



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

2251 Willow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17408

717-764-3569

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

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

"It is the heart which perceives God and not (the) reason. That is what faith is: God perceived by the heart, not by (the) reason."
- Blaise Pascal, 17th century

The Prelude to Christian Worship "Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me" Broughton

Welcome and Concerns

***Call to Worship (Based on Mark 8)**

One: Let us turn our minds from human things.

All: Our faith in Jesus saves us.

One: Let us set our minds on divine things.

All: Our faith in Jesus saves us.

One: We will deny ourselves and take up our cross.

All: Our faith in Jesus saves us.

One: We will lose all; that we may gain all.

All: Our faith in Jesus saves us. Come, let us worship our loving God!

***Invocation**

God, you have given us everything. What can we give in return for our lives?

Be our guide on our Lenten journey. Help us to deny ourselves,

pick up our cross and follow Jesus. We welcome the chastening direction in our lives

as we worship you today. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Hymn "Lift High the Cross" No. 198

(Link: <https://hymnary.org/hymn/NCH1995/198>)

Prayer of Confession

Guiding Lord, even though we hesitated on our Lenten journey; we vowed to come with you through all the trials and fears toward the Cross. Today we face the challenge which true commitment brings. Are we willing to offer our whole selves to you in service?

We would like to think that we can do that, but we are aware of how many times we have turned away from service and instead focused on our own desires. Remind us again of the commitment you would have us give if we are to become disciples. Forgive our stubbornness and fears.

Lead us forward, gracious Lord, up these steps toward the Cross. Amen.

Silence

Acknowledging God’s Grace

The journey of discipleship is never easy; but you can be assured that you will not be on this journey alone. Place your trust in Jesus. Amen.

Sharing the Blessing of Christ’s Peace *(Please wave to one another)*

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ’s Peace.

Witness to Our Sacred Story

First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

Third Lesson: Mark 8:31-38

Sermon

“Lift High the Cross”

Hand Bell Choir *“Abide With Me”* Arr. Susan E. Geschke

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

Through this invitation to share our gifts, we acknowledge that God has blessed us abundantly, and that we are to be a blessing to the world. In the very act of giving, in every act of bestowing blessings on another, we find that we are blessed yet again. I encourage you now to enter fully into this amazing cycle of blessing.

***Offertory Response** *“Doxology”* No. 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 of Gifts and Self**

Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, your own Son, Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.

Hymn *“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”* No. 204
(Link: https://hymnary.org/text/take_up_thy_cross_the_savior_said_if_tho)

***Benediction**

The step of discipleship requires commitment and faith. Go now in peace, bringing the good news of Jesus’ love to all people! Do not be afraid! God is with you. **Amen.**

The Postlude *“A Lenten Chorale”* Neumark

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in honor of our family's February birthday's by the Reisinger family.
- **LITURGIST:** Marsha Reiber

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

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (Callie Logan)

Lord, we ask today for more of Your Holy Spirit in our lives. Lord, it can be easy for us to become consumed with the fears that surround us in life, but we know that just as Your eye is indeed on the sparrow, so also do You care for and see us.

Teach us today to become more reliant on You. Bring us into a greater discernment of how You operate, so that we may come into a deeper understanding that all we see with natural eyes is not all that is. Today we ask for eyes to see Your hand in all matters, and hearts open to Your work. Amen.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your mind in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

Evening Prayer (Alisha Headley)

Dear Lord, thank you that your love is so personal, that you created me, and that there is only one of me. You set your eyes on me from the beginning. You created me with a purpose and you promise to work out all the plans you have for my life. Thank you that you are a faithful God. That all throughout Scripture, time, and time again, you showed your faithful love to your people. Lord, remind me in moments of doubt, that you will never abandon me, for I am your unique workmanship. I am yours. I am your creation.

Lord, help me to not compare myself to others. You created me, just as I am, and you view me as your masterpiece. Help me to see myself the way that you see me, not as the world sees me. Remind me that you have given me everything I need to work out the plans you have set before me. Help me remember that if you have called me to it, you have also equipped me for it.

Thank you for your Word as my guide, the *"lamp unto my feet"* (**Psalm 119:105**), and even in the darkness of the night the Holy Spirit is my *"Helper"* (**John 14:26**). Allow us to rest in the confidence that you *will finish what you began in us*. (**Philippians 1:6**) We worship you, Lord, praising you for your everlasting love for us. In Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Nancy Hamme, Helen Luckenbaugh, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Helen Byers, Mary Emma Elicker, Catherine Lochman, Mary Ann Downs, Vanessa Seifarth, Bev Kirk, Julene Bechtel, Jim Bentzel Sr. Phil Myers, Joanne Overmiller, 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, Rosabel Bentzel, Donna Robertson

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Minck Family, The Fix Family, The Harper Family, The Arnold Family, The Krout Family, The Harman Family, The Duttera Family, The Ellis Family, The Smith Family, The Steele Family



The Women's Guild will try to meet **March 1 at 1:00 p.m. in room 100**. Please be advised we will social distance and wear masks. We will work on our new book *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Because the guild did not meet in January or February we will study Chapter 2: Bored to Distraction Potiphar Wife. Joyce Mummert will be leading our study. We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.



Donations for **Dover High School's clothing closet** for students are being accepted. Items needed are adolescent sized clothing; junior sizes for females and all sizes for males (mostly needed). If you are interested in donating gently used items, **they can be taken directly to the High School's main office or placed in the church's Welcome Center**. They are aiming for an opening date of **March 1** so please have donations to them prior to that if possible.

*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 Lent**
 MON 5:00 ELC Advisory Board meeting
 WED 9:30 Bible Study (100)
 5:30 TOPS (100)
 THURS 6:30 NA Group (100)
 SUN 9:15 Communion/Third Sunday in Lent



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. 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. Please contact the office if you interested in purchasing one.



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

