



*Let the little children  
come to me,*

*and do not hinder them,  
for the kingdom of heaven  
belongs to such as these.*

Matthew 19:14 (NIV)

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
ELC SUNDAY  
APRIL 23, 2023  
10:00AM

**MEDITATION**

*“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.”*

C.S. LEWIS

**PRELUDE      DUET BY DANI BENTZEL & SANDY BAMBERGER**

*“I Exult Thee & Shine, Jesus, Shine”*

Innes

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 116)**

One: Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

**All: Our fears and our prejudices blind us.**

One: Open your eyes today to see the goodness of the Lord.

**All: Open our hearts, gracious God, to receive your blessings.**

One: Hallelujah!

**All: Let us praise God! Hallelujah!**

**OPENING PRAYER**

One: Let us pray!

**All: Almighty God, you have so much to show us and to tell us—  
things that no human eyes have seen,**

**things that no human ears have heard,**

**things that you have prepared for those who love you.**

**Loving God, your promises are like shelter in a storm—  
to us and to our children,**

**to all those far and near,**

**to everyone who hears your call.**

**Now, we wait as empty vessels,**

**ready to be filled to overflowing with your living water,**

**as you reveal your love for us through Jesus Christ,**

**in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: We’re afraid to take a truthful look at ourselves,  
yet you see us as we really are.

**All: Open our eyes, Lord.**

One: Even when we won’t listen to you,  
you hear us when we call your name.

**All: Open our ears, Lord.**

One: We keep the light of your word hidden to ourselves,  
though you gave it to share with the world.

**All: Open our mouths, Lord.**

One: May we know and serve the One who calls us to see, hear, and speak.

**All: Open our hearts, Lord. Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: Even though you have not seen Jesus, you have assurance of his  
presence and his love with you. The promises of God are always true. God  
is with us, in the resurrection of Jesus, in our journeys, and in our lives.  
You are forgiven and loved.

**All: Praise be to God. Amen.**

**EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** *(Please wave to one another)*

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One: May the peace of Christ fill you this day.

**All: Christ is the source of our joy and gladness.**

One: Please share a joyful sign of Christ’s peace with those near you.  
The peace of God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**MUSIC PROGRAM**

*Early Learning Center Students*

*“My God is So Big”*

*“Jesus Loves Me”*

*“God is So Good”*

*“This Little Light of Mine”*

**WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY**

First Reading: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

**HANDBELL CHOIR**     *“I Stand Amazed In the Presence”*     Arr. Childers

Third Reading: Luke 24:13-35

**SERMON**     *“Recognizing Jesus”*

\*HYMN     *“Open Our Eyes”*     Insert

**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 first words of the Bible are about God’s generosity. God gave us the  
gifts of a beautiful creation, our home, the green earth and the animals that  
live here with us. On this spring morning, we come together to thank God  
and to offer our gifts so that the ministry of this church will continue to  
grow and be a blessing to the world. Let us gather our gifts together and  
offer them to God in gratitude and praise!

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE     *“Doxology”*     #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 (Copyright © 2023 David S. Bell. Reprinted with permission from [www.DavidSBell.org](http://www.DavidSBell.org).)

One: Let us pray!

**All: God of Truth and Light, we offer you these gifts with humble hearts. We yearn to share your unmistakable presence with all people. While we often find temporary security in our possessions, remind us that true security comes from our relationship with you through your son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen and entrust us to be your faithful disciples. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

Insert

#### BENEDICTION

One: May God the Father prepare your journey,  
Jesus the Son guide your footsteps,  
The Holy Spirit strengthen your body,  
The Three in One watch over you and bless you  
on every road that you may follow.

**All: We go with God’s blessing. Amen.**

#### POSTLUDE

*“Alleluia! Song of Gladness”*

Powell

#### 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 Betty and Bill Harper by their family.
- **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in celebration of my husband Milton’s 84th birthday with love, Beverly Hoak.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry Jacoby by his wife Sara, daughters Vicki & Patti and their families.

