



**Welcome to Shiloh United Church of Christ
Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022
8:30AM and 11:00AM**

MEDITATION: *Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.*
~ **Mother Teresa**

PRELUDE
8:30AM
11:00AM

“Lo, He Comes!” Powell
“Advent Medley” Berry

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In the midst of the barren land,
All: flowers burst into bloom.

One: In the midst of the dry desert,
All: streams of water flow.

One: In the midst of sorrow and sighing,
All: joy and gladness are born.

One: We shall see the glory of God! We'll strengthen weak hands, and support feeble knees;
All: we'll encourage the fearful and calm the anxious: Rejoice! Be strong! God is with us! Come, let us worship God!

***HYMN** “Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn” #107

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning, sing out your joy, for Jesus is born, behold! The Child of our longing. Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together, to open wide the heavenly door, and lives now inside us for ever.	To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing, whose humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing. Music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving kindness, the thunder of the anthems roll to shatter all hate and injustice.
In deepest night Christ's coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring. One without voice breaks forth in song, a lame one leaps in wonder, the weak are raised above the strong, and weapons are broken asunder.	Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, Though cold the winter and cheerless, The rising sun shall crown you with light, Be strong and loving and fearless; Love be our song and love our prayer, And love, our endless story, May God fill every day we share, And bring us at last into glory.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!
God of Glory, we rejoice in the good news of your promises. Come into our parched world and shower us with the water of life. Enter into our brokenness, and renew us with the strength of your love. Be born anew in our hearts and in our world. Come, Emmanuel, come. We are ready! Amen.

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE THE PROMISE OF JOY

CHOIR

“Hope Is a Star”

In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ’s coming will bring us great joy
 For those who are suffering and in need: **Christ will bring us great joy.**
 For those who have experienced personal loss: **Christ will bring us great joy.**
 For those who battle daily with inner demons: **Christ will bring us great joy.**
 For those who endure deep disappointment: **Christ will bring us great joy.**

Candle Lighting

This morning we light **three candles**. The first symbolizes the hope of Christ’s coming. The second shows us the peace that the Messiah will bring us. Lighting the third candle signals the joy that is soon to spread throughout the world.

***HYMN**

“Hope Is a Star”

Insert

When God is a child there’s joy in our song.
 The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
 And none shall be afraid, none shall be afraid.

CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious God, the remarkable joy that the birth of your son brings is a light to brighten our personal darkness and a reason to give all humankind a reason to rejoice. May this feeling of gladness and wonder fill our days throughout the year. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

All children of God who desire to come forward for the Children’s Sermon are welcomed. Parent’s/caregivers are encouraged to accompany their young child(ren) during the message.

***HYMN**

“Pure Joy”

Insert

Gives me pure joy to sing to You And that joy becomes my strength Gives me pure joy to sing Your name Jesus, Jesus Gives me pure joy to walk with You And that joy becomes my strength Gives me pure joy to be with You Jesus, Jesus	There is no other life There is no other way There is no higher love There is no higher name Gives me pure joy to sing to You And that joy becomes my strength Gives me pure joy to sing that name Jesus, Jesus	There is no other life There is no other way There is no higher love There is no higher name Gives me pure joy to sing to You And that joy becomes my strength Gives me pure joy to sing that name Jesus, How I love that name Jesus, Jesus,
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WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 146:5-10; Second Reading: James 5:7-10

HANDBELL CHOIR

“As Lately We Watched”

Arr. Tucker

Third Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

SERMON

“Joy”

***HYMN**

“Joy Has Dawned”

Insert

Joy has dawned upon the world, Promised from creation God’s salvation now unfurled, Hope for ev’ry nation. Not with fanfares from above, Not with scenes of glory, But a humble gift of love Jesus born of Mary.	Sounds of wonder fill the sky With the songs of angels As the mighty Prince of Life Shelters in a stable. Hands that set each star in place, Shaped the earth in darkness, Cling now to a mother’s breast, Vul n’ra ble and helpless.
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Shepherds bow before the Lamb, Gazing at the glory; Gifts of men from distant lands Prophecy the story, Gold a King is born today, Incense God is with, Myrrh His death will make a way, And by His blood He'll win us.	Son of Adam, Son of heav'n, Given as a ransom; Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion! What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry! Once a babe in Bethlehem, Now the Lord of hist'ry.
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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 OFFERING BEFORE GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The day of rejoicing is coming, the prophet Isaiah says, and we await it together; our gifts in this season of waiting help us to strengthen one another and to offer God's joy to the world. Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

“Doxology”

**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**

One: Let us pray!

Generous God, you have given us all that we have and all that we are. We thank you for the opportunity to respond to your love and generosity by sharing our gifts with others. Our hearts sing with joy as we work with you to bring peace and hope into our world. As we prepare for the coming of your Son, may our lives proclaim your good news for all throughout the earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

#129

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now give heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; Ox and ass before him bow, asleep within the manger now. Christ is born today, Christ is born today!	Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you know of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! God has opened heaven's door, and you are blessed forevermore. Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!	Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!
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BENEDICTION

One: May the Creator God fill you until you overflow with joy. May the coming of the Christ Child free you until you gladly share your song. May the Holy Spirit empower you to love everyone with God's love. In Advent, and throughout the year, may you be inspired to share the good news of God's vision of justice and peace for all.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

8:30AM

“With Joy Unending”

Broughton

11:00AM

“Medley of Advent Hymns”

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!

- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Reen Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, George & Jaron Flickinger & Nathan Limbert.
- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Curvin and Pauline Kindig by Cheryl and Jeff Hershey.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God by our new member, Judy Clark.
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Brian Curren, **11:00AM:** Linda Little
- **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Harry Hamme **11:00AM:** Volunteer
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Jeff & Cheryl Hershey **11:00AM:** Michael & Laura Andras
- **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Sallie Hagerman & Natalie Fuhrman **11:00AM** Volunteer
- **MUSIC:** Handbell Choir, Joan Hamme, Sandy Bamberger

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS!

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (By Chrystal Evans Hurst)

Dear Father in Heaven, so much in my life is broken. I have so many concerns and cares, and they weigh me down. While I desire to cast my cares upon You, I find I usually pick them back up again, and they only add more anxiety and stress. Please help me learn to cast my cares on You as I learn what it means to rest and trust in You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Evening Prayer (Unknown writer)

Heavenly Father, I adore You and thank you for all the graces You have given me this day. I offer You my sleep, my dreams, and all the moments of this night. I pray that you give me rest so that I may wake to Your holy face. Please pour out Your blessings upon me, for You are the answer to all things, and You alone. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Julie Beall, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, Ross Hopple, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Jay Mummert, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Donna Robertson, David Roe, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Snyder Family, The Glass/Myers Family, The Anthony/Bentzel Family, The Waddell/Bentzel Family, The Waldron/Myers Family, The Repman Family, The O'Donnell Family

Let's celebrate the season together! You, your friends, and family are invited to attend a **Christmas Concert on December 11** performed by the Brass Triumphant. The event will **begin at 5:00 PM** with a light supper including a variety of soups and pulled pork sandwiches prior to the start of the **concert at 6:30 PM**. A freewill offering will be collected at the concert. The congregation is asked to donate cookies for the supper. (Cookies can be placed in the box found on the kitchen counter by the grill on Sunday Dec. 11).



The **Sunday School Board** will be putting up a tree in the gallery again this year for **Tree of Warmth** donations which will be collected until **December 11**. Adult items will be donated to **York's Giving Helping Hands** and the youth items will be donated to **Harvest of Blessings**. *Thank you for your kindness, Sunday School Board.*

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





The **Outreach Committee** has initiated a direct mailing project. Postcards will be sent to 1000 families in a 3-mile radius from the church. If you receive a card in the mail, the committee is asking you to *pass it forward*. This means to give it to a friend or family member inviting them to join us for one of the Advent events. We appreciate your help in ‘reaching out’ to the community!

“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	Third Sunday in Advent/Annual Budget Meeting/Blanket Sunday/Tree of Warmth
	9:45	Wired Word (202)
	9:45	Advent Study (Sanctuary)
	5:00	Light Supper (100)
	6:30	X-mas Concert featuring Brass Triumphant
MON	7:00	Consistory (100)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	6:30	Cemetery Assoc. (202)
	8:00	Men’s Chorus
WED	7:30	Soup Prep
	9:30	Bible Study
	5:00	TOPS (100)
	7:00	Worship/Music (202)
THUR	10:30	Our Daily Bread
	6:30	NA Group
	6:30	Choirs
FRI	10:00	Grief Group (202)
	12:00	Women’s Social & Support Group (Olive Garden)
SUN	8:30 & 11	Fourth Sunday in Advent/Sacrament of Baptism



Mark your calendar for the next Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on **Tuesday, December 13th at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant**. Contact Brad Jacobs for additional information at bcj402@verizon.net.

Engaging Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor** for a Christmas Cookie Social. For additional information, contact Sally Curren at dgft25@hotmail.com.



The **2023 Offering Envelopes** are available to be picked up on a table in the welcome center on or before **December 18**.



The **Woman’s Social & Support Group** will meet for lunch at The **Olive Garden** on **Friday, December 16th at 12:00 pm**. Please call Joyce Bowers at 717-767-8966 by December 14th if you plan to attend.

This year’s special **Christmas Offering** will be donated to the UCC Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and Emergency Fund which is used to provide assistance to clergy and lay employees who, after years of service to others, now find themselves facing unexpected needs.



Annual Reports for all organizations and committees of the church and Sunday School are due in the church office by **December 31, 2022**. If you are unable to meet this deadline due to financial reports, etc., please notify the church office.

The **2023 Team Lists** for greeters, ushers, nursery and offering duty will be available on Sunday, **December 18** before and after worship in the gallery. **Please contact the office if you have a change that needs to be made prior to December 18.** The lists will be emailed if you have an email address on file.



Attendance last week: 109

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com
717-764-3569

Pastor Melinda office hours:
Wednesdays 9AM-12PM & 5-8PM; Thursdays 5-8PM; Fridays 9AM-12PM

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

Website: www.shilohuccyorkpa.org

Facebook Page www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa 



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



Please contact the office if you're interested in **sponsoring bulletins.** The cost is \$20 and may be placed in your regular offering envelope. Please call the church office **2 weeks prior** your desired date to have your "Special" wording placed in the bulletin



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.