

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GOOD FRIDAY SILENT SERVICE WITH MUSICAL MEDITATION MARCH 29, 2024 12:00 PM

Pethel

"Wilt Thou Forgive?" **PRELUDE**

"Gethsemane" Catherwood

OPENING PRAYER (Based on Psalm 51)

Almighty God,

CHANCEL CHOIR

We all, like sheep, have gone astray.

We have all turned to our own way.

We have sinned and have been the cause

of Christ's suffering. Please forgive us, we pray.

Remove the sins that distance us from you and from those we love and care about.

Remove our selfishness, our pride, our envy,

and our greed.

Remove from us our thoughtless acts and words that hurt one another.

Remove from us the tendency to hurt others out of revenge and anger.

Forgive us please.

Create in us a clean heart, O Lord.

And renew in us a right spirit. Amen.

Silent Prayer

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of comfort and love, be with us amidst our sorrow. Draw us near to your love, for we live in a world full of hate and anger. Grant us the courage, mighty God, to endure the trials of this life. Grant us the faith to embrace hope, even in moments of despair. Sing your Spirit into our lives that we may sing your praises, even on this day of deep grief. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (*Page 633*)

Silent Meditation

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Where there is sorrow, let us offer comfort and love. Where there is despair, let us sow seeds of hope. Where there is suffering, Let us work together to bring healing and hope. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 22

Silent Prayer for the people in your life who are suffering and in our world.

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 (Page 1045)

Silent Meditation

CENTERING WORDS

God meets us in our suffering. As we sit in the presence of Jesus' suffering, be comforted that it is not the end of his story. Nor is it the end of ours.

Gospel Reading: John 18:1-19:42 (Page 942)

Silent Meditation on the Cross

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Encourage one another to do good works and perform acts of loving compassion as we share our tithes and offerings this day.

(If you wish to donate, please put your offering in the offering plates located in the Narthex (on the tables just outside the Sanctuary).

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When we cry out, God helps us without delay. Do not lose heart, for the Lord forgives our iniquity and remembers our sin no more.

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.

BENEDICTION

Even as we sit in the presence of death, we do not sit alone.

Can you sense it?

Even when we walk in the presence of loss, we are not alone.

Can you perceive it?

Hold one another with love.

Even as God holds us in Christ.

We go in peace and God's blessing. Amen.

Leave in Silence

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.

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Wednesdays 9AM-12PM & 5-8PM Pastor Melinda office hours: Thursday & Fridays 9AM-12PM

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- > LITURGIST: Sally Curren
- ➤ USHERS AND GREETERS: Members of Consistory



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, he 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 Easter lives around for the many girls they serve.