*Those we love don’t go away,  
They walk beside us every day...  
unseen, unheard,  
but always near;  
still loved, still missed and very dear.*

➤ **LITURGIST:** Allison Hartnett

➤ **USHERS:** Carolyn Poff & Jim & Reen Bentzel

➤ **GREETERS:** Joyce Mummert, Pat & Nelson Roth, Shirley Lohmann

➤ **NURSERY DUTY:** Jessie Sechriest, Sallie Hagerman & Jeanie Bentzel

➤ **MUSIC:** Dani Bentzel, ELC Students, Handbell Choir, Sandy Bamberger

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS FOR PROVIDING THE WORSHIP MUSIC THIS SUNDAY!**

#### PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

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

Dear God, this morning as I contemplate a new day, I ask you to help me. I want to be aware of your Spirit—leading me in the decisions I take, the conversations I have, and the work I do. I want to be more like you, Jesus, as I relate to the people I meet today—friends or strangers. Jesus, you were always about your Father’s business. I thank you that He is now my Father, too, because of what you did on this earth. Although I am weak, I know that by the power of Your Spirit, I can be strong in the work I do, the decisions I make, and the words I speak. Thank you for your promise to be with me always, and for being the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

**Evening Prayer** (*Author Unknown*)

*Prayer Before Sleep:*

Dear God, as I lay me down to sleep, relax the tension of my body; calm the restlessness of my mind; still the thoughts which worry and perplex me. Help me to rest myself and all my problems in your strong and loving arms. Let your Spirit speak to my mind and heart while I am asleep, so that, when I wake up in the morning, I may find that I have received in the night-time, light for my way; strength for my tasks; peace for my worries; forgiveness for my sins. Grant me sleep tonight, and tomorrow power to live. 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, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Jay Mummert, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Donna Robertson, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

**THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES**

The Kinsley Family, The Garber Family, The Berkheimer/Bechtel Family, The Reiber/Youkers Family, The Lochman/Schwartz Family, The Besecker Family

*“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	10:00	<b>Worship/ELC Sunday</b>
MON	6:30	Church Chums (202)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	8:00	Men’s Chorus
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (100)
	7:00	Visioning meeting (202)
THUR	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Choirs
SUN	8:30 & 11	<b>Worship</b>

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 95**



The special **Mother's Day offering** envelope will go to the **Lehman Center of York** this year. The Lehman Center offers emergency respite care for children newborn through six years of age in a 24-hour crisis nursery, art and child-centered therapy, family advocate services, and parent support groups.

The **Women’s Guild** will be meeting **Monday, May 1, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our new study book Encouraging One Another. Chapter Three: Encourage My Faith! Norene Edgar will be leading this chapter. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*



The Women’s Guild will be collecting items for **Wellspan Mother/Child Clinic in April and May**. **Especially needed** are newborn diapers, unscented wipes, and plastic baby bottles. Other items needed are formula (powder), baby clothes (newborn to 3 months), and blankets (fleece or lighter ones for summer). All items should be new except clothes and blankets. Place them in tubs marked **Women’s Guild**. Items will be displayed on **Mother's Day, May 14**.

**THE CHURCH STAFF**

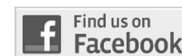
Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.  
 pastormelinda@shilohucc.com  
 717-764-3569

**Pastor Melinda office hours:** **Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 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 Assistant Maira Rivera  
 office@shilohucc.com

Website: **www.shilohuccyorkpa.org**

Facebook Page **www.shilohuccyorkpa**



The church is collecting donations for the **ELC's Scholarship Fund**. That benefits students and families that may be having a hardship to pay for tuition. This scholarship ensures their students can continue to attend the preschool without having to worry about how they will make their next payment. If you are interested in donating, please use the **Love Offering envelopes found in your pews**. We will be collecting donations **through the end of April**.



On **Saturday June 3**, Shiloh UCC will be hosting a **community yard sale** from **8am-2pm**. This event is rain or shine, so feel free to bring a tarp. The cost is \$10 per space and \$5 per table (while supplies last). Registration forms can be found in the gallery. For additional information, contact Patti Goodyear at [pagoodyear213@gmail.com](mailto:pagoodyear213@gmail.com).

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.



**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.

