

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE

JANURAY 2, 2022  
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

*O star of wonder,  
star of night...*

*Guide us to thy  
perfect light.*



*Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?  
We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.*

MATTHEW 2:2 (NIV)

**MEDITATION**

*“At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”*

– Albert Schweitzer

**THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

8:30AM.....“How Brightly Shines The Morning Star” ..... Nicolai

11:00AM.....“Were You There on That Christmas Night?”..... Larson

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Arise! Shine! Your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

**Women:** *We have seen the star in the east, and we are following.*

*Men: We have remembered God’s wonder and promise, and we are worshipping.*

**All:** **We have come not to get presents, but to give them!**

One: Lift up your eyes and look around; God’s people now gather together to open our hearts and sing out our praise.

**All:** **The mystery of God’s wonder and grace is here: Come, let us adore! Let us worship Christ!**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God of wonder and mystery, today we remember how you surprise us in every age. Into the gloom of fear and want, you bring light; into emptiness, you bring abundance; into the cold, you bring warmth. Into the hardness of the world, you bring the greatest power we have known, in the seemingly powerless form of an infant. Enter now, Holy One, among us and within us, and move us to joyful adoration of your mystery and wonder. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN** .....“As with Gladness Those of Old” ..... # 159

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**\*HYMN** .....“Save the Little Baby” ..... #147

**WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY**

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

**SERMON** *“Following the Star”*

\***HYMN** ..... *“Many Are The Lightbeams”* ..... #163

**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**

From the prophet Isaiah, the wealth of the nations; from Paul the Apostle, the joyous news of mysterious grace; from the sages from the East, an homage of rich treasure: one after another, we hear grateful praise for the God who makes a home with humanity. We respond, as well: bringing our own treasure; singing our own joy; offering our own wonder. Let us give, richly and boldly. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

\***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *“Epiphany Doxology” (Tune: Cranham)*

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise one, I would bring my heart.  
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart. Amen.**

\***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God of every good gift, here we present our offerings. There is money here, fulfilling our pledges to support the ministries we do in your name. There are gifts that we give in response to your Spirit, which we remember in joyful song and holy story, in prayer and silence. And there are other gifts, not physically on this table but held in the altar of our hearts. God, we offer them all to you. We ask your blessing on all that we give, so that your loving care reaches into us and out to all the world, ever more deeply and gracefully. We ask it in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

*(All are welcome to partake of communion)*

\***COMMUNION HYMN**. . . . . *“We are People on a Journey”*. . . . . #340

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**. . . . . #886

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.  
You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
Good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.  
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; You overcome death  
You are our God. We worship You. Amen.**

**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.

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

One: God is present to us, but we don’t always feel it. God is good to us, but we can’t always accept it. Fact is, there are things within and around us that attempt to step between us and our relationship to God’s goodness. There are things that we think, things that we do, that act to separate us from God. The church calls that “sin.”

**All: God of all mercy, I confess that sin grips me and I cannot break free. The sin is in my mind, on my lips, in my acts done or even ignored and stands between me and you. My entire heart is not always yours. My love of neighbor falls short. In the name of Jesus, have mercy on me. Grant me your renewing forgiveness. Lead me on your paths of righteousness, and I shall delight in you, and I shall follow you, giving glory to your holy name. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

One: The God who gives, gives all. The God who loves, loves all. The God who forgives, forgives all. Through Christ, our sins, everyone one of them: the sins of commission, the sins of omission, the sins we confessed with contrition – all are forgiven.

**All: By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia!**

**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.**

**\*HYMN.** . . . . . *“Let There Be Peace on Earth”*. . . . . #14 Special Hymnal

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

*The communion stewards will serve you the bread and juice. To demonstrate our unity in Christ, we will take the elements together. Please wait until everyone has been served.*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN.** . . . . . *“We Three Kings of Orient Are”*. . . . . #13 Special Hymnal

**BENEDICTION**

One: Go forth in the light of God’s star. Go forth committed to a journey of faith and courage. Go forth to give the precious gift of your life to Christ.  
**All: We will go forth and let the star guide us. We will share with others the journey of life. We will praise God, for the gift beyond measure – Jesus Christ! Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

**8:30AM.** . . . . . *“March of The Kings”*. . . . . Thygerson  
**11:00AM.** . . . . . *“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”*. . . . . Arr. Courtney

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

➤ **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented in honor of all our members here at Shiloh UCC and in loving memory of those who have gone before us by Debbie and Bob Myers.

