

Hope

HE CAME DOWN
THAT WE
MAY HAVE
HOPE.



WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WORSHIP SERVICE
NOVEMBER 28, 2021
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

MEDITATION

“God travels wonderful ways with human beings, but he does not comply with the views and opinions of people. God does not go the way that people want to prescribe for him; rather, his way is beyond all comprehension, free and self-determined beyond all proof. Where reason is indignant, where our nature rebels, where our piety anxiously keeps us away: that is precisely where God loves to be. There he confounds the reason of the reasonable; there he aggravates our nature, our piety—that is where he wants to be, and no one can keep him from it. Only the humble believe him and rejoice that God is so free and so marvelous that he does wonders where people despair, that he takes what is little and lowly and makes it marvelous. And that is the wonder of all wonders, that God loves the lowly.... God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings. God marches right in. He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken.”

~Dietrich Bonhoeffer, God Is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas

THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

8:30AM & 11:00AM.“O Holy Child” Mercy Bartlett

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The day foretold is coming.

All: A righteous branch of David’s lineage shall come forth.

One: There will be justice and righteousness in the land.

All: This is our salvation.

One: Be alert and watch out!

All: Christ, Your redemption is drawing near! We worship and praise you!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, the times and signs are confusing. During this time of worship help us know your ways, and see clearly the coming of the Promised One. Lead us in your truth and teach us. For we wait with hopeful expectation: to see, to know and to believe. To you we lift our souls in trust and love, knowing you will hold them in your loving hands. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN “We Hail You God’s Anointed” #104

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Promise, in today’s Gospel we hear about the end of the world. We read of fig leaves sprouting, portents in the sky, and people not passing away, until these words have come to pass. After 2000 years of waiting for the end to come, it’s hard to drum up much expectation. We go our way as if nothing’s happening, expecting nothing and no one. God of Surprises, break into our complacency with your word. Help us to raise our heads, look up, and be alert. Help us believe and live in full expectation that something is happening in our world; that you are breaking into our world and into our lives. Forgive us when we miss your coming because we are looking in the wrong places. Help us perceive that the beloved community is near. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

For those who come to God in humble contrition and seek to live the covenant of God’s ways, the paths of God are steadfast love and faithfulness. Know that you are in the hands of God who loves you with an everlasting love. Trust in the promises of God: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

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

Let us greet each other in Christian Friendship.
The peace of God be with you.
And also with you.

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE THE PROMISE OF HOPE

Advent is a time for God’s people to reawaken their longings.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every hurt to be healed.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every tear to be dried.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We long for every injustice to be made right.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

We celebrate God’s promises and long for those yet to unfold.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light the **first candle** which reminds us that even in the midst of darkness, the light of hope shines. Jesus Christ is the promised One of God, the light of the world. May this light of hope illuminate our hearts throughout this Advent season.

*HYMN. “Of the Parent’s Heart Begotton”. *(Verse 1)*. #118

CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious God, fill our hearts this day with the thrill of hope that is found in each of your promises. Like the people of old, we who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. Ignite our faith and light our path. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

*HYMN “Jesus, Name Above All Names” See insert

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

SPECIAL MUSIC

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

SERMON

“Watch, Wait, and Wonder”

*HYMN “Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear” #105

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

God’s love for us knows no bounds. In grateful response, may our gifts to others abound.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Doxology" (by Roger Lynn)

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace,
Praise God, for gifts of joy and love,
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell
On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giver of all good things, as we offer these gifts to you, open our eyes to see more clearly all that we have been given and all that we have to give. Stretch our capacity to give of ourselves: our love, our companionship, and our material resources, wherever they are needed. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN. "O How Shall I Receive You". #102

BENEDICTION

Leader: As we go out to meet a hungry world, know that God will give us what we need.

People: We go forth to make ready as we wait.

Leader: The Holy One, whose love turns fear aside, will show us what to do.

People: Keep watch! The risen Christ is on the way! Amen.

POSTLUDE

8:30AM & 11:00AM. "Wait! Watch?". David Lantz III

**WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR
WORSHIP TODAY!**

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in memory of our parents Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Hodgson Sr. and Dora M. Ross and James W. Klein by Helen and Dick Hodgson.
- **THE BULLETINS** are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of Shirley and Bill Lohmann's 56th wedding anniversary.
- **ACOLYTE: 8:30AM:** Kendra Tredway

- **CANDLE LIGHTER: 8:30AM** Brian & Sally Curren, **11:00 AM** Marsha Reiber
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Normal Hull, **11:00AM:** Joyce Mummert
- **USHERS: 8:30AM:** Don & Jeanie Bentzel, **11:00AM:** Tammy Hildebrecht
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Milton & Beverly Hoak, **11:00AM:** Jay Mummert
- **NURSERY DUTY: 8:30AM:** Norina & Jim Bentzel, **11:00AM** Marsha Reiber
- **MUSIC: 8:30AM & 11:00AM:** Joan Hamme & Chancel Choir

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS
FOR PROVIDING THE WORSHIP MUSIC !**

IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

From the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak, Shiloh UCC has relied on Community Transmission rates (i.e. low, moderate, substantial, high) to guide our recommended precautionary measures. Our benchmark for social distancing and masking requirements go into effect when transmission rates in York County reach substantial (50-100 cases/100,000 and percentage of positive cases >5%). As of NOVEMBER 19, the Community Transmission rate for York County is HIGH (356/100,000 and positivity rate is 15.85%).



