



WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
FEBRUARY 26, 2023  
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

**MEDITATION**

*"Over the years, I have come to realize that the greatest trap in our life is not success, popularity, or power, but self-rejection. When we have come to believe in the voices that call us worthless and unlovable, then success, popularity, and power are easily perceived as attractive solutions. Self-rejection is the greatest enemy of the spiritual life because it contradicts the sacred voice that calls us the 'Beloved.' Being the Beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence."*

~ Henri J.M. Nouwen, 20th century

PRELUDE "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" Livingston

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Temptation surrounds us at every turn, inviting us to take just a little more:

**All: More food, more money, more power, more life!**

One: We are tempted by television, by media, from friends, in our own souls:

**All: More suffering, more hunger, more need, more fear, more anger.**

One: So we gather today in worship to hear the consequences of "more":

**All: And to celebrate that we do not need "more" when we have everything in Christ.**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**God, you are our hiding place and our refuge in the time of distress. We turn to you now, seeking comfort from the wounds of the world and power to face all our afflictions. Be present in our struggle, and help us to rest in your eternal promises, that we might be fed courage and wisdom through your sacred word. In your son, Jesus Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** "Forty Days and Forty Nights" #205

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 32)

We keep silent before you, Lord— we are afraid to confront our transgressions; we are terrified to face the reality of our sin; we feel as if the weight of the world were upon our shoulders; we no longer recognize ourselves or what we have become as we keep our failings and fears inside. Help us admit our sins and accept our imperfections. Why is that simple act so difficult for us? Why do we hesitate, knowing that you stand ready to wash away our guilt? You are the sanctuary where distress cannot reach us. In your steadfast love, forgive us. In your healing caress, cleanse us. In your Holy Spirit, restore us. In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Psalm 32)

One: When distress and anxiety surround us like an angry flood,  
All: our pleas are heard.

One: The Lord hears the prayers of a faithful heart.  
All: God has become our hiding place, our refuge from trouble.

One: No harm can touch us here.  
All: The Lord wraps us in the arms of salvation. Shouts of deliverance enfold us. Amen.

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

Abundant grace is God’s gift to us. Out of all proportion to our wrongdoing, we receive grace and forgiveness from God’s amazing love, revealed to us in Christ Jesus. Share this love, so freely given to us, with 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 “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” See Page 6 & 7

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Second Reading: Psalm 32

CHANCEL CHOIR “Walk By Faith” Williams & Raney

Third Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

“A Time for Learning”

\*HYMN “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” #403

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

In Christ, we see humanity’s strength and God’s glory made manifest – the harmony of creation restored. We offer these gifts and tithes as we seek to restore balance and beauty to a world gone haywire with temptation and deceit.

\*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

Faithful God, let these gifts be like food and drink in the wilderness for those who have suffered and longed for your presence. May these offerings strengthen those who are resisting temptation and lead us to attend to all who need your healing touch. This we pray in the name of Jesus, our example and savior. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN “Blessed Assurance” #473

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

One: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.  
All: Amen.

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

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in honor of our family’s February birthdays by the Reisinger family.
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Reen Bentzel, **11:00AM:** Linda Little
- **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Tim & Katie Bentzel, **11:00AM:** Volunteer
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Ken & Patti Goodyear, **11:00AM:** Shirley Lohmann & Joyce Mummert
- **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Carol Burns, **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 THIS SUNDAY!**

**PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:****Morning Prayer (by Traci Miles)**

Dear Lord, help me remember what a difference it makes when I make time with You a priority in my morning. Awaken me in body and spirit each day with a desire to meet with You and to hear You speak words of affirmation, assurance and wisdom in my heart as I prepare to go into my day. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Evening Prayer (by Rebecca Barlow Jordan)**

Oh Lord, sometimes my insides feel like a battle zone, where missiles are falling too close to home. Other times I’m caught in an endless storm, with thoughts flying out of control. Confusion reigns, and defeat creeps in to steal my joy. I need your peace—the deep-down-in-your-heart kind that stays with me day and night and speaks confidently into the wind. Calm my anxious spirit, Lord; all the attacking “if-onlys” and “what-ifs” fill me with needless worry. I know that trust is a big part of experiencing peace and that fear has no place in my life. Most of the things I worry about or dread don’t even happen. So I’m declaring my trust in you. I’m releasing the reins of my life again and asking you to take control. I may need to pray this same prayer daily, but I’m tired of the frenzy of life that leaves my schedule and my thoughts without any margin. I need more of you, Lord, and less of me. 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, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

**THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES**

Waldron/Myers Family, The Repman Family, The O'Donnell Family, The Roe Family, The Reiber Family, The Kinsley Family, The Garber Family



Beginning **February 26, 2023**, the first Sunday in Lent, the Sunday School will begin collecting money for **Heifer International for our Lenten Project**. Concurrently, the special Lenten offering will also go towards Heifer International. Both collections will continue thru **Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**. Your support to this great cause is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Beginning **March 1<sup>st</sup>** the **Lenten Soup and Study** group starts! The Advent Study will continue during Lent, on Wednesday evenings. (Handel's Messiah). **A Light soup and bread supper will be served at 6:30PM, followed by the Lenten Study at 7:00PM.** You can attend both the "soup" and "study" part, or you can just come for the "study" part. There will be sign-up sheets in the gallery. Everyone is welcome to join (even if you did NOT attend the Advent studies.) We would love to have you!



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, March 5 through Sunday, March 27**. Plants may be claimed on Easter Sunday. Thank you for helping to make the church a lovely place to worship.

This year's **special Easter offering** collected will go to the **Bell Family Shelter**.





The Women's Guild will be meeting **Monday, March 6, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our new study book **Encouraging One Another**. Chapter One: God Encourages Me! Carolyn Poff will be leading this chapter. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

We have invited the **York County Jr. Honor's Choir** to present a concert on **March 12 at 3pm in Shiloh's UCC sanctuary**. This choir has youth singers from several school districts in York County. Please mark your calendar to save the date for this beautiful concert. Refreshments will be provided after the concert in the Gallery as well as a freewill offering to fund the Honor's Choir music program.



Mark your calendar for the next Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on **Tuesday, March 14, at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant** located at **3720 Carlisle Rd, Dover, PA**. Contact Brad Jacobs at 717-764-2773 or bcj402@verizon.net for additional information.



The Women's Social and Support Group will meet for breakfast at **Shiloh Family Restaurant March 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am**. Please contact Pat Myers at 717-487-4642 by March 13 if you plan to attend.



**DATE CHANGE!** Daffodil Day has been moved to **Sunday, March 19**. The plants and bunches can be picked up on that date. Sorry if the change has caused any inconvenience. Your support for this project is very much appreciated! Thank you!



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING is MARCH 19.**

This year's theme for OGHS is **"It's Time to Share"**. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster or crisis around the world. The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. It's time to share. **Offering envelopes may be found in the Welcome Center.** Thank you for your support of this offering.



Shiloh UCC's Outreach Committee is holding a blood drive on **Thursday, March 23 from 1pm-6pm**. The Central Pennsylvania Blood Mobile will be in our parking lot to obtain the blood donations. The church will be open during the donation hours. We have not held a blood drive since before COVID, so please consider donating.

In case of inclement weather for church and Sunday school, please check our **website, Facebook page, or your email for closings or delays**. We will also submit the information to **Fox 43 News and WGAL News 8**. If services are held, please use your best judgement as to whether you are able to attend.



**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.



*“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>First Sunday in Lent</b>     |
|      | 9:45      | Sunday School                   |
|      | 9:45      | Wired Word (202)                |
| TUES | 6:30      | Cub Scouts (100)                |
|      | 6:30      | Church & Ministry (Parlor)      |
|      | 7:00      | Visioning (202)                 |
|      | 8:00      | Men’s Rehearsals                |
| WED  | 9:30      | Bible Study (202)               |
|      | 5:00      | TOPS (100)                      |
|      | 6:30      | Lenten Study (202)              |
| THUR | 6:30      | NA Group (100)                  |
|      | 6:30      | Choirs                          |
| SUN  | 8:30 & 11 | Second Sunday in Lent/Communion |

**Attendance last week: 92**

### THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D  
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com  
717-764-3609

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 5-8PM  
Thursdays 5-8PM  
Fridays 9AM-2PM**

Director of Music Stephanie Limbert  
Organis 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: [www.shilohuccyorkpa.org](http://www.shilohuccyorkpa.org)

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

