

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WORSHIP SERVICE/NEW MEMBER RECEPTION
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 17, 2024
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

MEDITATION

“When you stand at the edge of all the light you have and step off into the darkness, you can be certain that one of two things will happen. You will be given a solid ledge on which to stand, or you will be taught to fly.” –

Anonymous

PRELUDE

8:30AM	<i>“Ah, Holy Jesus”</i>	Davidson
11:00AM	<i>“My Savior’s Love”</i>	Gabriel

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

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

One: “The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Jacob”.

All: God has made a new covenant with us in Christ Jesus.

One: Yet we have turned away, hardened our hearts and spirits.

All: Lord, help us to change.

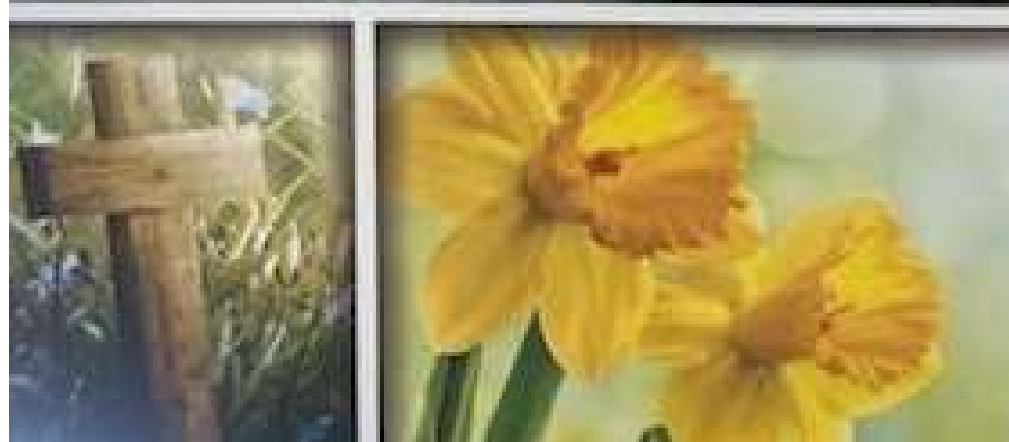
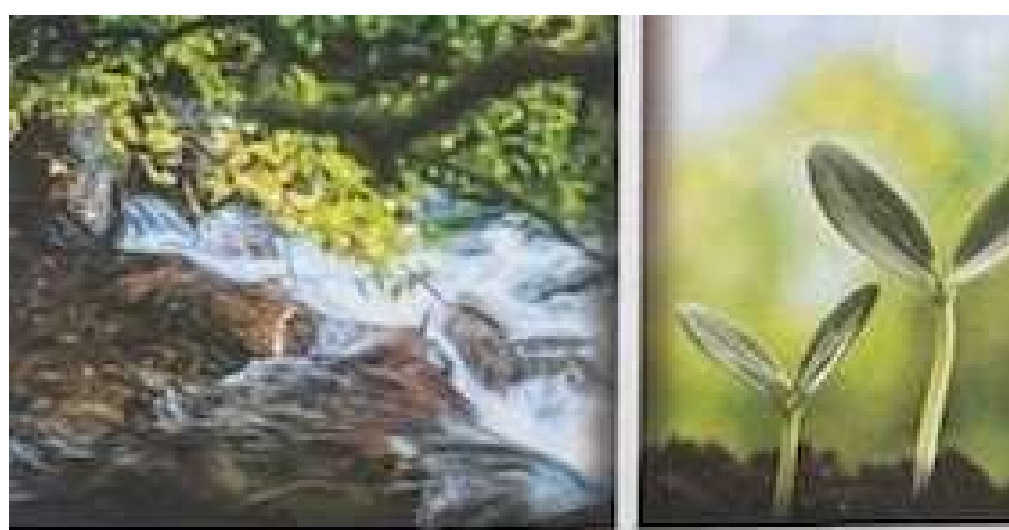
SOLO *“Change My Heart, O God”* By Eddie Espinoza

One: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people”.

All: But we have failed to be God’s people. We have chosen our own way.

One: Turn again, says the Lord, through the prophets and through God’s own Son.

All: Turn us again to you, O Lord, and awaken our spirits to your love and mercy. Let us worship God!



***PRAYER OF INVOCATION** *(Taken from "O God of Our Hearts: Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent," written by Rev. Kathryn Matthews Huey and the Rev. Susan A. Blain. Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website.)*

One: Let us pray!