Let's celebrate! A **Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday, December 5 at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary.** It will feature all of the musical groups and volunteer musicians from the church. Refreshments will be served in room 100 following *the concert*. A goodwill offering to benefit the Music Programs will be collected. We hope you are able to join us for an evening of music.

The poinsettia sale will continue until **Sunday, December 5.** Each poinsettia is \$6.50 for a 6 inch. pot. They will be delivered for display on Sunday, December 19 and Christmas Eve. You may take your poinsettias home after the 7:00 Christmas Eve service. Thank you for support of this project to help decorate the sanctuary for this important holiday.



PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer

*"In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice;
in the morning I lay my requests before you
and wait expectantly." (Psalm 5:3)*

Dear God,

This morning as I contemplate a new day, I ask you to encourage me. Help me be aware of your Spirit leading me in the decisions I make, the conversations I have, and the work I do. I want to be more like Jesus, as I relate to the people I meet today — friends or strangers. Jesus was always about his Father's business and I thank you that I can do the same. Although I feel weak, I know that by the power of your Holy Spirit, I can be strong in the work I do and the words I speak. Thank you that you promised to be with me always, and for being the same yesterday, today, and forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayer

*"Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.
Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.
My salvation and my honor depend on God[c];
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.
Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge." (Psalm 62: 5-8)*

The day is done; O God the Son, look down upon thy little one! O Light of Light, keep me this night, and shed round me, thy presence bright. I need not fear if thou art near; thou art my Savior kind and dear. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Chuck and Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Oscar Bupp, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Marguerite Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Mary Rodgers, Stewart and Marie Wagner, Elva Winter, Sue Trimble.

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Elicker Family, The Burg/Missinger Family.

*"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/First Sunday in Advent/Slate of Consistory Nominees
	9:45	Sunday School
TUES	10:00	Staff meeting (202)
	6:30	Cub Scouts (100)
	7:00	Worship & Music (202)
	8:00	Men's Chorus Rehearsals
WED	9:30	Bible Study (202)
	5:30	TOPS (100)
THUR	6:30	NA Group (100)
	6:30	Hand bell Choirs
	7:00	Chamber Choirs
	7:30	Chancel Choirs
FRI & SAT	7-3	Relay for Life (100)
	4:00	Church Chums event (100)
SUN	8:30 & 11	Worship/Second Sunday in Advent



ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 102

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com
717-764-3609

Pastor Melinda office hours: Please call for an appointment
Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 5-8PM
Thursdays 9:00-11:30AM & 6-8:30PM
Fridays 9AM-2PM

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

Website: www.shilohuccyorkpa.org



www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa

Beginning **November 28**, the **SOUP KITCHEN** crew is asking for donations of wrapped candy (i.e. any snack-sized wrapped candy or mini candy canes). Please put candy donations in the boxes labeled "Soup Kitchen" in the church Gallery or kitchen. The **deadline for donations is Sunday, December 12**. We will fill small gift bags with the candy and distribute them at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in December. Thank you!



The **Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.** is conducting a cookie collection and distribution event. Individuals from local churches and other groups prepare homemade cookies and place 6-8 cookies in decorated bags along with a note, tract or Bible verse. These bags are dropped off at the trailer and then distributed to the local truck stops, trucking depots, restaurants, motels, and businesses to be handed out to drivers, employees and motel guests. The purpose is to let our truckers and travelers know that we are thinking of them and to provide a taste of home while they are on the road. **This year at Shiloh there will be a table placed in the gallery near the parlor on Sunday November 28 to collect cookies until December 12.** On the twelfth the cookies will be collected and taken to the Carlisle Trucker's Ministry. Please contact Brian Curren with any questions.

Shiloh UCC is **adopting families** again this year for the Christmas season. This year we have 2 families. This year we are again asking you to support the families **by donating money to Adopt-A-Family**. We have volunteers who will use that money to purchase as much as we can from the requested items on their lists. You can designate Adopt-A-Family on your offering envelope or use a separate envelope which can be placed in the collection plate or mail it in to the office by **November 28th**. Please make checks payable to Shiloh UCC. Thank you for your support as we prepare for the Christmas season.



We are also collecting **treats and supplies for the York SPCA and the Raven Ridge Wildlife Rehabilitation Center**. Tags with the needed supplies are hanging on the **Animal Angel tree in the gallery**. We will collect supplies from **November 7th through December 5th**.

The **Sunday School** will again collect items for the **Tree of Warmth**. We will start collecting gloves, hats, scarves and other warm items from **November 7th through December 12th**. All youth items will be given to the Dover Clothes Closet. Adult items will be given to York Giving Helping Hands to hand out to those in need. Thank you for your support!!



Consistory has started a **special fund** for making renovations and improvements to the church's kitchen and social hall (Room 100). This year's special **Christmas Offering** will be used to help build this



Coffee Connections will resume in **room 100** instead of the welcoming center to allow for better social distancing. Food and drinks will be individually wrapped or served.



The **Women's Guild** will be meeting **December 6 at 1:00 pm in room 202**. A Christmas program will be presented by Pat Roth and Marvel Burg. **We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.**



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

Engaging Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**. They will continue with the book called "The Power of a Woman's Words," by Sharon Jaynes.



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.

