

November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

~Gathering Together ~

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Prelude

“Jesu Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Bach

Call to Worship

Pastor: On clear winter nights, taut with cold and alive with the grandeur of God,

People: We watch with faith’s eyes for a star that will soon arise.

Pastor: Amid the wrappings and writings, the seasonal songs and glad gatherings,

People: We prepare ourselves for the One who reveals God’s ways in the realm of everyday.

Pastor: During the days ahead, as wonder-filled children of our Creator,

People: We await the Christ-child’s birth;

All: And with Advent hopes kindling our spirits, we come to praise and worship God.

Opening Hymn

“Keep Awake, Be Always Ready”

NCH # 112

~ Coming Alive in Community ~

Call to Confession

How can we stand in the presence of God? Let us confess those places where we need to grow to prepare for Christ to come into our lives. .

Prayer of Confession

God of the loving heart, we confess before you those places in our hearts where we have refused you entrance: people we have refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we have left undone; and ways in which we hurt you, ourselves, and others. Come to us in the light of your Christ. Shine on those places we have hidden from you. Show us new ways to live. Sweep clean the rooms of our hearts, that Christ may find a home among us. Be known among us now and forever! Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

This is the good news in Jesus Christ. We can stand before God, not through our own goodness, but through God’s great kindness to us. Rejoice and be glad, for God comes to you!

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Joe & Joan Palubinsky

Advent Song

“Come and Fill”

***Come and fill our hearts with your hope, You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your hope, Al – le – le –ia!***

Special Music

“Out of Darkness”

Sandy Rowe, vocalist

C. Walker © 1989 C. Walker & OCP (onelicense #81641) arranged by Dan Wolgemuth

~ We Hear God’s Word ~

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Kelli Sorg

The Reading of Psalms: Psalm 25:1-10

The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

“Now Is the Time Approaching”

NCH # 609

~ 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

All Saints Day/PSEC Retired - *Offering is used to supplement the needs of the retired pastors, spouses, and widows in the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference who need assistance with health and dental insurance. Your generosity will bring peace of mind and improved health to those who have served the church so faithfully in the past.*

Offering Response

***To God, all glorious heavenly Light, to Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise our joyful songs of thankful praise.***

~ Going out in Joy ~

Sending Hymn

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

vs 1, 2, & 4

NCH # 116

Benediction

Postlude

“Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

arr. Paxton

Announcements

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

Ben Mocarski

Margie and Doug Allen

Clay Zachesky

Kim and Steve Bade

Kathy Murphy

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

Sun., 11/28 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.

~ Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am.

Wed., 12/1 ~ Bible Study on Zoom at 7 pm

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun., 12/5 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary with Communion.

~ Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am with Communion.

Wed., 12/8 ~ Bible Study on Zoom at 7 pm

Scripture Readings for December 5:
Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Luke 3:1-6

Pottstown Cluster. This month's items are dish soap, multi-purpose cleaners, toilet paper. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster.

Christmas Story Time Tea is cancelled.

Pottstown Cluster Holiday meal & Christmas gifts

Shenkel's collection assignment for the Cluster's Christmas meal this year is 200 cans of corn. Start looking for those sales now. Deadline to donate is Sunday, December 12. For Christmas, we are also collecting gifts for children ages newborn to 17 years old. The gifts can be unwrapped or a gift card. Deadline to contribute is also Sunday, December 12. Thank you!

Youth Group is selling luminaries again this year. Look for the envelopes in the narthex or see any youth or Gloria Mest. Cost is \$5 each or 3 for \$10.



SAVE THE DATE!
December 12, 2021
Shenkel UCC Living
Gift Market

If you are looking for nontraditional gifts for those close to you, consider browsing our Living Gift Market! You can give living gifts like goats or cows, which will help families start their journey toward self-reliance by supplying them with nutritious milk to drink, share and sell.

Join us for the first Heifer International Living Gift Market at Shenkel U.C.C. on Sunday, December 12 following the 8:30 and 9:45 services. For more information about gift items, please visit

<https://www.heifer.org/what-you-can-do/get-involved/faith/living-gift->