6
Red clay nativity	\$10
Animal whistle	\$9
Frog	\$6
Change purse	\$4
Key chains	\$7/\$8 with name
Volcanic rock necklace	\$4-\$5
Animal themed coasters	\$5 or 5 for \$20
Butterfly in case	\$15
Bracelets	\$5-\$6
Earrings	\$5-\$8
Magnets	\$2
Extracts	\$3

*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 9:15 **Second Sunday in Advent**
 1:00 Drive-in Sing Along (parking lot)
 TUES 6:30 Boy Scouts (100)
 WED 9:30 Bible Study (100)
 5:30 TOPS (100)
 THURS 6:30 NA Group (100)
 SUN 9:15 **Third Sunday in Advent**



- THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband Emerson (Bud) Rogers by Mary Rogers.
- LITURGIST: Tim Bentzel

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available in **the welcome center** on **Sunday, December 6**. Please pick up your envelopes and any family members' envelopes.



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

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor..... Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com

Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Director of Music.....Stephanie Limbert
 Organist Sandra Bamberger
 Missionaries in Costa RicaSally Jane and Crosby Johnson
 Early Learning Center DirectorAllison Hartnett
 Administrative Assistant.....Maira Rivera

Facebook Page.....www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa

