

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2251 Willow Road York, PA 17408

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

April 4, 2021

MEDITATION

"On the way to Easter expect death and resurrection. Meet and greet each one as a creation of God's love and open to joy!"

- Doris L. Judy

THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Broughton

GREETING

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CHAMBER CHOIR

"Come! Sing! Rejoice!" Shafferman

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Easter begins in despair.

All: Our life, our love, our hope is forever dead; crushed by a boulder, bottled up in a cave.

One: Who will roll away the stone?

All: Easter takes us by surprise, early in the morning. The obstacles we expect to face are removed. It is, at first, too good to be true.

One: Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Break forth into joy! Sing together! Alleluia!

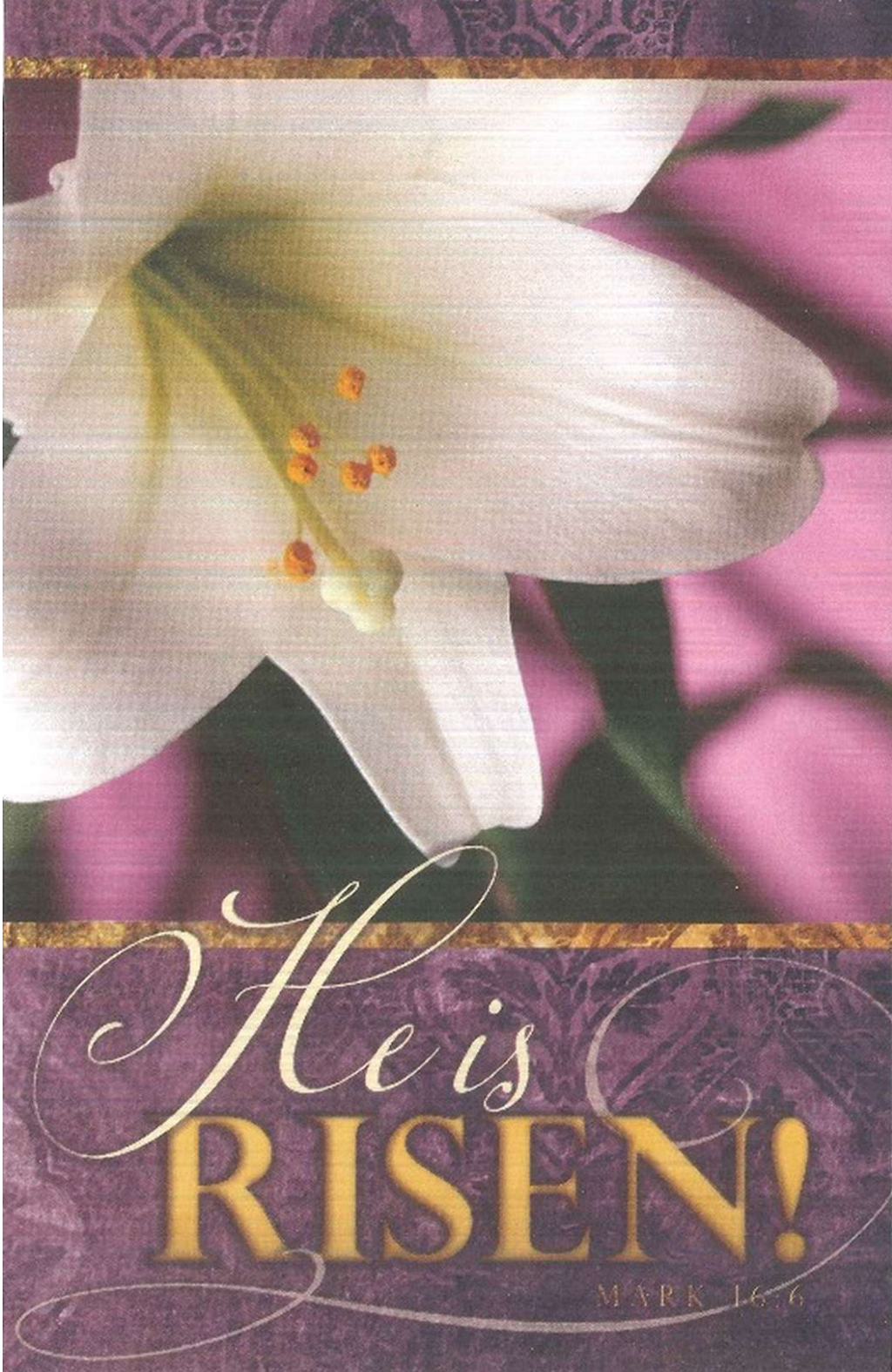
All: God rolls away the stone. God comforts those whose hearts are broken.

One: Now we know victory over death! Now we know joy over despair!

All: For God has raised Christ from the grave! The tomb is empty; death has been defeated for all the earth! Let us sing joyfully! Alleluia!

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Giver of new life, we come this morning with alleluias, banners, lilies, and songs. We come to worship in beauty and in truth, because we have faith that Jesus Christ is raised from the dead and because through Christ's Spirit, we have come to love one another. Accept our worship, gracious God. Be present with us, O Roller of Stones, as miracle, mystery, and tender hands of grace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.



