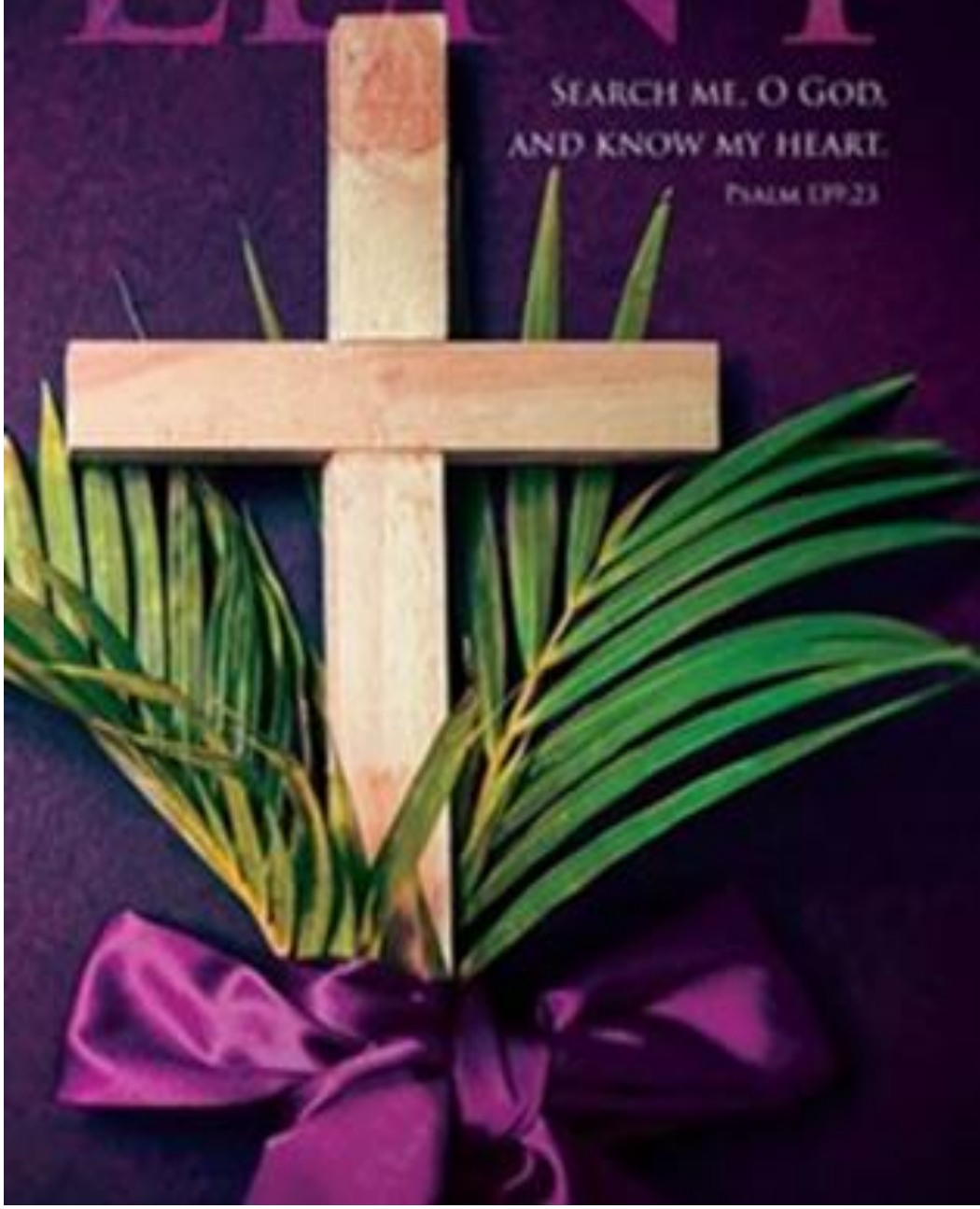


# LENT

SEARCH ME, O GOD,  
AND KNOW MY HEART.

PSALM 139:23



**Welcome to Shiloh United Church of Christ**  
**Worship**  
**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 10:00AM**

**MEDITATION**

*"Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men and women to win them."*  
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century

**PRELUDE**

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*      *Limbaugh*

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Please stand as you are able!)*

**One:** Today is a great day to sing praises to God!

**All:** God continually blesses us, each and every day.

**One:** Even in the midst of cold and darkness, the warmth of God's love is present.

**All:** We can count on God to be there for us in our need.

**One:** Let your hearts rejoice and your voices shout praise to God.

**All:** For God is great and worthy to be praised. Let us worship our loving God!

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**One:** Let us pray!

**All:** Lord, we come to you this morning with so many concerns and issues that demand our attention. Our lives are burdened and our spirits are tired. Guide our lives and our steps as we walk this Lenten journey, inward and outward. Help us discern what you would have us do, that we may make the world a better place for others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN**

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing!"* #459 (vs. 1 & 3)

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**One:** Let us pray!

**All:** There is a certain winter in our spirits today, O Lord. We feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, our hopes and fears. The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us, when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need;

when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us in order to avoid serving others. Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem, to live, for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: When God called your name, God called you to a journey of faith. Do not be afraid to look inside to see those things which are holding you back from being who God created you to be. Place your trust in God who is always with you, loving you into wholeness.

