

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 24, 2024

8:30AM AND 11:00AM

MEDITATION

Mother Teresa, when interviewed by Johnny Carson on The Tonight Show, and asked about how she'd handle the accolades that came with winning the Nobel Peace prize: "Do you think, Mr. Carson, for one moment, that that little donkey thought the crowd was giving him the praise and glory instead of Jesus?"

PRELUDE

"Hosanna in the Highest

Paxton

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Based on Psalm 118)

(Please stand if you are able)

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Open wide the gates of your hearts.

All: Let the Savior enter!

One: Let all creation shout!

All: Let us wave the palm branches high. Jesus is coming!

One: Shout with joy, all you people.

All: The Savior has come forth bringing peace. Hosanna! God saves!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

***HYMN**

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

#213

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: Let us Pray!

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high. We get caught up in the excitement of the parade. Jesus sits astride a donkey, a beast of burden, bearing a most precious gift. Let joy fill our hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas. Let us praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been changed. Holy God, prepare our hearts to worship and celebrate this happy day!

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Let us confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of stress.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us Pray!

We love parades! We love the excitement, the colors, and the noise! Today we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. His followers have stripped branches from the trees and wave them in the air. The scene is wonderful. But there is a reality here. The reality is that although we wave our branches and shout "Hosanna!" we have not always behaved as disciples. Too often we have wandered from the path of Christ, and stumbled along on our own, believing our way to be superior. We have turned from those who needed help. We have done and said things that are not worthy of disciples. Yet, here we stand, in the parade route, waving our branches. Forgive us, O Lord. Help us to turn our lives around and truly serve you. Help us to really mean "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord!" Let Jesus enter our hearts, and transform our lives today, for we ask this in his holy name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: *"God's steadfast love endures forever."* This is not just a phrase from Psalm 118. It is *not* merely an abstract concept, but a true and absolute reality and promise. There is nothing we can do to make God love us any less. The gate is open for all who are heartily sorry and believe. Rejoice and be glad, for you are forgiven!

EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *(Please wave to one another)*

One: May the peace of Christ fill you this day.

All: Christ is the source of our joy and gladness.

One: Please share a joyful sign of Christ's peace with those near you.

The peace of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *All children (including infants) and youth who desire to come forward for the Children's Sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parent's/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message.*

VIDEO Stories of the Bible: *"The Triumphal Entry"*

*HYMN *"This Is the Day"* #84

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

HANDBELL CHOIR *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"* Conkey/Arr. Page

Third Reading: John 12:12-16

SERMON *"Palm Sunday"*

*HYMN *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"* #216

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

To be a Christian is to offer up not only our treasures and time, but our whole lives to God. These gifts are a sign of the offering of our whole selves to the service of God and each other.

*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 all true power and glory, we thank you that Jesus Christ came to Jerusalem not with a sword to challenge the power of this world, but with love, announcing the good news of your kingdom. Enable us to choose your ways, winning the victory over sin and death. Establish your righteous realm among us. Use our gifts and our lives to your glory, through Jesus, who comes in your name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty”* #215

BENEDICTION

Go into the world in peace.
Jesus Christ is victorious over all the powers of this earth.
You are free to live with courage,
trusting in God, your strength,
and the Holy Spirit your comfort.
Amen.

POSTLUDE *“Ride On in Glory!”* Williams

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 our parents Jean and Maxine Guillard by their family.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert
- **LITURGISTS: 8:30AM:** Natalie Fuhrman **11:00AM:** Steve Besecker
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM** Keith & Elaine Krout **11:00AM:** Shirley Lohmann & Joyce Mummert
- **USHERS: 8:30AM** Milton Hoak **11:00AM** Stephen Sechriest
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM** Carol Burns **11:00AM** Jessie Sechriest
- **MUSIC:** 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 (*Peace Prayer of Saint Francis*)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

Evening Prayer (*Serenity Prayer by Reinhold Neibuhr*)

God, grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change. Courage to change the things I can, And Wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it.
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His will.
That I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with Him forever in the next. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Marvel Burg, Helen Byers, Dick & Helen Hodgson, 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 Zinn Family, The Corbin Family, The Zeigler Family, The Schaale/Little Family, The Funkhouser Family



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.



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.

"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/Palm Sunday/Daffodil Sunday
	9:45	Palm Sunday Brunch (100)
TUES	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)
THURS	6:30	NA Group (100)
	7:00	Maundy Thursday Service
FRI	12:00	Good Friday Service (Office Closed)
SUN	8:30 & 11	Easter/Holy Communion

Attendance last week: 92

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D pastormelinda@shilohucc.com 717-764-3609
Pastor Melinda office hours:	Wednesdays 9AM-12PM & 5-8PM Thursday & Friday 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



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 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.



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