

# The Worship Service

## Sunday, January 12, 2025



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### Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

610-326-3535 ~ [www.shenkelucc.org](http://www.shenkelucc.org) ~ [shenkelucc@aol.com](mailto:shenkelucc@aol.com) ~

### 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 Christ Be Our Light (Farrell)

Welcome

Invocation

Silence for Meditation

Call to Worship

L: Ascribe to God glory and strength! Ascribe to God's name glory and power!

**C: The voice of God is upon the waters, full of majesty! and might!**

L: The voice of God breaks the cedars, and thunders across the forest.

**C: The voice of God flashes forth flames of fire and shakes the wilderness.**

**Unison: May God give us strength, for we are God's people! May God bless us with peace and grant us grace!**

Opening Hymn "O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright" (NCH #158)

### ~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Let us confess together that we have not always lived as those forgiven, set free, and united in Christ.

Prayer of Confession

**O God, source of life and grace, we are aware that we are, at times, prisoners of fear and habit.**

**Through the healing touch of Christ, set us free to live and to love, that we may be the people you have created us to be.**

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

The good news is that Christ calls us to new life and enables us to begin again and again. In Christ we are forgiven and set free.

Special Music

What Ruler Wades Through Murky Streams

### ~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Sandy Rowe

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Luke 3:15-17, 21 & 22

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection: “Mark How the Lamb Of God’s Self-Offering” (NCH #167)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

**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. January’s Special Offering – Bethany Children’s Home

Offertory From the Sacred Waters (Grundy)

Offering Response “Love Came Down At Christmas”

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine.  
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn “Brightest And Best” (NCH #157)

Benediction

Postlude Shine, Jesus, Shine (Kendrick)

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Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Email: [shenkelpastor@gmail.com](mailto:shenkelpastor@gmail.com)

Sexton: Stacy Keim

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth

Organist: Susan Royer

Secretary: Danielle Petersen

**Announcements:**

**Sunday, January 12, 2025**

~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 1/12/25 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary

~ Traditionalish Worship service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 1/19/25 ~ 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  
Tues, 1/21/25 ~ Midday Dinner at Michael's Diner at 12:00 pm

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



**Scripture Reading for January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Isaiah 62:6-12  
Psalm 36:5-10  
John 2:1-7

**Joan Palubinsky**

**Cluster donations for January:** Laundry detergent and dish soap.

**Pastor Suzanne will be in Georgia at a conference from January 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>:** In case of pastoral care needs Pastor Jim Jannotti is available and can be contacted at 610-326-3941 or [templeumc@comcast.net](mailto:templeumc@comcast.net).

**Pottstown Communities of Faith Annual MLK Celebration:** Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:15 pm. The Hill School Center for the Arts: 766 Beech Street. All are welcome to attend.

**Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>:** The sanctuary will be open from 11:00-1:00 pm for any who wish to stop in to pray. There will be organ music in the background.

**Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>:** One service at 9:45 am in the social hall followed by the congregational meeting and discussion about finances and ministry vision.

**Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Rev. Nishan & Maria Bakalian, Global Mission Partners in Lebanon will be with us.

**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 5:30 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 on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**Prayer Lottery:** Shenkel will be praying for:

Clayton, Katerina, Maxine, Bellamy and Rennick Brewer  
Lucas Zachesky  
Michaela Craner  
Lilly Keim  
Drew Sweinhart

**Birthdays in the month of January:**

Kimberly Yocom	1/4/25
Susan Miller	1/5/25
Barry Peterman	1/5/25
Olivio Dushanko	1/9/25
James Heath	1/10/25
Brandon Foss	1/13/25
Freda Wanner	1/13/25
Delia Sanseverino	1/18/25
Mike Martin	1/21/25
Aurora Keim	1/22/25
David Braley	1/24/25
David Klein	1/24/25
Eric Klein	1/27/25
Joseph Bradley	1/29/25
Suzanne Spaulding	1/30/25