



*That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection,  
and the fellowship of his sufferings. PHILIPPIANS 3:10*

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

*SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT*

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

8:30AM AND 11:00AM

**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*

**PRELUDE**

*"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"*

Sewell

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Mark 8)*

*(Please Stand if you are able)*

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!**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

**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 Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

#90

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

**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. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Discipleship is never easy; but you can be assured that you will not be alone on this journey. Place your trust in Jesus Christ, for it is in his holy name that we are forgiven. **Amen.**

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

Let us greet each other in Christian Friendship.  
The peace of God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**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                                      *"El Shaddai"*                                      Insert

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

CHANCEL CHOIR                      *"God Will Make a Way"*                      Arr. Hayes

Third Reading: Mark 8:31-38

SERMON                                      *"Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus!"*

\*HYMN                                      *"Take Up Your Cross"*                                      #204

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. As we collect this morning's offering, let us share generously our talents, time and money, that others may also be touched by God's amazing abundance.

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE                                      *"A Lenten Doxology"*

**Praise God throughout these forty days.  
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.  
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in  
Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Let us pray!  
**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. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN                                      *"Lift High the Cross"*                                      #198

## BENEDICTION

The step of discipleship requires commitment and faith. Go now in peace, bringing the Good News of Jesus' love to all people! **Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

*"I Saw The Cross of Jesus"*

Broughton

**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

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Marvel Burg, Helen Byers, Gerry Funkhouser, Joe Jordan, Bev Kirk, Tom Klunk, Donna Krone, Elaine Krout, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Donna Robertson, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Rick & Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Romaine Walton, Elva Winter

## THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Bechtel Family; The Geesey Family; The Shaffer Family, The LaMontagne/Boros Family, The Spahr Family

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in Honor of our family's February birthdays by the Reisinger family.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of Sara Jacoby's 85th birthday today by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert
- **LITURGISTS: 8:30AM:** Pat Roth **11:00AM:** Linda Little
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM** David & Melinda Kreiser **11:00AM:** Shirley Lohmann & Joyce Mummert
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM** Jim & Reen Bentzel **11:00AM** Jessie Sechriest
- **MUSIC:** Chancel Choir, Sandy Bamberger

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



Pastor Melinda is leading a **Lenten Study**. The study will start at **7:00PM in room 202** and will continue on Wednesday's **through March 27<sup>th</sup>**. The title of the study is *Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross*. "In the Seven Words Video Bible study, Susan Robb examines the last words that Christ said on the cross. In this six-session study, you will examine Jesus' final words, full of life and hope for the Lent season." There is a sign-up sheet in the gallery. Everyone is welcome to join!



There is an envelope marked **LENTEN OFFERING** in your box of envelopes. The money collected from that envelope will be going to **The Shiloh Fire Company**.

Also, during our Lenten season, the Sunday School Board has voted to support the **Heifer Project International** for our Lenten Project. These contributions will be collected the first **Sunday in Lent, February 18 through Easter Sunday, March 31** and should be placed in your regular envelopes and mark Heifer on the "other" line. All Sunday School and Church Members are invited to support both of these missions.

This year's **special Easter offering** collected will go to **New Life for Girls**. Help support this organization in their work to turn the lives around for the many girls they serve.



It's that time of year to warm up with a nice cup of **coffee** from **Costa Rica**! A new shipment has come in and it includes decaffeinated coffee as well as whole coffee beans for a fresh grind! Please contact Linda Little if interested at 717-309-4523

The **Women's Guild** will be meeting **March 4, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our study book **Encouraging One Another. Chapter Eleven: Encouraging Epistles**. Carolyn Poff will be leading this chapter. Special offering this month is for New Life for Girls and Cash Rally. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*



**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.

*"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	<b>Worship/Second Sunday in Lent</b>
	9:45	Sunday School (100) & Wired Word (202)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Visioning (202)
	8:00	Men's Chorus
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (117)
	7:00	Lenten Study (202)
THUR	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Choirs
SUN	8:30 & 11	<b>Worship/Third Sunday in Lent</b>



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

**Attendance last week: 96**

**THE CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D pastormelinda@shilohucc.com 717-764-3609
<b>Pastor Melinda office hours:</b>	<b>Wednesdays 9AM-12PM &amp; 5-8PM Thursdays &amp; Fridays 9AM-12PM</b>
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 717-764-3569
Website:	<b>www.shilohuccyorkpa.org</b>

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa](http://www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa)



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** is **MARCH 10**. This year's theme for OGHS is *"Sharing the Light"*. 'This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine...let it shine...let it shine.'" If Jesus

had a playlist of music, surely this familiar hymn would be among the top 5. Jesus teaches that faith calls for action. Sharing our light, as the diverse and colorful expression of God's love here on earth, leads to making blankets, staffing food pantries, cooking meals and building houses and schools. Your generosity makes all the difference. **Offering envelopes may be found in the Welcome Center.** "You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world." *Matthew 5:14-15*. Thank you for your support of this offering.



Mark your calendar for the next Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on **Tuesday, March 12, at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant**. Contact Brad Jacobs at [bcj402@verizon.net](mailto:bcj402@verizon.net) or 717-764-2773 for additional information.

The Women's Social and Support Group will meet for breakfast at **Central Family Restaurant on Friday, March 15 at 9:00am**. Please contact Linda Little at 717-309-4523 by **March 11** if you plan to attend.



Easter is rapidly approaching! The sale of **tulips and lilies** is part of the preparations. The cost for each pot of flowers is **\$7.00**. Envelopes for ordering will be available in the Gallery and the Narthex. Checks should be made payable to Shiloh United Church of Christ. **Orders will be accepted beginning Sunday, February 25 through Sunday, March 17**. Plants may be claimed on Easter Sunday. Thank you for helping to make the church a lovely place to worship.

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.

