

March 20, 2022
Third Sunday in Lent

Prelude

“Meditation”

Young

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Choral Introit

“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.

Call to Worship

Pastor: Gentle God, we thank you for your Lenten walk through Galilee and our lives.

People: We thank you for healing grace and teachings that challenge us.

Pastor: We thank you for parables that tease us and for invitations to partake of living water.

People: We seek you today God, trusting that you may be found. We call upon you knowing that you are near.

Opening 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 be my strength and shield,
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.
Song of praises, songs of praises I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

~ *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

Eternal God, from the beginning of time you have called your children into communion with you. Yet we confess that like all the rest, we have turned to our own way and refused your love and grace. Restore us to the joy of knowing you, and of recognizing your reign among us, through Jesus Christ, bringer of your good news. 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 good news; in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free.

Special Music

“Seek Ye First”

Congregation with Chimes

Karen Lafferty © 1972 CCCM Music, [CCLI #11169209]

~ We Hear God’s Word ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Sandy Rowe

The Reading of Psalm 63:1-8

The Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

NCH # 252

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need your tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are.

We are yours, in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

Let us always seek your favor; let us always do your will;
Jesus Christ our only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.

Baptism

Jordan Jay Hartzell (JJ)

Son of Adam and Jessica Hartzell, brother of Lucy

Sponsor: Brooke Miller

Tully Meehan

Son of Scott and Nicole Meehan

Sponsors: Jess & Adam Hartzell

Invitation

Welcome

Leader: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”

Leader; And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Address

Leader: Jesus said: Unless we are born . . . and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.

Questions of the Candidates

Congregational Assent

Minister: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.

Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to the ones about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care.

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

**People: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
you have come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,
tongues and races.**

**You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Prayer of Baptism

Leader: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. We thank you, God.....

Act of Baptism

Leader: Jordan Jay Hartzell, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: The Holy Spirit be upon you, JJ, child of God, disciple of Christ, member of
the church.

Leader: Tully Meehan, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: The Holy Spirit be upon you, Tully, child of God, disciple of Christ, member
of the church.

Act of Praise

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

NCH # 325

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are; from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.

Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.

Prayer for the Baptized

Pastor: Let us pray for those baptized today.....the company of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

~ 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.*

Offering Response

“Give Me a Clean Heart”

NCH # 188

Give me a clean heart so I may serve you,
God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.
For I'm not worthy of all these blessings,
Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you.

Prayer of Dedication

~ Going out in Joy ~

Sending Hymn

“O Jesus I Have Promised” vs. 1 & 3

NCH # 493

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend;
I shall not fear life's struggles if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my Guide.

O Jesus, you hast promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory your servant shall be, too;
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!

Benediction

Choral Benediction

“May the Sending One Defend You”

NCH # 79

Postlude

Postlude on “England’s Lane”

Medlock

Announcements

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

Linda, Andrew, Brandon, Aaron, Michael, AJ Foss and Christine Hauze

Jill and Karl Hudick

TJ Augustine

Lisa and Barry Yocom

Margie and Doug Allen

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

- Sun., 3/20 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
 ~ Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am
 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
 ~ Installation Service and meal for Pastor Suzanne at 3 pm
- Tues., 3/22 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
- Wed., 3/23 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

- Sun., 3/27 ~ 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., 3/29 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 11 am
- Wed., 3/30 ~ White Privilege Discussion at 7 pm

Scripture Readings for March 27:

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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.

Lenten Bible Study. 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.

Easter Flowers



There are envelopes available in the narthex for you to order Easter flowers. Please complete the envelope, put your payment inside and give the envelope to Tootie or Louise.

Join us for Pastor Suzanne’s installation service **Today 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.

Ukrainian Relief

First, we elected to send \$2,500 now from our Mission and Service Allocation through the Conference to Hungarian Reformed Church Aid. They are providing refugee support in Hungary and the surrounding area.

Second, starting this Sunday through Easter, you can make a donation for Ukrainian Relief through Shenkel. You can include your donation with your envelope or separately. Just mark your contribution as “Ukraine” and we will send those funds through the Conference also. Let us continue to keep the Ukrainian people in our prayers.