



Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church

900 Country Club Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
www.shupchurch.org

10:15 am WORSHIP
September 18, 2022

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus.

- Acts 3:13a

We need not be mystified by the crowd or frustrated by their failures to act for the common good; Jesus has acted for them and offers his body as a way out and a way to be together.

- The Rev. Dr. Willie J. Jennings

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer of Preparation

Call to Worship (based on Acts 3)

Liturgist: Harriet Rickard

Leader: Every day, every life, every moment is a miracle-

People: Praise be to Jesus Christ our Lord!

Leader: The miraculous is all around us if we would but look-

People: Thanks be to our God in Christ!

*Hymn: *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven*

No. 478

*Call to Confession (based on Acts 3)

Let us come before the Messiah, the one who heals, restores, and gives life, knowing he will hear our confession of sin and grant us pardon.

*Unison Prayer of Confession (based on Titus 3)

Triune God, we confess our sins before you this morning. We confess that we are a people often seduced by the power of violence and who take up the weapons of death.

(Silent Confession)

We confess we are people who are prone to choose our own well-being and life at the cost of others.

(Silent Confession)

We confess we are a people who go along with the crowd rather than seeking the truth and goodness.

(Silent Confession)

Forgive us, we pray, in Jesus' name.

(Silent Confession)

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners through his body on the cross. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen!

*Response: *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*The Passing of the Peace, American Sign Language

Speaker: Peace be with you.

Respond: And also with you.

Anthem: *Wake Up, Church!*

P. Choplin

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

New Testament Reading: Acts 3:12-26 (MSG)

¹²⁻¹⁶ When Peter saw he had a congregation, he addressed the people:

“Oh, Israelites, why does this take you by such complete surprise, and why stare at us as if *our* power or piety made him walk? The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his Son Jesus. The very One that Pilate called innocent, you repudiated. You repudiated the Holy One, the Just One, and asked for a murderer in his place. You no sooner killed the Author of Life than God raised him from the dead—and we're the witnesses. Faith in Jesus' name put this man, whose condition you know so well, on his feet—yes, faith and nothing but faith put this man healed and whole right before your eyes.

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ “And now, friends, I know you had no idea what you were doing when you killed Jesus, and neither did your leaders. But God, who through the preaching of all the prophets had said all along that his Messiah would be killed, knew exactly what you were doing and used it to fulfill his plans.

¹⁹⁻²³ “Now it's time to change your ways! Turn to face God so he can wipe away your sins, pour out showers of blessing to refresh you, and send you the Messiah he prepared for you, namely, Jesus. For the time being he must remain out of sight in heaven until everything is restored to order again just the way God, through the preaching of his holy prophets of old, said it would be. Moses, for instance, said, ‘Your God will raise up for you a prophet just like me from your family. Listen to every word he speaks to you. Every last living soul who refuses to listen to that prophet will be wiped out from the people.’

²⁴⁻²⁶ “All the prophets from Samuel on down said the same thing, said most emphatically that these days would come. These prophets, along with the covenant God made with your ancestors, are your family tree. God's covenant-word to Abraham provides the text: ‘By your offspring all the families of the earth will be blessed.’ But you are first in line: God, having raised up his Son, sent him to bless you as you turn, one by one, from your evil ways.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *History in the Making*

Rev. Laura Strauss

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith: The Larger Catechism

Leader: What is the Second Commandment?

People: The second Commandment is, “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt now bow down thyself to them, nor serve them...”

Leader: What are the duties required in the Second Commandment?

People: The duties required in the Second Commandment are: the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinance as God has instituted in his Word; particularly prayer and thanksgiving in the name of Christ; the reading, preaching, and hearing of the Word; the administration and receiving of the sacraments; church government and discipline; the ministry and maintenance thereof; religious fasting; swearing by the name of God; and vowing to God...

Joys & Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presenting Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

*Response: *Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE

Hymn: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

No. 462

(Tune: *For the Beauty of the Earth*)

*Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you: wherever he may send you: may he guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm: may he bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders he has shown you: may he bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

*Response

*Postlude

**If you are able to do so, please stand.*

Happy Birthday to Carla Greenfield (20th), Clayton Allison (21st), Roberta McIntyre (22nd) & Lily Weidensall (22nd)!

