

Welcome to this time of worship at
Shiloh United Church of Christ

2251 Willow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17408
717-764-3569

MARCH 19, 2023

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent



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

“I shut my eyes in order to see.”

~ Paul Gauguin, 19th century

PRELUDE

8:30 AM	<i>“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”</i>	Gounod
11:00 AM	<i>“Healer of Broken Hearts”</i>	Stiffler

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Please, stand as you are able for the Call to Worship!)*

One: We are blind to many things.

All: Loving God, cure our blindness.

One: The light of God shines for us today.

All: Gentle God, pour your light on us.

One: Come, worship God who forgives and heals our blindness.

All: Open our eyes, O God, that we might see with our hearts. Come, let us worship our generous God!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

We come to you, O God of true sight, eager to be refreshed by song, by word, and by your presence together with this loving faith community. Come to us, we pray, not just to comfort, but also to challenge us to live in peace with our neighbors, and spread your justice and peace in the world. Give us discernment and move us toward your will. Be with us as we pray for healing and hope, and sanctify us to your service. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** *“On a Hill Far Away (The Old Rugged Cross)”* #195

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we would rather shut our eyes and be blind than see things as they really are. Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world, and give us the strength to bring your light to those who walk in darkness. Help us see others as you see them, and forgive us when we do not trust you enough to open our eyes to the possibilities before us. Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God, and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World, who reveals your glory in his life, his teachings, and his love. In Jesus’ holy name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Jesus came to lead us in paths of righteousness and to guide us through our lives.

All: Christ is with us in times of danger and times of peace.

One: The goodness and mercy of God are given to us each and every day of our lives.

All: God forgives us for our failings, upholds us in love, and leads us to the place that Jesus has prepared for us.

One: Believe in your heart that God loves you and forgives you.

All: We believe! In Jesus' name we are forgiven! 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(ren) during the message.)*

*HYMN *"Jesus Loves Me"* #327

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 23

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

MEN'S CHORUS *"Redeeming Love"* Arr. Page & Shafferman

Third Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

SERMON *"A Time for Seeing"*

*HYMN *"God of the Prophets"* #358

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

In the light of God, all is made clear. We see how much God loves us and how much God loves all people. We see Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, in Scripture and in our lives; and although we once were blind, now we can see! Let us give generously of our time, talent, and treasure to further the work of God in our 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!

God of light and love and peace, we praise your holy name for leading us in paths of righteousness that we may come into your presence, forgiven and free. We give you thanks for guiding us to this place: where we may rest beside the still waters of your grace, where we are filled with the good gifts of your goodness and mercy. We worship you with all that we are, and we bless your name for all that we will be as we continue on our journey — a journey that leads us to your kingdom, where we will dwell with you forever. We offer you these gifts, that you might bless them and send them out into the valley of the shadow of death, and everywhere in need of your light. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"* #433

BENEDICTION

One: May God the Father prepare your journey, Jesus the Son guide your footsteps, The Spirit of Life strengthen your body, The Three in One watch over you, on every road that you may follow.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

8:30 AM *"God Leads Us Along"* Leatherman

11:00 AM *"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"* Scholtes

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 my husband, Elwood Myers Jr. by Pat Myers.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of Connie Redman's dedication to Shiloh Ucc, by her mother.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Reen Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert.
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Brian Curren, **11:00AM:** Robert Limbert
- **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Nelson & Pat Roth, **11:00AM:** Volunteer
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Natalie Fuhrman & Sallie Hagerman, **11:00AM:** Steve & Sue Besecker
- **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Jim & Reen Bentzel **11:00AM:** Linda Little
- **MUSIC:** Jessie Sechriest, Men's Chorus & Sandy Bamberger

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

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (From s3.lightboxcdn.com)

"I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken."
Psalm 16:8

Dear God, Thank you for another day. Please watch over my family and friends. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Evening Prayer (By Rebecca Barlow Jordan)

Bless us with rest tonight, Jesus, and a good night's sleep. Forgive us for the things we did today that did not honor you. Thank you for loving us so much and that you know us through and through. We need your help every day, and we thank you for the strength you give and for helping us know that with you, even hard things are possible. Bless our family and our home, and keep us safe through the night. May your angels guard us and watch over us, just like you promised. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Julie Beall, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, Ross Hopple, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Jay Mummert, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Donna Robertson, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Sue Trimble, Stewart Wagner, Elva Winter

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Roe Family, The Reiber Family, The Kinsley Family, The Garber Family, The Berkheimer/Bechtel Family, The Reiber/Youkers Family

On behalf of our family. We would like to thank each and every one of you for the food, prayers, cards, gifts, visits and beautiful service to celebrate the life of Stephanie Berkheimer. We are truly blessed to have such a great church family to support us through this time. Special thanks to the Handbell Choir for the beautiful piece of music that was played at her service.



We will leave you with her favorite bible verse: *"Be Still and Know I am God"*. ~Psalm 46:10

The Berkheimer/ Bechtel Family ♥



Today is ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING. This year's theme for OGHS is *"It's Time to Share"*. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster or crisis around the world. The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. It's time to share. **Offering envelopes may be found in the Pews.** Thank you for your support of this offering.

