

**Welcome to this time of worship and
New Member Reception at
Shiloh United Church of Christ
2251 Willow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17408
717-764-3569**

JULY 23, 2023



**Welcome
Our *New*
Members**

Our Mission Statement

“Shiloh United Church of Christ is called to show Christ’s love for all through witness, word, and worship.”

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS and LARGE PRINT BULLETINS
are available in the Narthex.**

MEDITATION

“Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into the places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish. Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Compassion requires us to be weak with the weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless. Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human.”

~ Henri Nouwen

8:30 & 11:00 PRELUDE

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Wagner

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Psalm 103:14; Dan. 7)*

(Please stand as you are able!)

One: Great is the Lord!

All: Our God is exalted among the nations.

One: Mighty is the Lord!

**All: Our God is King of heaven and earth,
the Ancient of Days, who sits on an everlasting throne.**

One: To God alone belongs dominion and glory!

**All: We, who are gathered from all peoples, nations and languages,
remember the works of God and praise his name.**

One: We are but dust.

**All: We are but dust, but in kindness, our God shares his glory with us,
lifts us up, and invites us to dwell with him in his kingdom.**

Let us sing to God in joy and wonder!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

All: God of power and wonder, we are awe-struck by the glory of your presence. We rejoice at what we can see and marvel at what we cannot see. In love, you redeem it all, and invite us to share its fullness! You dazzle us with your brightness and overshadow us as with a great cloud. Loving, protecting, challenging, nurturing, you affirm your image in us and transform us in love. May we love and serve you in all that we are and do. Glory be to you! In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

All: God of miracles, you meet us in the ordinary, as well as the extraordinary moments of life.

Yet we admit that too often our eyes are blind to your presence, too often our ears are deaf to your call.

When you reach out to us:

**through the cries of the hungry and homeless,
through the beauty of the world you have made,
through the embrace of friends,
too often we forsake you.**

Forgive us, we pray, and set us free with your love that we may be free to love and serve you.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE *(Inspired by Psalm 51:9-12)*

One: The Lord has hidden his face from our sin. He has blotted out all of our iniquity. In Christ and his cross, he has created within us a clean heart and renewed a right spirit within us. So that, we are not cast away from his presence. We are endowed with his Holy Spirit, restored to the joy of God’s salvation and given a willing spirit to do all that he asks and desires of us. For in Christ Jesus, the perfect suffered for the imperfect, the sinless became sin for the sinner; we are forgiven and freed to live in a right relationship with God. Brothers and Sisters, you are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

EXCHANGING 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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

(All children of God who desire to come forward for the Children’s Sermon are welcome. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to accompany their young child during the message.)

Lonny Sr. & Mary Neiman

INVITATION

One: We invite to come forward those who wish to affirm their baptism by uniting with us in this household of faith.

One: Friends in Christ, we are all received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. These people have found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ. Through prayer and study they have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. They are here for service to Jesus Christ, using the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

OPENING SENTENCES

One: You are no longer a stranger and sojourner, but you are equally a citizen with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus along being the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy Temple in Christ. In him you also are built into that structure to be a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

One: Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do.

One: Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Candidates: I do.

One: Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Candidates: I do.

One: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ’s disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

One: Do you promise, according to the grace given you to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ’s presence and furthering Christ’s mission in all the world?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God. Do you believe in God?

All: **I believe in God.**

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ.**

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: **I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

ADDRESS

Pastor: By your baptism you were made one with us in the body of Christ, the church. Today we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We give thanks for every community of faith that has been your spiritual home, and we celebrate you here at Shiloh UCC.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of Shiloh UCC as it serves this community and the world?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

PRAYER

One: O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered here at Shiloh UCC, and rejoice that you have increased our community of faith. Together may we live in the Spirit, build one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*WELCOME AND RECEPTION *(All who are able please stand)*

One: Let us, the members of Shiloh UCC, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

Congregation: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Shiloh UCC, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Romans 8:26-39

Second Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

8:30 & 11:00AM SPECIAL MUSIC BY STEPHANIE LIMBERT & SANDY BAMBERGER

"The Heart of Worship"

Redman

Third Reading: Daniel Chapters 7-8

SERMON

"Visions"

*HYMN

"Dream God's Dream"

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

Every time we give our offerings, as we do this morning, we experience transformation. God takes what we offer, and turns our gifts inside out to show what's possible in a simple act of generosity. Now let us be generous with our time, talents, and treasures; so that God may transform them into an ocean of blessings to those who are struggling!

