

Welcome to Shenkel United Church of Christ!

Sunday, August 28, 2022 – Traditional Service at 9:45 am

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

~Gathering Together ~

Prelude

“It Is Well with My Soul”

Bliss arr. Walz

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Choral Introit

“Let Your Spirit Come”

Songbook # 96

Let your Spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon me now, fall upon me now.

Let your spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon us now, fall upon us now.

Let your rain fall down, let your rain fall down; pour upon our souls, pour upon our souls.

Come and wash us now, come and wash us now;

come and make us whole, come and make us whole.

Let your Spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon me now, fall upon me now.

Let your spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon us now, fall upon us now.

Call to Worship

Pastor: In the darkness and emptiness of much we call life, the Spirit moves among us, calling us into new being.

People: We are here to seek light amid the shadows, fulfillment out of hollowness and despair.

Pastor: From separation and bitterness, apathy and hatred, God, in Christ, calls us to steadfast love and reconciliation.

People: We have come to find healing and peace, to experience forgiveness, acceptance, and purpose.

Pastor: In the midst of the ordinary, God has come to us. In our everyday worlds, God continues to visit and redeem.

People: Come, Holy Spirit, to baptize us with fire. We await your word and the power of your benediction.

Opening Hymn

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Songbook # 56

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,

The glories ever echoing the triumphs of God’s grace!

My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Jesus! The name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease
Is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!

Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given
By all the saints in every age, the church in earth and heaven.

~ Coming Alive in Community ~

Call to Confession

Let us come humbly and boldly to our time of confession, counting on God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession

When we put off until tomorrow our response to your call, forgive us, O God. When our good intentions are not followed by good actions, have patience with us, O God. When we harden our hearts, making all kinds of excuses why we should not serve you, O God, have mercy. Today when we hear your voice, may we rise up to hear and obey, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

When we confess our sin God is faithful and just to forgive us and restore us to right relationship. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free!

Special Music

"Face to Face"

Sue Stultz, Flute

Breck/Tullar © 2022 First Run Muzik Psalter (ASCAP) [P.D.-onlicense #97978]

~ We Hear God's Word ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7

Barbara Brown

Reading of Psalm 112

The Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

Songbook # 84

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways.
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

[Refrain] God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? [Refrain]

As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams [Refrain]

We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,
Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung. [Refrain]

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit, resurrect the church again. [Refrain]

~ 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
North Coventry Meals on Wheels program - *Meals on Wheels of Chester County (MOWCC)*
serves hundreds of homebound citizens throughout the county, including members from our own church family. For more information, go to www.mowcc.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

"Shadow and Substance"

Songbook # 83

Shadow and substance, wonder and mystery, Spell binding spinner of atoms and earth;
Soul of the cosmos, person and energy, Source of our being; we sing of your worth.

We are your image, formed in community; Sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us color, custom and history; Teach us to honor what others receive.

Naming the nameless Spirit of unity, Scanning the heavens for signs of your care;
God of the ages, give us humility; Guide us to mystical union in prayer.

Benediction

Choral Sending “You Shall Go Out with Joy” Songbook # 101

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace.
And the mountains and the hill will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap,
 will clap their hands.
And the trees of the field will clap their hands,
the trees of the field will clap their hands,
the trees of the field will clap their hands,
while you go out with joy You shall go.

Postlude “Ask, Seek, Knock” Sirchio

Announcements

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

Sherri and Bob Mocarski
Anna Bevan
Tootie Hine
Carol and Henry Bailey
Gillian Caplan

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

Sun., 8/28 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
 ~ Worship service in the grove at 9:45 am

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun., 9/4 ~ Community Worship service at 10 am in grove with communion.

Scripture Readings for September 4:
Jeremiah 18:1-10; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Beginning Sunday, September 11, 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 Baby Items: baby cereal, baby food, baby lotion, baby wipes, baby shampoo. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. Next month's items are body wash (adults and kids), shampoo, conditioner and bar soap .

Thank you to Linda and Andrew Foss for providing the refreshments after the service today.

Community Labor Day Service. We will again be hosting the Community Labor Day service on Sunday, September 4 at 10 am. There will not be an 8:30 service. We will be having communion at the 10:00 am service. Shenkel is responsible for drinks for after the service.

A Different Worship Experience

On Sunday September 18 we will experience worship through a drum circle!

Ms Karen Smith, Percussionist/Playwright/Poet/Curator, will be with us to lead us in this new (to many) way to worship. She led a drum circle at the PSEC Spring Meeting I attended and so I have invited her to come and share that experience with us. Everyone of all ages is welcome and encouraged to be present, even those who feel they have no rhythm. Karen will invite you in and you may be surprised at what you experience. Looking forward to sharing this worship experience together. — Pastor Suzanne

Disaster Relief. We will be collecting money to help the people in Kentucky. All money will be sent to the PSEC to be forwarded to Kentucky.

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.