All: O God of our Hearts

You yearn to be so close to us

that we can know you in every breath,

in every hope, in every relationship.

Meet us here today and

teach us to recognize

the covenant of justice, peace and love

you have written on our hearts.

So may our desires become your desires,

our work become your work,

and our community

the place where you are sought and found.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** "Morning Has Broken"

See Page 11

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

All: Compassionate God, forgive us when we falter on this Lenten pathway. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task. Jesus requires us to be willing to make the ultimate commitment of our whole lives, and we hesitate and hold back. Draw us back to you, Lord. Give us confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others through our own witness to your healing mercy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Even though the future is clouded; God is with us, guiding, healing, comforting, restoring. Rejoice! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and healed.

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 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"

Insert

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 51:1-12

Second Reading: John 12:20-33

MEN'S CHORUS "Jesus is Coming Soon"

Winsett/Arr. Mauldin

Third Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

SERMON

"Who Is In Your Heart?"

***HYMN** "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#493

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

Jesus compels us to join him in service to others.

Our church, Shiloh UCC, accepts the invitation and challenge to show Jesus' way, using the resources we share.

Now, let us give generously, so that we may bless this church, this community, and the whole world!

***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!

All: God of abundance, you have called us to lives of ministry and service. You have filled our lives with your gifts, and drawn us into community with you and with one another. We dedicate our lives and these offerings that we have gathered for your service. Pour your Holy Spirit into us. Bless us so that we may be a blessing to others and carry out your will and purpose. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”* Insert

BENEDICTION (*Traditional Irish Blessing from www.infiniteireland.com*)

One: May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.
All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

8:30AM *“Have Mercy, Lord”* Bach

11:00AM *“O the Deep, Dove Love of Jesus”* Francis and Williams

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (*www.living-prayers.com*)

I come before you, O Lord.
As the sun rises may your hope rise up in me.
As the birds sing may your love flow out of me.
As the light floods into this new day,
May your joy shine through me.
I come before you, O Lord
And drink in this moment of peace,
That I may carry something of your hope, love and joy
Today in my heart. Amen.

Evening Prayer (*Rebecca Barlow Jordan*)

Heavenly Father, my day is drawing to an end, and I’m ready to turn in. But before I do, I have to thank you for your faithfulness today. It’s always a good day, even when things may not go the way I plan, or when the world seems in chaos, because you are in control. For all the times when I was aware of your help today, all the times when your unseen presence seemed so near, thank you, God. But for all the ways you worked behind the scenes, unknown to me, moments when heaven-sent angels moved on my behalf in ways I’ll never know, thank you for those also, Lord. Grant me a good night’s sleep tonight, God, so that I can awake refreshed and ready to begin another day loving you. In Jesus’ name. 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

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband Elwood Myers Jr. by wife Pat, Mother Beatrice and children Stephanie and Stephan.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of Sallie Hagerman's birthday on March 13 with love, mom and family.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert
- **LITURGISTS: 8:30AM:** Tim Bentzel **11:00AM:** Bobby Limbert
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM** Milton & Beverly Hoak **11:00AM:** Steve & Sue Besecker
- **USHER:** Jane Harrison
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM** Patti Tim & Katie Bentzel **11:00AM** Linda Little
- **MUSIC:** Dani Bentzel, Handbell Choir, Sandy Bamberger

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

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



OUTREACH MINISTRIES
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.

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.



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!



The Women's Guild will be meeting **April 1, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our study book **Encouraging One Another, Chapter Twelve: Just Think!** Deb Myers will be leading this chapter. Special offering this month is for our missionary Sally Jane Johnson. We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.

Mark your calendar for the next **Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on Tuesday, April 9, 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 lunch at **Round the Clock Diner on Rt. 30 on Friday, April 19 at 12:00pm**. Please contact Judy Feeser at 717-764-9935 by **April 15** if you plan to attend.



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!

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.



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

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.



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

*“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	Fifth Sunday in Lent
	9:45	Sunday School (100) & Wired Word (202)
MON	6:30	Church Chums (202)
TUES	6:00	Missions (Parlor)
	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Quilt Group (202)
	7:00	Grief Group (Parlor)
	7:00	Church & Ministry (Office)
WED	7:30	Soup Prep
	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (117)
	7:00	Lenten Study (202)
THUR	10:30	Our Daily Bread
	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Choirs
SAT	10:00	Easter Egg Hunt
SUN	8:30 & 11	Palm Sunday/Daffodil Sunday
	9:45	Palm Sunday Brunch

Attendance last week: 87

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
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