

The Worship Service
Sunday, November 17, 2024

“Watch out, that no
one leads you astray...
The beginning of birth
pangs.” Jesus

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

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Shenkel's UCC's Covenant Statement

So reach out and welcome one another to God's glory. Jesus did it, now you do it!

(Romans 15:7, The Message)

We are aware of pain organized religion has inflicted on many; and we are aware many places of worship have not given the extravagant welcome God offers to us all. Therefore, Shenkel United Church of Christ covenants to extend heartfelt hospitality to ALL. Shenkel UCC affirms all persons are created in the image of God, so we offer full inclusion (communion, life, and ministries) in the faith journey of this congregation, regardless of differences: whether religious background, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, national origin, immigration and refugee status, age, ethnicity, relationship status, addiction/recovery, physical or mental ability, and political affiliation. We proclaim this statement: **no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

Welcome to Shenkel United Church of Christ!

An Open and Affirming congregation since 2018

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

~Gathering Together~

Prelude When thou O Lord Art Near (Bach)

Welcome

Invocation

Call to Worship

L: Jutting mountains and river-ribboned valleys, moving sands and pulsing oceans--

C: All these are works of our Creator.

L: Crawling babies and striding adults, the homeless and the homebound and the hospitalized--

C: All these are members of our common human family.

L: Storefronts and cathedrals, churches on the square and little churches in the vale--

C: All these are places to praise our one and only God.

L: For the gift of Earth, the fellowship of other people, and the privilege of worship, we give thanks as we come together this day.

Opening Hymn "We Worship You God" (NCH#26)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Le us approach our God in all truth, confessing the deeds and distractions that have kept us from honoring God and have divided us from other human beings. We cannot undo all the wrong we have done, but we can be cleansed from an evil conscience to live a more wholesome and joyous life.

Prayer of Confession

Mighty God, we confess the arrogance of our doubts and the falsehood of our denials. We have neglected to pray and have forgotten to give thanks. Many activities have become more important to us than gathering for worship. Our busyness crowds out times of private prayer. We shake our heads at the evil around us but do little to witness to a better way. Your law is seldom consulted, and your pathways of self-sacrificing love rarely explored. Turn us around, God. Only you can meet our need. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

The Holy Spirit renews in us the covenant we have made with our God, offering us forgiveness and assuring us that our lawless deeds will be remembered no more. The law of God is planted in our hearts and written on our minds so love and good deeds may become second nature to us. We are set free to express gladness and to encourage one another.

Special Music

My Heart Is Overflowing, Kelly Strunk, Soloist

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Maddie Mest

I Samuel 1:4-20
I Samuel 2:1-10
Mark 13:1-8

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection: "O Day Of God, Draw Near"

(NCH#611)

~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 Mother/Father, who are 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.

November's Special Offering – All Saints – Retired Clergy

Offertory

Dedication

(Martens)

Offering Response "We Give You But Your Own"

(NCH#785)

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn

"O God Our Help In Ages Past"

(NCH#25)

Benediction

Postlude

Enter His Courts With Praise

(Mason)

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth

Email: shenkelpastor@gmail.com

Organist: Susan Royer

Sexton: Stacy

Keim

Secretary: Danielle Petersen

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Special Music: (Miriam Therese Winter/Dan Wolgemuth) © 1993 Medical Mission Sisters/ © 2021 First Run Muzik Psalter

Announcements:
Sunday, November 17, 2024

~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 11/17/2024 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary
~ Traditionalish Worship service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary
~ Church School at 11:00 am

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Tues, 11/19/24 ~ Midday Dinner at Nudy's Café at 12:00 pm
Sun, 11/24/24 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary
~ Traditionalish Worship service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary

Please feel free to scan this code to donate through our online giving page.



Scripture Reading for November 24th

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Revelation 1:4-8
John 18:33-37

Susan Royer

Carol Lykens Giving Challenge: We're receiving gifts for our Carol Lykens Fill-The-Hat Challenge! You're encouraged to make an additional contribution to the Current Fund beyond your usual giving. The goal is to match Carol's \$5000 bequest to help us meet our budget. Contributions can be made to Shenkel UCC with "Carol Challenge" in the memo line, or donate online through our website. Thank you!

Cluster donations for November: Apple juice (Our goal is 300)

Grocery run? Consider using Giant and Redner's cards for your grocery store purchases: Shenkel earns \$5 for every \$100 on Giant and Redner's gift cards – which are available every week at church.

Stewardship: Stewardship Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The charge of the committee is to: find ways to increase much needed revenue, attract new members, and identify new ways to provide ministry. Please contact members of the committee with your thoughts. Committee members: Chris Gray, Dan Jenkins, Kim Yocum, Julie Zachesky, and Brenda Berriker.

Church School: Children from 3 years through grade 6 are invited to participate in church school on the third Sunday of the month at 11:00 AM. Our next church school is today.

Shenkel Prayer Group: Meets at 10:00 am on the first Thursday of the month. All are welcome to participate. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and celebrate the Spirit of God moving among us as we pray together.

Community Thanksgiving Service & Meal

Our annual Community Thanksgiving Service and Meal will again be held this year on Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. It will be a simple meal of soup, bread and dessert. Temple United Methodist Church as well as several other churches might be joining us. Invite your friends and neighbors but just make sure you give us a total number that will be attending.

If you would like to make a favorite soup to serve, just check the box on the sign up chart and let Louise know what soup you will be bringing. Or if you would like to bring bread, please check the box and let Louise or Tootie know. There is no need to bring all three items (soup, bread, dessert), just bring one - there is usually more than enough food. Drinks will be provided.

We will be collecting non-perishable food items as well as having a plate for monetary offerings that will be donated to the North Coventry Food Bank.

Thanks for joining us to Give Thanks!!

Prayer Lottery: Shenkel will be praying for:

BJ Peterman
Maryln Rohrbach
Josh Palubinsky
Barry, Susan & Brooke Miller
Kathy Murphy

Birthdays in the month of November:

Cole Major	11/5/2024
Louise Hine	11/6/2024
Alex Mocarski	11/6/2024
Joe Palubinsky	11/7/2024
Homer Royer	11/8/2024
Kaleena Sweinhart	11/8/2024
Madeline Mest	11/15/2024
John Sabo	11/16/2024
Peter Wanner	11/17/2024
Clair Faust	11/19/2024
Ben Mocarski	11/21/2024
Tracey Dise	11/25/2024
AJ Foss	11/25/2024
Linda Foss	11/28/2024
Mindy Chidawu	11/30/2024