



~ *Coming Alive in Community* ~

Call to Confession

To set the mind on the ego is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. Trusting in the Spirit of God, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**O Lord, if you held our sin against us, who could live, who could stand? We seem to have more faith in death than in hope in your promise of life. We seek peace through war and find security in weapons. We abandon the hungry, sick, and dying, and pursue wealth by making others poor.**

**And even so, you love us; still there is forgiveness with you! Therefore we worship you; for you alone, O Lord, can save us from death and redeem us from our sin. Amen.**

*Silence for Prayer and Reflection.*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! If Jesus Christ dwells in you, the Spirit of God will be your life and the grace of God will be your righteousness. And if the Holy Spirit dwells in you, then God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies. Friends, this is the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Special Music

~ *We Hear God's Word* ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Dan Wolgemuth

The Reading of Psalm 130

The Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

"Let It Breathe on Me"

Insert

Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the breath of the Spirit breathe on me.  
Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the breath of God now breathe on me.

While I'm working, God, in your vineyard here, I cannot serve without you near;  
O come, blessed spirit, so close to me that I may feel you breathe on me.

When the pathway, God, I cannot see, when the way is hard, O breathe on me;  
Give me grace to know when you are near, then I pray, O Spirit, breathe on me.

~ *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*** - 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](http://www.oghs@ucc.org).

Offertory

“Come and Follow Me”

Kelvingrove

Offering Response “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” VS. 4 NCH # 565

**Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;  
From the night of anxious keeping, loose us into generous day.  
Then when years on earth are over, and we've lived our human span,  
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming, all our stewardship began.**

Prayer of Dedication

~ *Going out in Joy* ~

Sending Hymn

“Take My Gifts”

Insert

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free.  
Now because Your love has touched me, I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!

Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,  
spiced with humor, laced with laughter-- flavor of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.

Take whatever I can offer-- gifts that I have yet to find,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,  
things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:  
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

Benediction

Postlude

“Mantos y Ramos”

Avila

### *Announcements*

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

Betsy and Ken Bevan

Lori and Kaya Skolski

Brenda and Randy Berriker

Mindy, Isabella and Sela Chidawu

TJ Augustine

### *~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~*

- Sun., 3/26 ~ Jubilee service at 9:00 am in social hall with Congregational Meeting and breakfast to follow  
~ Book Study 11 am
- Mon., 3/27 ~ Community Meal at noon at Christ Episcopal Church
- Wed., 3/29 ~ Yoga at 4:30 pm  
~ Taizé Service at 7:30 pm

### *~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~*

- Sun., 4/2 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.  
~ Worship service in the grove at 9:45 am in sanctuary  
~ Book Study 11 am
- Thurs., 4/6 ~ Maundy Thursday Soup and Bread Communion Service at 5:30 pm in the Social Hall
- Fri., 4/7 ~ Good Friday Taizé Service at 7 pm in the Sanctuary

Scripture Readings for April 2

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

**Pottstown Cluster.** This month's items are disinfectant wipes, dish soap, Lysol spray bleach surface cleaner, and laundry detergent. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster.

**Wednesdays in March** we will be having Taizé Service at 7:30 pm in the Social Hall.

*What is Taizé?* Taizé is a meditative style of worship begun in the village of Taizé in France. Since 1940, an ecumenical community of brothers, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, pray daily, striving for “communion of all.’ People, and in particular youth, come from around the world to participate in retreats of prayer and reflection at Taizé.

**Taizé Taxi** - Interested in the Taizé service but don’t like to drive at night. Call the office and we will contact volunteers who are willing to provide transportation to and from the service.

**In Need of a canopy-** We need to find a portable canopy (approx. 10’ x 10’) to use for covering the Shenkel UCC display tables at the Coventry Woods Fair on Sunday May 21. Does anyone have one we could borrow for the day? Please contact Gary McDermit if you can help.

**Coventry Woods Festival table staff needed.** The Coventry Woods Festival is on Sunday May 21 and we are in need of people to staff the Shenkel display table between 1-5 PM. Can you help for an hour or more? Please contact Gary McDermit with your availability.

**Scholarships.** Applications for the 2023 Bill Boyer and Bill Burhans scholarships can be obtained by contacting the church office. Two letters of recommendation are needed for these awards, along with the application. Everything is due in the church office by April 15, 2023.

Eligible applicants may include past scholarship winners who are currently enrolled in further education. This scholarship is awarded based on merit and need. Please contact Randy Berriker if you have any questions on the process.

**Looking for Shoes.** Friedens United Church of Christ, Oley are collecting shoes from now until April 23. They will accept any kind of shoe that can be worn on a person’s foot so long as it’s a pair and they are new or gently used. Please put donations outside of the office.