

**Welcome to this time of Celebration at  
Shiloh United Church of Christ**

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

3:00 P.M.



**Our Mission Statement**  
***“Shiloh United Church of Christ is called to show Christ’s love for all through witness, word, and worship.”***

**SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
INSTALLATION SERVICE OF  
REV. MELINDA LAMONTAGNE, PH.D.**

The Prelude to Christian Worship

“God of the Prophets” ..... Paxton

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: God is here! As we God’s people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is that we share in Christ. Some are called to be prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, but all are called for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

**People: There are different gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

Leader: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

**People: Together we are the body of Christ. Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation.**

Leader: Whoever among you is chosen to lead must become the servant of all.

**People: Recognizing and celebrating our different gifts, we gather today to pray for courage in the struggle for justice and peace, to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, and to be servants in the service of the whole human family.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

**\*Litany**

Leader: With full sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, let us pray.

**All: O God, You have led Your people in the past; lead us now!**

Leader: Grant us the courage of Ruth and the bravery of Noah.

**All: Grant us the hope of Jeremiah to invest in the future, and the unselfishness of Esther to take risks on behalf of others.**

Leader: From the words of Your prophets we have learned justice and mercy.

**All: Help us to say, with Isaiah, “Here am I, send me.”**

Leader: O God of James and John and Mary Magdalene, you have called us to follow Jesus.

**All: Teach us how to work together in mutual responsibility, side-by-side.**

Leader: O God, be with us this day as we seek to open ourselves to Your love and Your wholeness, and to Your servant who has been chosen to serve You in this place.

**All: Fill us, and her, with Your compassionate Spirit, so that together we will be able to minister to this gathered family and to the whole world into which we are called. Through Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.**

Hymn

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” .....No. 286

Collect

One: Oh God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair and growth out of difficulty. We thank You that You do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive Your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives and to attend to the gentle guidance of Your Spirit, that we may know the joy You give Your people.

**All: Amen**

One: God is Still speaking.

**All: Are we listening?**

First Lesson: Esther 4:8-14

Second Lesson: Isaiah 40:27-31

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

Response to the Word

One: God is still speaking

**All: We will listen!**

Sermon, “What Time Is It”.....Rev. Eva O’ Diam

Duet by Rev. Charles Hull and Nathan Limbert

“The Lighthouse” ..... Hinson/ Arr. Mauldin

**ORDER OF INSTALLATION**

**Penn Central Conference Representative, Nora Foust**

**York Church and Ministry Representative, Rev. Eva O’ Diam**

The York association of the Penn Central conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

**People: Let us look to Jesus the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

**Timothy Bentzel Shiloh United Church of Christ Consistory President:**

Shiloh United Church of Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has called Pastor Melinda as its Pastor and teacher and respectfully requests that the York Association install her in this ministry among us, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

**Association representative:**

The York association has reviewed the request of Shiloh United Church of Christ. We have prayerfully examined Pastor Melinda and we are pleased to install her as your pastor and teacher.

Pastor Melinda servant of God, we invite you to come forward as a sign of your acceptance of the call to this office.

**Association representative:**

Installation is the action of an association of the United Church of Christ in cooperation with a local church. Installation confirms and celebrates the covenantal relationship among a local church, its pastor and teacher, and the United Church of Christ. Installation is a sign that these covenantal partners are committed to share mutually in the mission of the United Church of Christ and of the ecumenical church.

**Exhortation:**

**Association representative addressing the congregation:**

Hear these words from the apostle Paul: we beg you, our brothers and sisters, to pay proper respect to those who work among you, guide and instruct you in the Christian life. Treat them with the greatest respect and love because of the work they do. Be at peace among yourselves.

**Addressing the pastor**

We urge you, our sister, warn the idol, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all.

**Addressing all:**

See that no one pays back wrong for wrong, but at all times make it your aim to do good to one another and to all people. Be joyful always, pray at all times, and be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants of you, in your life in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Association representative:**

Pastor Melinda, seeing that you are called to ordained ministry by the grace of God and that Shiloh United Church of Christ has been led to call you as pastor and teacher, are you willing to enter this covenant with its members who are one in Christ with us in the York association?

**Pastor:**

I am willing, and I promise to serve this church faithfully, preaching and teaching the word of God, administering the sacraments, and for fulfilling the pastoral office, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

**Association representative addressing the congregation:**

Members of Shiloh United Church of Christ, will those who are able please stand and affirm your covenant with your pastor and teacher?

**\*Local church members: We, the members of Shiloh United Church of Christ, receive Pastor Melinda as our pastor and teacher, promising to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel and to give her due honor and support. We gather with her and with the United Church of Christ as a sign of our mutual Ministry in Christ's name.**

**Association representative addressing association members:**

Members of the York Association, do you affirm your covenant with Shiloh United Church of Christ and its pastor and teacher?

**We the members of the York association of the United Church of Christ together with you the people and the pastor and teacher of Shiloh United Church of Christ, as a sign of our covenant and in celebration of our mutual Ministry in Christ's name.**

**Association Representative**

Let us pray: Almighty God, you have called your servants to make promises before you; now enable us to keep our vows that we may remain steadfast in faith and fruitful in every good work. Bless, we pray, your servant Pastor Melinda to whom the care of your people of this church is now committed. Pour out your Holy Spirit on her and on the people of Shiloh

United Church of Christ, as well as all the churches of the York Association that our mutual Ministry maybe served with all faithfulness, diligence, and courage. Grant us the spirit of power, of love and of a sound mind. Make our ministry a means of awakening the careless, strengthening the faithful, comforting the afflicted, building up your church, and converting sinners to you. Guard us against the snares of temptation that we may be kept pure in heart, fervent in spirit, and valiant against evil. And at the last, by your grace, receive us in your eternal home, where we, with you, the Holy Spirit and Christ reigns in glory, one God, forever and ever.

**All: Amen**

**Declaration by Association Representative**

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the York association of the Penn Central conference of the United Church of Christ I declare you duly installed as pastor and teacher of Shiloh United Church of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Pastoral Prayer and the Lords' 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.**

\*Response to God's Word through Our Offering

"Doxology" ..... No. 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.

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Oh God, through the offering of these gifts may we become a more open people...  
Open-minded in hearing your word and wisdom,  
Openhearted in healing a broken world,  
Openhanded in heeding your call for charity and enacted love.  
With thanks for all good gifts, we present a portion or substance and the whole of ourselves. Amen.**

Hymn

"Lead Us from Death to Life" .....No. 581

\*Commissioning

Go forth into the world and serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

\*Benediction

The Postlude

"Postlude" .....Handel

We would like to thank everyone for joining us in this celebration. Also, thank you to our Liturgist, Jane Harrison, Penn Central Conference Representative, Nora Foust and York Church and Ministry Representative, Rev. Eva O' Diam.

**\*Stole presented to Pastor Melinda by the congregation in honor of this day of installation.**

***\*\*Offering will be given to the Lancaster Theological Seminary in support of Pastoral and Theological Education.***