**All: 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 STORY** *(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.)*

**\*HYMN**

*"Every time I Feel the Spirit"*

#282

**WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY**

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Second Reading: Luke 13:31-35

**Men's Chorus**      *"Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling" Coleman*

Third Lesson: Psalm 27

**SERMON:**

*"Do Not Be Afraid!"*

Pastor Melinda

**HYMN**

*"Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days"*

# 211 (vs.1-3)

**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 glory forever. Amen.**

## PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Psalmist waited for God, while troubles raged. By God's grace, our world has more wonder than trouble. By God's grace, we are gifted with hope and resilience. Now, let us gather our gifts with grateful praise, and offer them to God's purposes.

### \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

#### **"A Lenten Doxology"**

**Praise God through- out 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!

**All: Faithful God, you have kept your promises. Our lives give witness to your abundant blessings and love. May we faithfully keep our promises to the very end. Strengthen our commitment to live as true disciples of Jesus. Your love sustains us, guides us, and empowers us. Take these gifts as signs of our promise to give ourselves completely into your care; to live without fear; and to trust your love without reservation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"On a Hill Far Away"*

#195 (vs. 1,3 & 4)

### \*BENEDICTION

One: Go in the love of God, whose promises are never broken.

**All: We go in the light of Christ, whose love transforms us.**

One: Go in the power of the Holy Spirit, whose fire sustains and encourages us.

**All: We go now into the world as witnesses of God's love, light, and power. Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

*"To You, O Lord I Call"*

Powell

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

## **PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:**

### **Morning Prayer**

Dear God, This morning as I contemplate a new day, I ask you to help me. I want to be aware of your Holy Spirit leading me in the decisions I take, the conversations I have, and the work I do. I want to be more like you, Jesus, as I relate to the people I meet today — friends or strangers. Jesus, you were always about your father's business and I thank you that he is now my father too because of what you did on this earth. Although I know that I am weak, I also know that by the power of your Spirit, I can be strong in the work I do, the decisions I make, and the words I speak. Thank you that you promise to be with me always, and for being the same yesterday, today, and forever. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

### **Evening Prayer (David Mathis)**

Dear 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've showered on my life. Help me put myself in the path of your love and grace. Help me not to neglect the disciplines I need to meet with you regularly and to drink from the water of life. Thank you for your rich love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, Judy Feeser, Dick & Helen Hodgson, Brad Jacobs, Joe Jordan, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Elaine Krout, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Arlene Myers, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Steve Snyder, Rick & Sue Trimble, Romaine Walton, Elva Winter, Suzanne Emmons, Jane Harrison

#### **THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES**

The Trimble/Deveney Family, The Smith Family, The Taft Family, The Robertson/Jordan Family

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** Presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my husband, Elwood Myers Jr. by Pat Myers.

**THE BULLETIN'S:** To Honor Sallie Hagerman's Birthday!  
From her loving family.

**VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel,  
Matt Hildebrecht,

**LITURGIST:** Natalie Fuhrman

**GREETERS:** Natalie Fuhrman & Sallie Hagerman

**USHER:** Mark Garber

**NURSERY:** John Reiber & Nathan Limbert

**COFFEE CONNECTIONS:** Katie Bentzel

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND  
MUSICIANS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE WORSHIP SERVICE!**

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**Joke of the Day**  
**What do you call a sleepwalking nun?**  
**A roamin' Catholic.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Psalm 27

A I W M H M T C D H A O T H N U Q  
O X V H L K J F X S D M M H P R V  
M P I I O J O V Z B U L F P G S X  
N Y F C Z M H P P E A N H Q I I G  
J E T N B E R X B S C F U M O A L  
L F Y N F S H D P L E I L L A H S  
A H D E E A D T R A C G M H N N S  
F Y L G S W O S R O M Y V S K O T  
C M O X E Z T A W S P U K Q F I F  
O G H I Y R Y H F S U Q M B I T A  
D Z G D K I U H H D E K J Z W A J  
E V N M J J T C J S S M O N H V Z  
N B O F A T O J A G W H S A A L E  
E D R B M N L I S H Q U I Y H A K  
P E T Y M Y B O W U K V K G D S M  
P Y S D P W F E R D L X R C O A D  
H I I V X W C O C D J K H U T N H

Stronghold	Salvation	Shall I	Twenty
Seven	Psalm	Light	Lord
Life	Fear	Whom	The
Is	My	Of	

*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	10:00	<b>Worship</b>
	9:00	Sunday School (202) & Wired Word (124)
	9:15	Coffee Connections (gallery)
MON	6:00	Gospel Choir (100)
TUES	6:00	Missions Meeting (Parlor)
	6:00	Outreach (202)
	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Quilt Club (202)
	7:00	Grief Group (Parlor)
WED	7:30	Soup Prep
	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (202)
	7:00	Lent Study (202)
THUR	10:30	Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
	6:30	NA Group (100)
SUN	6:30	Choirs
	10:00	Worship

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 67**

### **THE CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.  
pastormelinda@shilohuccyorkpa.org  
717-764-3569

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Tues., Wed., and Thurs 9AM-1PM**

Director of Music Stephanie Limbert

Organist Sandra Bamberger

Family and Youth Ministry Coordinator Brandi Shoff

FamilyandYouthMinistry@shilohuccyorkpa.org

Missionaries in Costa Rica Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson

Early Learning Center Director Allison Hartnett

Admin Assistant Courtney Olschefski

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