

The Worship Service
Sunday, February 2, 2025

*Love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious
or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not
insist on it's own way... Love never ends.*

I Cor. 13

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

610-326-3535 ~ www.shenkelucc.org ~ 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 They'll Know We Are Christians (Scholtes)

Welcome

Invocation

Silence for Meditation

Call to Worship

L: From the ends of the earth we are gathered together;

C: The poor, and the rich, the joyful, the sorrowful, the honored, and the despised

L: All are gathered in one community,

C: Reflecting the love and life of God.

All: We have come from many worlds. Let us worship God as one!

Opening Hymn "God Of Grace And God Of Glory" (NCH#346)

~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

Caring and compassionate Creator, we enter this place set apart for your worship, knowing that we have failed to see you in other places. We have ignored your beauty around us, in earth and sky, in plants and creatures, in the people who surround us. We have chosen to live more by our fears than by our faith, to be weighed down by what we do not have, rather than rejoicing in your gifts to us. In these moments together, draw us so close that we cannot help but know every day that you are with us, wherever we go. Enlarge our capacity to care, so we may see you in all whom we meet. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

Hear and believe the good news: In Christ we are forgiven and set free.

Special Music

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Susan Royer

Jeremiah 1:4-10

I Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

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

Sermon

Rev. Nishan & Maria Bakalian

Hymn for Reflection: "The Church Of Christ, In Every Age"

(NCH #306)

~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. February’s Special Offering – Local Homeless Ministry

Offertory

He Leadeth Me

(Bradbury)

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

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

L: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

All: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from the east and west, from the north and south, and gather about Christ’s table.

L: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God’s people.

Communion Prayer

L: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to God.

L: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being.

We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory. We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory.

We bless you, gracious God, for the presence of your Holy Spirit in the church you have gathered. With your sons and daughters of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy.

All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!

Hosanna in the highest!

L: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover.

Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

All: Christ's death, O God, we proclaim. Christ's resurrection we declare. Christ's coming we await. Glory be to you, O God.

L: Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory. We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service in behalf of all people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

All: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread and Pouring Wine

Sharing the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn

"Let Us Talents And Tongues Employ"

(NCH #347)

Benediction

Postlude

Called to Christ's Service

(R. Miller)

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding
Email: shenkelpastor@gmail.com
Sexton: Stacy Keim
Ministers: All Members of the Church

Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth
Organist: Susan Royer
Secretary: Danielle Petersen

**Announcements:
Sunday, February 2, 2025**

~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 2/2/25 ~ Reflective Worship service with communion at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary
~ Traditionalish Worship service with communion at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary
~ Rev. Nishan & Maria Bakalian will be with us for both services
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 2/9/25 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary
~ Traditionalish Worship service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

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



Scripture Reading for February 9th

Lori Scharneck

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 138
Luke 5:1-11

Cluster donations for February: Bath soap and shampoo

Today, February 2nd: Rev. Nishan & Maria Bakalian, Global Mission Partners in Lebanon will be with us. You can read his blog at nshanakir.blogspot.com.

Adopt a Window: Our Fellowship Hall refresh is almost finished. We have twelve windows that need new shades. While some of the money is coming from the Carol Lykens bequest, it will not cover the full cost of the windows. Here is your opportunity to help by adopting a window for \$180 to take care of the rest. But don't worry! If that number is beyond your budget, you can donate whatever you can afford. **PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO SHENKEL UCC BY FEBRUARY 9 AND WRITE "ADOPT A WINDOW" IN THE MEMO LINE or go to SHENKELUCC.ORG TO DONATE ONLINE by choosing the "ADOPT A WINDOW" button.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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 2/16/25.

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:

Abigail Dise

Kaleena Sweinhart

Gene and Nick Takach, Eric Croom

Linda and John Jonides

Gary and Sue Stultz

Birthdays in the month of February:

Britnee Sanseverino	2/2/25
Barry Miller	2/4/25
Jesse Painter	2/4/25
Sandra Peterman	2/5/25
Nicole Meehan	2/10/25
Doug Allen	2/11/25
Audrey Dyott	2/13/25
Lori Skulski	2/15/25
Bill Sanseverino	2/24/25
Erika Manetti	2/25/25
Gary McDermit	2/26/25
Kathy Murphy	2/27/25