

Welcome to Shenkel United Church of Christ!

Sunday, September 25, 2022 – Traditional Service at 9:45 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

~Gathering Together ~

Prelude “My Song is Love Unknown” tune: Rhosymedre

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Choral Introit “I Am Welcome” Songbook # 72

I am welcome, I am welcome, I am loved just as I am.

I am welcome, I am welcome, I am loved just as I am.

O Spirit burn that truth into my heart.

You are welcome, You are welcome, You are loved just as You are.

You are welcome, You are welcome, You are loved just as You are.

O Spirit burn that truth into your hearts.

We are welcome, We are welcome, We are loved just as We are.

We are welcome, We are welcome, We are loved just as We are.

O Spirit burn that truth into our hearts.

Call to Worship

Pastor: We are here this morning to meet our brothers and sisters in Christ,

People: To talk together, to share the events of our lives with persons who listen and care.

Pastor: We are here this morning to meet ourselves,

People: To reflect within, to enjoy the sounds of our own voices and the workings of our own minds.

Pastor: We are here this morning to meet with God,

People: To pray, to listen, to communicate through worship our thanks and praise for God’s loving contact with us.

All: This time of meeting is valuable and sustaining. So let us worship with gratitude and gladness the God who draws us together.

Opening Hymn

“You Are Holy”

Songbook # 4

You are holy, you are whole. You are always evermore than we ever understand.
You are always at hand. Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead. You are holy, You are wholeness, You are present,
let the cosmos praise you God! Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia,
halleluia our God.

~ Coming Alive in Community ~

Call to Confession

Trusting in God’s grace and mercy, let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, you are the Provider of all our days.
When the winds of faith blow strong and our spirits are invigorated, you are with us.
When the burdens of life seem as oppressive as hot, humid air and our spirits become
listless, you are with us.
When a sense of calm purpose moves us from the depths of our being, you are present.
When a turbulence of pain or confusion storms within us, you are present still.
Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge or to rely upon your steadfast love. We do
so for many reasons. Sometimes we do not want to see you. At other times, we stubbornly
try to do without you. Sometimes we lock you in the past as though your best efforts were
concluded long ago. At other times, we put you off until tomorrow.
Great God, forgive us, and grant us the vision to see you, the wisdom to trust you, the
courage to serve you. Through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Silence for Prayer and Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear the good news: in
Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free.

Special Music

“Let Justice Roll Down”

~ We Hear God’s Word ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Joan Palubinsky

Reading of Psalm 146

The Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” Songbook # 38

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me, no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow, though none go with me, I still will follow,
though none go with me, I still will follow, no turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide to follow Jesus? Will you decide to follow Jesus?
Will you decide to follow Jesus? no turning back, no turning back.

~ *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

Church World Services - Blanket Sunday For over 60 years, Church World Services has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a more viable future, including: blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster. For more information, go to www.cwsglobal.org.

Offering Response

“We Plow the Fields”

Songbook # 36

All good gifts around us Are sent from heaven above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord For all His love. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

~ *Going out in Joy* ~

Sending Hymn

“Here I Am”

Songbook # 26

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord, If you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude

“Fantasia”

Handel

Announcements

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

Lisa & Joe Dice
Lynn, David and Katie Derman
Elizabeth, James, Zoey and Henry Carr
Sue and Mike Kulp

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

Sun., 9/25 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
 ~ Worship service in the grove at 9:45 am
 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Mon., 9/26 ~ Community Meal
Tues., 9/27 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Wed., 9/28 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

- Sun., 10/2 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary with World communion
 ~ Worship service in the grove at 9:45 am with World Communion and Blessing of the Animals
 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Tues., 10/4 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
Wed., 10/5 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

We will be offering opportunities for **continuing education and discussion about white privilege**. We will be using the UCC curriculum “White Privilege, let’s talk, A Resource for Transformational Dialogue” Again 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. You can pick up a copy of the third section 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 learning and growing together as we work our way through this curriculum.

Pottstown Cluster. This month’s items are adult lotion, deodorant, feminine tampons, and laundry detergent. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. Next month’s items are dish soap, multi-purpose cleaners, and toilet paper.

Christmas Card Workshop. Please join us for a card making funfest on Saturday, October 15th. Everyone will get to make several Christmas cards. We will start at 10:00 am, break for lunch, and then make more cards in the afternoon. Please bring a lunch (beverage and desserts will be provided). If you are new to card making, don’t let that stop you – there will be lots of help available. Guests are welcome – the more the merrier. Workshop fee is \$20.00 per person, which includes all supplies...and a surprise or two!

To reserve your place in the workshop, please call or email Pat Kuestner as soon as possible. Deadline to sign up is October 2nd. Thanks, and I really hope to see you there. Pat 610-327-0889; plkuestner@gmail.com.

Friends Helping Friends. Come and shop at Boscov’s on Wednesday, October 19. You will need to purchase a shopping pass for \$5.00 and get a 25 % discount on most items. Please see Tootie or Louise for your pass. Shenkel gets to keep the \$5.00 as a fundraiser.