

March 6, 2022
First Sunday in Lent

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Prelude

“The Penitent”

Martin

Call to Worship

Pastor: In this season, we worship remembering Jesus’ death in love for us and all people.

People: Lent is a time of tears.

Pastor: But out of tears, joy is born – the joy of sin forgiven, hope reborn, and life restored.

**All: We stand in awe of the God who brings joy out of tears, and life out of death.
Let us worship with reverence. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days”

NCH # 211

Lord Jesus, who through forty days for us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.

And through these days of penitence, and through his Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death, O Christ, within us abide.

Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

~ Coming Alive in Community ~

Call to Confession

Let us come to our time of confession with humility and trust in God’s grace.

Prayer of Confession

Wise and powerful God, you have given us your light and truth to guide us through confusion, yet we have relied instead on our human wisdom and have lost our way. You offer to share our burdens and give us your strength, yet we trust in our own efforts and find ourselves exhausted. Bring us back into your presence, O God; overcome our separation from one another and from you. By your Word and Spirit, fill us with the gifts that equip us to meet life’s demands, that we may be your people in the world and live in the confidence and joy of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

Bless the Lord who forgives all our iniquity and redeems our lives from the pit. Hear again the goodness; in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free.

Special Music “Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley” D. Wolgemuth, vocalist/keyboard
African-Am. Spiri., 2nd stanza © Fred Bock Music Co. (CCLI #498415)

Music arrangement-© First Run Muzik Psalter (ASCAP)

As we walk our lonesome valley, We do not walk it by ourselves;
For God Sent His Son, to walk it with us, We do not walk it by ourselves.

~ *We Hear God's Word* ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Barbara Brown

The Reading of Psalm 9:1-2, 9-16

The Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection “O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free” vs. 1-3 NCH # 209

O Love, how vast, how flowing free, O Love, how filled with ecstasy,
That God a human form should take, and mortal be for mortals' sake.

Not as an angel visiting, nor form celestial orbiting,
But born in flesh God chose to be, robed in our own humanity.

For us baptized, and fasting long, for us was tempted by the wrong,
For us the pangs of hunger knew; for us the Tempter overthrew.

~ *Sharing Blessings With Others* ~

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

Minister: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

All: 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.

Offering our Gifts - Thank you for your faithful support of Shenkel's ongoing ministries

One Great Hour of Sharing - provides disaster relief and community development all around the world. You can read more about OGHS at www.oghs@ucc.org.

Refrain: As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered onto one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of the earth
be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
May we share the presence of your love. (Refrain)

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
When all creation shares this feast with you. (Refrain)

Prayer of Dedication

~ *Holy Communion* ~

Invitation

Pastor: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

People: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

Communion Prayer

Minister: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Minister: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:.

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory,
O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: We remember that on the night..... your will in all the world.

The Breaking of the Bread, The Pouring of the Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Let us pray.

All: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ *Going out in Joy* ~

Sending Hymn

“The God of Abraham Praise” vs. 1, 3, 4

NCH # 24

The God of Abraham praise, all praises to God’s name,
Who was and is and is to be, fore’er the same!
The one eternal God, before what now appears;
the First, the Last: beyond all thought through timeless years!

God’s spirit freely flows, high surging where it will;
God spoke of old in prophet’s word; the word speaks still,
Established is God’s law, and changeless it shall stand,
Deep written on the human heart, in every land.

God has eternal life implanted in the soul;
God’s love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll,
All praise the living God! Extol that hallowed name,
Who was, and is, and ever shall be still the same!

Choral Benediction

“May the Sending One Defend You”

NCH # 79

May the Sending One defend you, may the Seeking One amend you,
May the Keeping One befriend you, in your gladness and in your grieving.

May the Given One retrieve you, may the Gifted One relieve you,
May the Giving One receive you, in your falling and your restoring.

May the Binding One unite you – may the One Beloved invite you –
May the Loving One delight you – Three-in-One, joy in life unending.

Postlude

“Largo”

Sammartini

Announcements

The Prayer Community asks you to join with us this week in praying for:

Joan and Joe Granger

Barbara Sweinhart

Abby Dise

Kim Yocom and Barry Peterman

Suzanne Spaulding

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

- Sun., 3/6 ~ Reflective Worship service with communion at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
 ~ Worship service with communion in the sanctuary at 9:45 am
 ~ Annual Congregational Meeting following worship
 ~ Choir Rehearsal at 11 am
 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Tues., 3/8 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
 ~ Consistory meeting at 6:30 pm
Wed., 3/9 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

- Sun., 3/13 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
 ~ Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am
 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Tues., 3/15 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Wed., 3/16 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm
Thurs., 3/17 ~ Agape at 6:45 pm

Scripture Readings for March 13:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35

Pottstown Cluster. This month's items are body wash (adults and kids), shampoo, conditioner and bar soap. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. We will be collecting each week and items will change on a monthly basis. Items for next month will be adult lotion, deodorant, feminine tampons, laundry detergent.

Annual Congregational Meeting. On Sunday, March 6th, we will hold the Annual Congregational Meeting immediately following the **Traditional worship service**. Copies of the 2021 Annual Report will be available. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Lenten Bible Study. Beginning with the first Sunday in Lent, March 6, we will be offering opportunities for education and discussion about white privilege. We will be using the UCC curriculum "White Privilege, let's talk, A Resource for Transformational Dialogue."

In an effort to make the discussion available to as many people as possible there will be three different discussion times in which to participate:

Sunday after worship, 11:00 am

Tuesday at 11:00 am

Wednesday at 7:00 pm

All discussions are planned to take place in person in the social hall. Each group will be working on the same topic while the discussions will vary according to the people who attend. You can pick up a copy of the first section, "The Spiritual Autobiography Told through the Lens of Race", at the church office. The expectation is that you will have read the first chapter and arrive ready to join in a discussion.

Mid-day Dinner club will be meeting at Coventry Pub on Tuesday, March 15 at noon. It is open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better. If you are attending, please add your name and phone number on the sign up sheet no later than Sunday, March 13 so your reservation can be made on time or you may call Sharon Sabo at 610-326-1945 or let her know at the Sunday service if you are able to attend.

Join us for Pastor Suzanne's installation service **Sunday, March 20 at 3:00 p.m.** in our sanctuary. This is your chance to join with Shenkel UCC's members and friends, as well as her family, friends, and colleagues, to officially install Rev. Suzanne Spaulding as our pastor. A reception meal organized by Fellowship Committee, will be served in the social hall following the service. So we can have as accurate a count as possible, **please let Tootie or Louise Hine or the office know by March 10 if you would be attending and if you are willing to provide a dessert.** Hope to see you on March 20th!

Short Term Disaster Response Virtual Coordinator

Do you have 4-5 extra hours a week to organize (virtually) disaster rebuild volunteers? Are you interested in working with people helping people? Do you want to help people whose lives have been dramatically changed because of natural disasters?

Full description and information on the bulletin boards.

Pastor Suzanne's new address:
207 Hollytree Court
Pottstown, PA 19464