➤ **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Jeanie Bentzel, **11:00AM:** Joyce Mummert

➤ **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Volunteer **11:00AM:** Volunteer

➤ **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Bryan & Laura Metzger, **11:00AM:** Dick & Helen Hodgson

➤ **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Karen Bupp & Carol Burns, **11:00AM** Volunteer

➤ **MUSIC: 8:30AM:** Sandy Bamberger, **11:00AM:** Donna Seifarth


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



Looking for a way to share your talents?? We are in need of a coordinator for Coffee Connections. The weekly Coffee Connection list is posted for persons to volunteer to make the snacks & coffee. The coordinator checks the kitchen to see ensure we have coffee, sugar, stirrers etc. for the volunteers to use each week. Please let Sallie Hagerman or the office know if you would like to be the coordinator.

The **Women’s Guild** will be meeting **January 3** at 1:00 pm in room 202. The program will be from our study book **Bad Girls of the Bible, Chapter Ten: I Beg Your Pardon –The Sinful Woman: Bad for a Season, but Not Forever.** Zoe Bordes will be leading this chapter. **We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.**



 **Engaging Women will be meeting on Tuesday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** They will continue with the book called “The Power of a Woman’s Words,” by Sharon Jaynes.

**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.

## PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

### Morning Prayer ( by Nylse Esahc)

As a child of yours, Lord, I know that I am your masterpiece though I feel so far from it. Help me to remember my worth in you when I'm faced with challenging situations. When I feel depressed, help me to remember that I'm fearfully and wonderfully made in your image – a replica of you and that you loved me so much you thought that I was worth dying for. I don't know too many people that would die for me, but you did, and I'm eternally grateful and humbled. I submit all to you today. Amen.

### Evening Prayer (by Rachel Wojo)

Dear Father, I can't sleep. I'm tossing and turning. Again. I'm so thankful You never grow weary and You never sleep. I'm thankful that You are here with me right now, Even when my mind won't stop churning And my head won't stop spinning. Even when I know that worrying gets me nowhere And my heart needs to rely on You. I need You — the Good Shepherd — Because counting sheep just doesn't work. Would you comfort my heart as only You can? Will you rescue me from my own spiral of thoughts? For I know that when I rest in You, peace like a river overflows my soul and I can praise You in advance for sweet rest. Amen.

## PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Oscar Bupp, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Mary Rodgers, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Elva Winter, Sue Trimble, Beverly Hoak.

## THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Jordan Family

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

From the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak, Shiloh UCC has relied on Community Transmission rates (i.e. low, moderate, substantial, high) to guide our recommended precautionary measures. Our benchmark for social distancing and masking requirements go into effect when transmission rates in York County reach substantial (50-100 cases/100,000 and percentage of positive cases >5%). As of December 29, the Community Transmission rate for York County is HIGH (1062/100,000 and positivity rate is 21.63.%). **Everyone in York, Pennsylvania should wear a mask in public, indoor settings.**

*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>Epiphany/Communion</b>
	9:45	Sunday School
MON	6:30	Church Chums (202)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Worship & Music (202)
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:30	TOPS (100)
	7:00	Consistory Retreat (100)
THUR	10:30	Shiloh Home Ec (202)
	5:00	ELC Board (202)
	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30-7:30	Choirs
SUN	8:30 & 11	Worship/Installation of Consistory



**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 62 (8:30: 41, 11:00: 21)**

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 136 (3:00: 48, 7:00: 88)**

## THE CHURCH STAFF

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

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Please call for an appointment**  
**Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 5-8PM**  
**Thursdays 9:00-11:30AM & 6-8:30PM**  
**Fridays 9AM-2PM**

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](http://www.shilohuccyorkpa.org)

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

