



*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/NEW MEMBER RECEPTION
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 10, 2024
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

MEDITATION

"Certain thoughts are prayers. There are moments when, whatever be the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees."

-Victor Hugo, 19th century (in Les Miserables)

PRELUDE *"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"* McKechnie

(Duet by Dani Bentzel & Sandy Bamberger)

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Please Stand if you are able*)

One: We gather to share in our love of God.

All: Lord, open our hearts and let us share your Good News.

One: We gather to share our witness to God's goodness.

All: Lord, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.

One: We gather to praise God whose love is eternal.

All: Lord, open our hearts today to sing your praises. Let us worship God!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

Lord, as we gather together on this day of sharing, remind us that you have shared with us your most precious gift, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to model our lives after his messages of compassion and service to you and to all your world. In Christ's Name we offer this prayer. Amen.

***HYMN** *"Come Ye Sinners Poor & Needy"*

Insert

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

God of mercy and patience, be with us this day as we celebrate One Great Hour of Sharing. Help us to remember that the gifts we give go to help many people in need. Remind us again that our lives are meant to be gifts to others, for healing, hope, comfort, peace and love. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the details of living and when we become so overwhelmed by our current economic woes that we neglect to help others. Enlighten us again with your spirit and your words of healing love. Caring and sharing are the hallmarks of discipleship with Jesus Christ. Heal and forgive us. Give us hearts for joyful caring and sharing; for it is in Jesus' name, we offer this prayer. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear now the loving truth of God:

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned. Your sins are forgiven!

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 "This Little Light of Mine" #524

8:30AM NEW MEMBER JOINING SHILOH UCC

Linda (Lin) Heckert

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 CANDIDATE

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

Candidate: I do.

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

Candidate: I do.

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

Candidate: 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?

Candidate: 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?

Candidate: 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?

Candidate: 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: Numbers 21:4-9

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

HANDBELL CHOIR "Lord, I Need You" Maher/Arr. Edwards

Third Reading: John 3:14-21

SERMON "Live In the Light!"

*HYMN "Because He Lives" 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

We are created for love and good works. Life is God's good gift to us. Let us now do the loving, good work of giving a part of our gifts back to God. Let us bring our gifts of thanksgiving to celebrate God's deeds and his wonderful works to humankind.

*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!

O Generous One, we give thanks to you for your steadfast love endures forever. May these gifts be used to feed the hunger and satisfy the thirst of all those you love throughout your creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Rock of Ages"

#596

BENEDICTION

One: Let us rejoice:

All: God so loves the world!

One: May God, your Maker,

send you back into the world refreshed and renewed.

May Christ, the Light,

illuminate your darkest moments.

And may the Holy Spirit of steadfast love

guide you until we worship together again.

All: Amen!

POSTLUDE

"Unto Him That Loved Us"

Veveger

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 daughters, Emily and Dani. We love you so very much and for our 37th wedding anniversary by Katie and Tim Bentzel.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert
- **LITURGISTS: 8:30AM:** John Reiber **11:00AM:** Joyce Mummert
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM** Lonny & Mary Neiman **11:00AM:** Michael & Laura Andras
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM** Patti Goodyear & Kaitlin Rentzel **11:00AM** Jessie Sechriest
- **MUSIC:** Dani Bentzel, Handbell Choir, Sandy Bamberger

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

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (www.crosswalk.com/devotionals)

Read: John 16:33 "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Reflect: How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus has overcome the world?
Do you trust that He is with you during times of trouble?
Can you pray a prayer of surrender with confidence?

Pray: Lord, Jesus, today is Your day, and I want Your will to be done. So, whatever happens, hold my hand and let's face it together.
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.**

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 Schaale/Little Family

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 wording placed in the bulletin.



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



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 27th**. 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



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 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.

Name tags are returning!! New members are interested in learning your name. Name tags will be available for the greeters/ushers in the Welcome Center each week. All members are asked to wear a name tag, if it is available at this time. Some of the previous name tags are on the wall in the Gallery. Perhaps some members may be keeping them at home. There is a plan to provide members with a new name tag, but that will be an upcoming event. Until then, let's use what is available to help to create a warm, welcoming community at Shiloh UCC.



This year's **Easter Egg Hunt** will be held **on Saturday, March 23rd at 10 am**. We will begin with an Easter skit presented by some of our ELC teachers, followed by the egg hunts for children ages 1-10. Please join us with your children or grandchildren! If you'd be interested in helping, please contact Patti Goodyear. Also, we will be accepting donations of plastic eggs and bags of small, individually wrapped candy **until Sunday, March 17th**. There will be a bin for each in the gallery. Thank you in advance for your support.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BRUNCH!

**When: Sunday, March 24
9:45 AM – 10:45 AM
Where: Room 100**



The food will be provided by Consistory committees. There will a sign-up sheet in the Gallery beginning March 7. We hope to see you there!



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.



It has been determined that ushers will again be present in the narthex before services. While the Consistory has been assuming this responsibility, they are a busy group of people on a Sunday morning as many serve on choirs and other volunteer positions. At times, the narthex becomes empty. Some changes have been made to encourage participation by the congregation. Please note the changes in the list below:

- *One usher for each service
- *Stand or sit near the entrance to the narthex from the gallery
- *Welcome visitors and answer any questions they have
- *Show parents where the children's materials are on the rack
- *Distribute bulletins or remind people to get a bulletin when they place Offering in the plate
- *Wear a name tag
- *Encourage everyone to find the seat of their choice independently
- *Ask a consistory member for additional help

A sign-up sheet will be distributed during an upcoming service to create a list of volunteers. The goal is to have the program in place by Palm Sunday/Easter. Remember the more people that volunteer, the easier the job will be for everyone. Please consider helping to make it a friendly, welcoming experience for everyone. Thank you!

Worship and Music Committee

Come Grow with Us!

Engaging Women are inviting women and their children to Shiloh UCC to celebrate their uniqueness in a harmonious atmosphere on **Sunday, April 14 at 4:00 PM** in room 100.



A buffet dinner from Olive Garden will be served followed by a vocal presentation by Leslie Talley (daughter of Donna and Randy Seifarth who has performed professionally). Tickets will be sold in the Gallery on the following Sundays:

March 17, March 24, and April 7 (Adults \$14/Children \$6)

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Hildebrecht at 717-683-0440 or the church office at 717-764-3569. We hope you will join us for this delightful event!

“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 | Fourth Sunday in Lent/New Member Reception One Great Hour of Sharing |
| | 9:45 | Sunday School (100) & Wired Word (202) |
| MON | 7:00 | Consistory |
| TUES | 8:30 | Men’s Breakfast (Dover Valley Rest.) |
| | 6:30 | Cub Scouts (100) |
| | 8:00 | Men’s Chorus |
| WED | 9:30 | Bible Study (202) |
| | 5:00 | TOPS (117) |
| | 7:00 | Lenten Study (202) |
| THUR | 5:30 | Worship/Music (202) |
| | 6:30 | NA Group (100) |
| | 6:30 | Choirs |
| FRI | 9:00 | Women’s Social Group B-fast (Central Fam. Rest.) |
| SUN | 8:30 & 11 | Worship/Fifth Sunday in Lent |

Attendance last week: 115

THE CHURCH STAFF

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

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesdays 9AM-12PM & 5-8PM
Thursdays & 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
717-764-3569

Website: www.shilohuccyorkpa.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa

