

~ *Coming Alive in Community* ~

Call to Confession

God invites us to come with confidence in God's mercy to our time of confession.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Silence for Prayer and Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven and we are set free!

Special Music "God of Abraham and Sarah" Kelly Strunk & Sandy Rowe, *duet*
J. Gertmenian © 1986 J. Getmenian & Shawnee Press (onelicense #85490)

~ *We Hear God's Word* ~

Scripture Lessons

The Gospel Reading: John 5:1-9

Maddie Mest

The Reading of Psalm 67

The Epistle Reading: Acts 16:9-15

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

"Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" NCH # 459

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

~ *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
Strengthen the Church (STC) - It is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches where the UCC voice has not been heard.

Offering Response

“Doxology”

NCH # 778

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

Prayer of Dedication

~ *Going out in Joy* ~

Sending Hymn

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

NCH # 18

Guide me, O my great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield, ever be my strength and shield.

When I reach the River Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on heaven's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you, I will ever sing to you.

Benediction

Postlude

“I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go”

Brown & Prior/ Rounsefell

Announcements

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

Judy Gergle
Julie and Bill Zachesky
Tootie Hine
Susan and Homer Royer
Barb Burhans

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

Sun., 5/22 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
~ Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am
~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
~ Coventry Woods Festival from 1 – 5 pm
Mon., 5/23 ~ Community meal prepared at Barb Sweinhart's house
Tues., 5/24 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
~ Midday Dinner Club at Douglassville Hotel at noon
Wed., 5/25 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun., 5/29 ~ 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., 5/31 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Wed., 6/1 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

Scripture Readings for May 29:

John 17:20-26; Psalm 97; Acts 16:16-34

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 5th, for the express purpose of acting on a proposal to remove dead trees from our property. Further information and proxy votes will be forthcoming.

Beginning Sunday, May 8, we will begin part 2 of the **continuing education and discussion about white privilege**. We are using the UCC curriculum “White Privilege, let’s talk, A Resource for Transformational Dialogue.” There will be the same three discussion time options 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. You can pick up a copy of Part 2 at the church office. The expectation is that you will have read the first chapter and arrive ready to join in a discussion. I look forward to continuing our learning and growing together as we work our way through this curriculum.

The Coventry Woods festival will be held on today from 1-5 PM. We are looking for people to staff the Shenkel display table and share information about Shenkel UCC with people who stop by. If you can help us with these items it would be appreciated. Please contact Gary McDermit, Chris Gray, or Dan Jenkins if you can help.

If anyone is interested in starting Lunch Bunch again, please let Barbara Brown, Tootie or Louise know you are interested.

Many thanks to our members and friends who donated to Ukraine Relief through the special offerings in April. Through your generosity, we collected \$3,670 for that ministry .