Please do not sing the hymn, just follow along

HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (Vs. 1 and 4). No. 233

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Moral tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Third Lesson: Mark 16:1-8

SERMON "Rolling Stones"

CHAMBER CHOIR "Exalt the Lord". Wright

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

When you're not sure what to believe, when you cannot fully believe what you have seen, God appears. Let us reach out to our God. Let us open our hearts. Let us give our gifts.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "Doxology"

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

God of seekers and doubters. Bless these gifts so that the world may know that you are always appearing. Bless our hands so that your love might appear in the work we share. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(All are welcome to partake of communion.)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITHUCC Statement of Faith. #885

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.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, no matter what the young man dressed in a white robe might say, we are alarmed! We are alarmed that you would choose to appear to us. We can understand that you might appear to the disciples - those that went with Jesus to do good and heal the sick. It is hard for us to imagine that you truly show no partiality. Surely, there are more talented people, more prayerful people, more intelligent people, more faithful people than we are. But today, O God, we remember that you come to us all. You come to the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor, the proud and the humble. You appear. You come again to remind us what we have forgotten. Forgive us, O God, for our alarm. Forgive us, O God, for not believing. Appear to us now so that we might be resurrected with your love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God appeared long ago to the faithful. God appears now to doubters. God will appear to seekers. God appeared and is appearing because God so loves this world and God so loves you. **Amen.**

PASSING 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.

MEN'S CHORUS..... "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, and make the powerful care. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your good news in our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please do not sing the hymn, just follow along

HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" (Vs. 1 and 5).....No. 240

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Christ appears in full array, Alleluia!
Sing with joy this Paschal day, Alleluia!
Christ now from the dead is raised, Alleluia!
Holy Trinity be praised, Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

One: We have come from darkness and despair to hope and joy.

All: We have been transformed by new life.

One: Go forth to witness and to testify to the message of hope we have received this day. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia. Amen.

THE POSTLUDE

"Christ Arose".....Wilson

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Parke W. Bentzel by the family.
- **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS and BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of Marguerite Lochman's 95th birthday by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandson.
- **LITURGIST:** 9:00 a.m. Joyce Mummert
11:00 a.m. Linda Little

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, Vanessa Seifarth, Bev Kirk, Julene Bechtel, Jim Bentzel Sr. Phil Myers, Joanne Overmiller, 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 Harper Family, The Arnold Family, The Krout Family, The Harman Family, The Duttera Family, The Ellis Family, The Smith Family, The Steele Family, The Downs Family



Women's Fellowship The Women's Guild will meet **April 5 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. We will study Chapter 3: Pillar of the Community, Lot's Wife. Jessica Sechrist will be leading our study. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

Engaging Women will be meeting in the sanctuary on **Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m.** to hear Reen Bentzel's presentation entitled "Overcoming Powerless," regarding the traumatic incident that occurred at her school 20 years ago. There will also be a video entitled 'Forgiveness,' with a question and answer period following. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Please see Sally Curren for information.



The **Search committee** recently met to celebrate Pastor Melinda's first year at Shiloh UCC and although this year was anything but normal, it was still a year worth celebrating. Part of that celebration includes visioning for a brighter future, and that future starts TODAY!! We are establishing a **Visioning Team for Shiloh UCC** and our goal will be to Discover God's Vision for Shiloh UCC and we need your help. We would like to invite anyone who is interested in joining this team to contact Tim Bentzel or Pastor Melinda, or simply come to our first meeting which is scheduled for **Wednesday April 21, 2021 at 7pm in room 100.**



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 9:00 **Easter Service/Communion**
 11:00 **Easter Service/Communion**
 MON 1:00 Women's Guild (100)
 TUES 5:00 ELC Board (100)
 WED 9:30 Bible Study (100)
 5:30 TOPS (100)
 THURS 6:30 NA Group (100)
 SUN 9:15 Worship Service

Attendance last Sunday: 80

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer *(By Wendy Blight)*

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."
 (PSALM 118:24)

Dear Lord, I don't know who or what will cross my path today. But I do know that you are my Rock and my Fortress. You are my Shield and my Strong Tower. Help me to anchor myself to you today. Teach me how to stand strong in you and choose only your way today. Help me walk by your truth and not my feelings. Help me to embrace anything that comes my way as an opportunity to see you at work and as an opportunity to point others to you. Thank you that you love me and nothing can ever take that away from me! Even if I fail today and fall short, you whisper your unconditional love deep into my soul and remind me that your mercies are new every morning. Thank you for meeting with me today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayer *(By Rebecca Barlow Jordan)*

As I close my eyes tonight, I'm praying for my loved ones, for my friends, and those who need to know you, Lord. I'm praying that your love, like the billions of stars in the night sky outside, will touch them and help them see who you really are. I pray for our world and those in it. I pray for their needs as well as my own. Grant me a good night's sleep tonight, O God, so that I can awake refreshed and ready to begin another day loving you. Thank you again for blessings so undeserved and too numerous to count. I love being your child, and I long for the word "faithful" to describe my service to you, each day of every year. When I awake in the morning, may it be with a joyful smile, not a grumpy spirit. May your protection and your presence bathe this place with peace and safety against the enemy. Good night, Lord. In Jesus's name. Amen.



THE CHURCH STAFF

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

Pastor Melinda office hours: Wed. and Thurs. 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

Church Website www.shilohuccyorkpa.org
Facebook Page www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa