

A scenic landscape featuring a river, yellow wildflowers, and cherry blossom trees under a blue sky. The top portion of the image is a close-up of pink cherry blossoms. Below this, a light pink banner contains the text. The bottom portion of the image shows a wide view of a river flowing through a valley, with a large tree on the right and a field of yellow wildflowers in the foreground.

1 CHRONICLES 8:11

Seek the LORD and his strength,

SEEK HIS FACE

continually.

WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WORSHIP SERVICE/CHURCH PICNIC

Ascension of the Lord

May 17th, 2026



MEDITATION

*“At His Ascension our Lord entered Heaven,
and He keeps the door open for humanity to enter.”*

~ Oswald Chambers

PRELUDE

“Crown Christ Savior of All”

Birchwood

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Shout to God with songs of great joy!

All: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

One: God has made us whole.

All: God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

One: Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

All: Let us praise God’s name and serve God joyfully!

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

All: God of incredible surprises, as we gaze into the clouds, remind us that we are standing on holy ground. Place our feet on the pathways of peace and hope. Draw our attention from the vision of Jesus rising to the heavens to be with you, and help us to focus on the ministries that you would have us do. Keep us ready and willing always to serve you all our days. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!”

#257

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

Almighty God, we have to confess that we are people who want to have everything proven for us. We hear the message in the scripture of Jesus’ ascension, and we don’t believe the vision. Forgive us our doubts and fears. Help us to remember that we are called to be people of faith, not of absolute proof. Let us place our trust in Jesus Christ, as our Lord and Savior, for in His name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Brothers and Sisters, rejoice and believe in Jesus, who came that you may have abundant life. In his Name we have forgiveness and peace.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please say "hello" to someone you don't know yet!

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 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(vs. 1 twice)

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Psalm 93

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

CHANCEL CHOIR "What a Friend" Price & Besig

Third Reading: Luke 24:44-53

SERMON "The Ascension" Pastor Melinda

***HYMN** "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" #454

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

The God of heaven and earth, of all of creation, holds each one of us in tender love and care. God is gracious and good, and no one is insignificant in God's eyes. So we respond to everything God is doing in the life of the world by offering a portion of what we have generously received from a loving God. In the ministry of Shiloh UCC, we reach out to all of God's children in tender love and care. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise!

OFFERTORY *“Lord, Be Glorified”* Leatherman

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *“Doxology”* #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, You heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Let us pray!

All: Generous God, we give thanks for all we have received: gifts of love and time, money and abilities. Into these bowls and in this place, we return a portion of these gifts. Bless those who receive them, just as we are blessed in the act of sharing them. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *“Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”* #260

BENEDICTION

The power and love of Christ is with you. You are sent forth to be his witnesses in the world, bringing good news, healing, and establishing the ministries of justice and peace. Go with God's blessing and the power and love of God will go with you. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *“Our Christ Ascends”* Kendall

**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY!
PLEASE COME AGAIN SOON!**

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer

Peace Within

May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you

May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us. Amen.

- *St. Theresa of Avila*

Evening Prayer (Christina Fox)

Dear God, as I lay me down to sleep, relax the tension of my body; calm the restlessness of my mind; still the thoughts which worry and perplex me. Help me to rest myself and all my problems in your strong and loving arms. Let your Spirit speak to my mind and heart while I am asleep, so that, when I wake up in the morning, I may find that I have received in the night-time, light for my way; strength for my tasks; peace for my worries; forgiveness for my sins. Grant me sleep tonight, and tomorrow power to live. In Jesus' name. Amen.

- *Author Unknown*



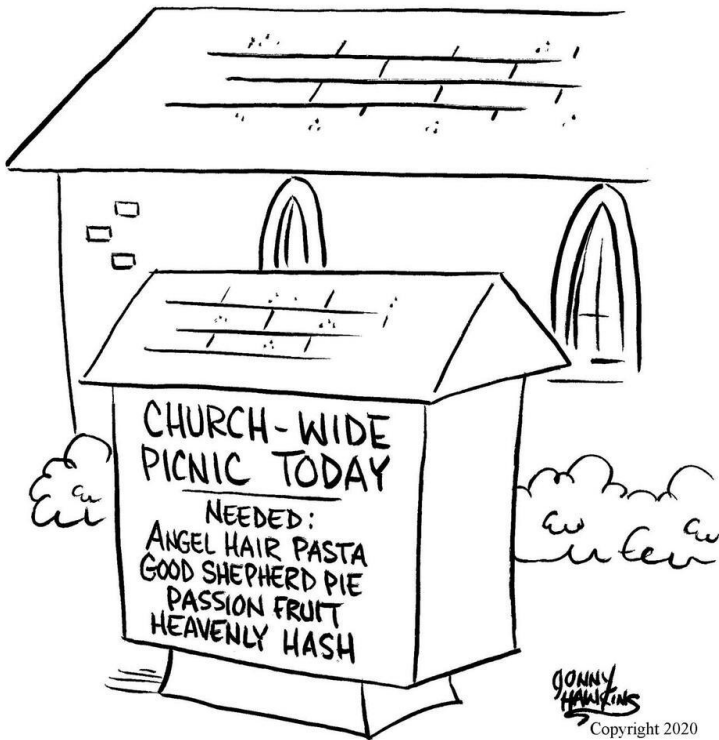
PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Jordan Family, The Stough/Runkle Family, The Limbert Family,
The Bupp/Miller Family, The Myers Family



PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, Judy Feeser, Dick & Helen Hodgson, Joe Jordan, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Elaine Krout, Catherine Lochman, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Steve Snyder, Rick & Sue Trimble, Romaine Walton, Gloria Melhorn, Fay Myers





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

BULLETIN: In Thanksgiving for Jay Mummert and the many others who gave so much of their time caring for the flowers in the memorial garden. ~ Sandra Baboian

ALTAR FLOWERS:

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

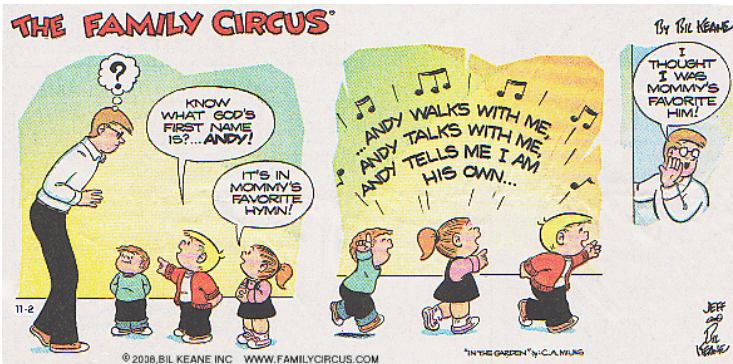
LITURGIST: Jim Bentzel

GREETERS: Lonny and Mary Neiman

USHER: Lonny Neiman

NURSERY: Norina and Jim Bentzel

COFFEE CONNECTIONS:



“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	Worship
	8:45	Wired Word (124) & Sunday School (202)
	9:15	Coffee Connections (gallery)
MON	5:30	Gospel Choir (100)
		ELC SUMMER CAMP
TUES	6:00	Children’s Choir
	6:30	Quilt Club
		ELC SUMMER CAMP
WED	7:30	Soup Prep
	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:00	TOPS (202))
	7:00	WAM
		ELC SUMMER CAMP
THUR	10:30	Our Daily Bread
	6:30	Choirs
	6:30	NA Group (100)
		ELC SUMMER CAMP
SUN	10:00	Worship

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 92

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	<i>Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.</i>
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