*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 *(St. Martins Presbyterian Church, Christchurch)*

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION

One: May Christ walk beside you to comfort you.
May Christ walk above you to watch over you.
May Christ walk behind you to keep you safe.
May Christ walk before you to show you the way.

All: Amen.

8:30 & 11:00AM POSTLUDE

“God We Praise You”

Livingston

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 Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Bentzel by the Reisinger family.
➤ THE BULLETINS are dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of Fred O. Wolfe by Reen and Jim Bentzel.
➤ VIDEO TEAM: Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Reen Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert.
➤ LITURGIST: 8:30AM: Brian Curren, 11:00AM: John Reiber
➤ GREETERS: 8:30AM: Jeff & Cheryl Hershey 11:00AM: Richard & Helen Hodgson
➤ NURSERY 8:30AM: Carol Burns 11:00AM Jessie Sechriest
➤ MUSIC: Sandy Bamberger & Stephanie Limbert

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (David Mathis)

Gracious God, thank you for your abundant, abounding grace. Thank you that we don't have to earn a drop of the mighty river of grace that flows freely for us today. Thank you for the unexpected, unmerited favor you shower on my life. Help me put myself in the path of your love and grace today. Help me not neglect the disciplines I need to meet with you regularly and to drink from the water of life. Thank you for your rich love. Amen.



Evening Prayer (Unknown)

Almighty God, radiant with light, cast your goodness to shine upon me. Most wonderful Lord, creator of all things, hold your truth to shield me. Majestic King who reigns over all, slay with great love all the shadows around me. Prince of Peace, glorious and true, lift your arms of strength to cover me. All this night through. Amen.

“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

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, and Activity. Includes entries for SUN (8:30 & 11:00, 9:45, 6:00), MON (6:00), TUES (6:00), WED (6:00), THUR (6:30), and SUN (10:30).



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

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 121

THE CHURCH STAFF

Table listing church staff members and their roles: Pastor (Rev. Melinda LaMontagne), Director of Music (Stephanie Limbert), Organist (Sandra Bamberger), etc.

Website: www.shilohuccyorkpa.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa



PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

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, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Lochman/Schwartz Family, The Bechtel Family, The Craft Family, The Baboian Family, The Brenneman/Hershey Family



The **LOVE** offering for the month of **July** will be used to purchase **some new toys for our nursery**. Envelopes can be found in the pews.

The Women's Guild will be meeting August 7, at 1:00 pm in room 202. The program will be from our new study book Encouraging One Another. Chapter Five: It's a Gift! Shirley Lohmann will be leading this chapter. Special offering for New Life for Girls and Cash Rally. We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.



July 30th is Heritage Sunday for the local Lutheran and UCC churches. Worship service begins at 10:30am followed by a picnic.

The location is at Salem UCC, 2705 W. Canal Rd. in Dover. Shiloh

UCC is responsible for bringing the ice, drinks and a side dish. The drinks and ice will be purchased by the church and members can bring a dish to share. A sign-up sheet will be available in the gallery. **The deadline to sign up is July 23.** We are also asked to bring our own lawn chairs. **We will NOT have worship services at Shiloh on this day.**

Friends of Limon are having a Zooks Homemade Meat Pie sale. Orders will be taken through **Sunday, August 27th** and may be picked up on **Thursday, Sept 14th between 4-6 pm in room 100**. Order forms will be available in the gallery for your convenience. Please pay when submitting your order. Any questions may be directed to Marsha Reiber or Natalie Fuhrman.



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.