Shiloh UCC's Outreach Committee is holding a blood drive on **Thursday, March 23 from 1pm-6pm.** The Central Pennsylvania Blood Mobile will be in our parking lot to obtain the blood donations. The church will be open during the donation hours. We have not held a blood drive since before COVID, so please consider donating.





Please join us for the **Lenten Soup and Study!** The Advent Study will continue during Lent, on Wednesday evenings. (Handel's Messiah). **A Light soup and bread supper will be served at 6:30PM, followed by the Lenten Study at 7:00PM.** You can attend both the "soup" and "study" part, or you can just come for the "study" part. There will be sign-up sheets in the gallery. Everyone is welcome to join (even if you did NOT attend the Advent studies.) We would love to have you!

Daffodil Day has been moved to **Sunday, March 26.** The plants and bunches can be picked up on that date. Sorry if the change has caused any inconvenience. Your support for this project is very much appreciated! Thank you!



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 **through Sunday, March 27.** Plants may be claimed on Easter Sunday. Thank you for helping to make the church a lovely place to worship.

The Sunday School is collecting money for **Heifer International for our Lenten Project.** Concurrently, the special Lenten offering will also go towards Heifer International. Both collections will continue thru **Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023.** Your support to this great cause is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



This year's **special Easter offering** collected will go to the **Bell Family Shelter.**

The **Youth Fellowship Group** will host an **Easter Egg Hunt** for all children up to age 10 on **April 2 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM.** We have enough plastic eggs but need the congregation's help with providing the candy or small snack size items to fill the eggs with. A bin will be placed in the gallery to collect the candy. You may also make a monetary donation using the LOVE offering envelopes designating Easter Egg Hunt on them. Thank you for your help with this fun filled yearly 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	Worship/One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
	9:45	Sunday School (100)
	9:45	Wired Word (202)
TUES	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Quilt Club
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (100)
	6:30	Lenten Soup & Study (202)
THUR	1:00	Central PA Mobile Blood Drive (Parking lot)
	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Choirs
FRI	7:00	Relay for Life Easter Candy (100)
SAT	7:00	Relay for Life Easter Candy (100)
SUN	8:30 & 11	Worship/Daffodil Sunday



ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 100

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 5-8PM

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**





The church is collecting donations for the **ELC's Scholarship Fund**. This Scholarship Fund benefits students and families that attend the ELC that may be having trouble making their monthly payments towards tuition. The ELC offers this scholarship to ensure that their students can continue to attend the preschool without families having to worry about how they will make their next payment. If you are interested in donating, please use the **Love Offering envelopes found in your pews**. We will be collecting donations starting **Sunday, March 19th running through the end of the month of April**.

The Women's Social and Support Group will meet for lunch at **Cheddar's Restaurant on April 21st at 12:00pm**. Please contact Judy Feeser at 717-764-9935 by April 17th if you plan to attend.



UPDATE FROM THE VISIONING COMMITTEE



We have been meeting for over two years now. After many discussions regarding our many concerns for the future of Shiloh UCC, we feel God's calling us to focus on one issue at a time and to always keep in the forefront that we are to be leading people to Jesus Christ. The one issue we want to focus on at this time, is how to bring more families and youth to participate in our church. We are asking each member of the congregation to consider this mission and suggest any ways to carry it out. You may speak to any committee member-our names are listed in the annual report-with any ideas. Also, we would like all of our church committees to focus on this goal. Imagine the possibilities if all of us are working together to bring this to fruition. Remember Romans 8:31, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" We would like to also welcome everyone to join our committee. **We will be meeting again on April 26, at 7pm, in room 202.**

In case of inclement weather for church and Sunday school, please check the church's **website, Facebook page, or your email for closings or delays**. We will also submit the information to **Fox 43 News and WGAL News 8**. If services are held, please use your best judgement as to whether you are able to attend.



SECURITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The following is a summary of security enhancements ongoing at the church as presented at the March 5 2023 services:

1. Representatives from Staff, ELC and volunteers from our congregation, who comprise the Security Committee, completed a best practice assessment in July of 2022. We identified:
 - the need to update crisis guidelines and training
 - the need to control church access via unlocked doors
 - the need to address unaccounted for hard keys that have not been returned
2. The Security Committee agreed and consistory approved the following improvements to insure exterior doors will remain locked at all times:
 - a video intercom was installed for church office to screen and facilitate visitor entry
 - keyless entry hardware, similar to a garage door opener, was installed to replace the use of hard keys for the front door and rear kitchen doors
 - pin codes will be issued to staff and congregants.
3. A meeting is scheduled with West Manchester Township Police to communicate and review our security initiatives.
4. The Security Committee will continue to meet to work on update policies and procedures.

Note:

- Please provide Maira with your preferred 4-digit pin code by March 30. You can use the temporary pin code in the meantime.
- Doors will be rekeyed by April 15. Access thereafter will only be via keyless entry.
- Hard keys will still be necessary to open interior doors.



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.

