

**The Worship Service**  
Sunday, October 20, 2024

“For the Son of man  
came not to be served,  
but to serve...”

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**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                      God's Strength is Perfect                      (Chapman & Salley)

Welcome

Invocation

Call to Worship

L: Let your minds ponder the manifold works of God. Let your spirits soar amid the wonders of creation.

**C: There is pulsating life all around us. The earth is full of God's creatures.**

L: Sun and rain proclaim God's infinite imagination. Moon and stars sing the glory of the Eternal One.

**C: It is God who shares with us wisdom and understanding. We depend on God for the gift of life.**

L: We gather to worship and praise the God of all people. We come to learn from the God we only dimly perceive.

**C: We reach out for answers to our questions. We long to find meaning and purpose for our days.**

Opening Hymn                      "Let Us With Joyful Mind"                      (NCH#16)

### ~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

In the poetry of the book of Job, God addresses the complainers of every age: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world? When the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?" In awe before God, we confess our ill-fated attempts to play God.

Prayer of Confession

**Reigning God, we confess that we, like the disciples James and John, seek places of honor, privilege, and reward. We succumb to the temptation to compare ourselves with others to our advantage. We want privilege without pain, greatness without the grind of hard work. We expect rewards for our efforts. We talk about serving you, but we do not want the rank of servant. We have lots of ideas about what you might do to intervene in the world and little commitment to what we might do in your name. Forgive us and help us, gracious God.**

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

The tears and prayers of Christ are for us. The gift of the Holy Spirit re-creates us for ministry. Bless and thank our God for the manifold works which have sustained our lives and given them meaning. God deals gently with the ignorant and wayward. God is patient with our pretensions, seeking always to welcome us home to true community. Praise God!

Special Music

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Louise Hine

Job 38:1-7

Psalm 104:1-9

Mark 10:35-45

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection: "Called As Partners In Christ's Service"

(NCH#495)

**~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.

October's Special Offering – Neighbors in Need.

Offertory

Aria

(Handel)

Offering Response

"We Give You But Your Own"

(NCH#785)

Prayer of Dedication

**~Going out in Joy~**

Sending Hymn

"For The Healing Of The Nations"

(NHC#576)

Benediction

Postlude

God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

(Holy Manna)

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Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth

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

Organist: Susan Royer

Sexton: Stacy Keim

Secretary: Danielle Petersen

Ministers: All Members of the Church

**Announcements:**

**Sunday, October 20, 2024**

**~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~**

Sun, 10/20/2024 ~ 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~

Sun, 10/27/24 ~ 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 October 27th**

Jeremiah 31:7-9  
Psalm 126  
Mark 10:46-52

**Tootie Hine**

**Boscov's Friends Helping Friends on 10/22/24:** \$5.00 Coupon Shopping Passes. Shopping can be done in any Boscov's or this year online!! Any further suggestions for things to do, please contact Lousie Hine at 610-385-3716 (Home) or Tootie Hine 610-781-6645 (cell) or at [angels2we@gmail.com](mailto:angels2we@gmail.com).

**Speaker Series:** Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 pm, Rev. Bill Worley will start our speaker series with "Strategies for Loving Each Other in Times of Polarization". Invite your friends and come ready to be challenged and inspired.

**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 October:** Pasta sauce and noodles.

**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.

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

Cara Bevan  
Jess, Adam, Lucy and Jordan Hartzell  
Bill, Britnee, Olivia and Delia Sanseverino  
Jeffrey Luckenbach  
Verna Walters

**Birthdays in the month of October:**

Glen Hoff	10/2/2024	Stacia Bradley	10/13/2024
Joe Granger	10/5/2024	Aaron Foss	10/14/2024
Forrest Kreiger	10/5/2024	Roberta Peterman	10/20/2024
Sharon Snyder	10/6/2024	Cameron Dushanko	10/23/2024
Adrienne Wanner	10/7/2024	Lisa Yocom	10/24/2024
David Phillips	10/8/2024	Betsy Bevan	10/28/2024
William Zachesky	10/10/2024	Jacoby Mest	10/29/2024
Susan Stultz	10/12/2024	Aaron Gray	10/31/2024