Happy Anniversary to Gus & Sandy Gill (19th), Tim & Jill Fako (21st) and Don & Christa Tang (22nd)!

The Chancel Flowers were given today by the Blanning, Ross & Colby families in loving memory of Alleyne & Joseph Blanning.

The Flower Delivery will be made by Dottie Fleming and Carol Noonan.

Our Greeters today were Dottie Fleming and Carol Noonan.

Deacon Food Drive Donations for September: Peanut Butter & Jelly

Special Items Needed for Refugees & Immigrants: Dried Beans, Lentils, Rice, Flour, Cooking Oil, Sugar, Spices (Salt, Pepper, Garlic Powder, Chili Powder, Turmeric) & Disposable Diapers

Hospital visits by Pastor Laura can be scheduled through the church office. If you or someone you know is having surgery or is in the hospital, please let us know so that Pastor Laura can be there to visit and pray with you and your loved ones.

PRAYER LIST

Prayer Circle – Francine Brown and the Brumfield family; David, Michelle, Connor & Jessica

September – Pat Ellis, Barbara Howell (Carla Greenfield's sister), the family of Mary Miller (Pastor Laura's aunt), The Hall family (Harriet Rickard's cousins), Anna (Jenn Kennedy's friend), Matt Fako & family (Matt's wife is pregnant again!), The family of Barry LaBounty (Carol Noonan's friend), Joanna (Jeannine Stimmel's daughter), Eric Tsurumaki (Riley family friend)

August - Bob Meyer (Christa Tang's father), The family of Noah Latronica (Sarajane Obarsky's student), Rev. Elizabeth Wallace (Pastor Laura's friend), The family of Tom Link (Friend of Carla Robinson), Linda McKean, Rev. Dr. Clint Cottrell (Pastor Laura's father), Evelyn Lape, Roberta Allison, Matt Fako, Richard (friend of Jeff Fitzwilliam), Mark Greenaway (Linda Debor's nephew), Agnes Strang (Taylor's grandmother), Rev. Sarah Heppenstall (Pastor Laura's friend)

Ongoing - Nancy Brumfield, Eneless Frank, Mya Kelly, Joanna, Becca, our Mission Co-Workers: Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar and their children; Cindy Anna Flor & Nathan who serve at the U.S.-Mexico Border, our sister church, Litchenza CCAP in Malawi, Africa, Pabatso Makhalanyane, Healthcare and all Essential Workers



WELCOME TO SUNSET HILLS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

CONNECT with us!

Phone: 412-561-6261

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am-2:30pm

Address: 900 Country Club Dr. Pgh, PA 15228

Pastor: Rev. Laura E. Strauss

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. William Gracey

Website: www.shupchurch.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shupchurch/>

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. Sept 18

9:00 am Adult Sunday School – Library
10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am Children’s Church
5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall

Mon. Sept 19

12:45 pm Findley Hall Bible Study

Tues. Sept 20

9:15 am Yoga – Crystal Hall
1:00 pm Wilson Hall Bible Study
6:45 pm Campanile Bells
7:45 pm Choir Practice

Wed. Sept 21

6:30 pm Tai Chi – Crystal Hall

Fri. Sept 23

5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall

Sat. Sept 24

10:00 am John Evans Memorial Service - Sanctuary

Sun. Sept 25

9:00 am Adult Sunday School – Library
10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am Children’s Church
11:30 am Youth Group
11:30 am Nominating Committee Mtg - Library
5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall
6:00 pm Young Adult Dinner – Wilson Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Evans Memorial:** The family of John Evans will hold a memorial service in the sanctuary this Saturday at 10:00 am.
- ❖ **Youth Group:** The Youth Group will begin meeting again after worship service next Sunday, September 25th.
- ❖ **Young Adult Dinner:** The Young Adults will hold a potluck dinner in Wilson Hall next Sunday, September 25th at 6:00 pm.
- ❖ **Book Signing:** Everyone is invited to attend a book signing/talk about the new book, Our Problem, Our Path: Collective Antiracism for White People by Ali Michael and Eleonora Bartoli. The event will be held at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church (1066 Washington Road) on Thursday, September 29th at 7:00 pm.
- ❖ **New Members:** If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of SHUP, Pastor Laura will be holding new member classes in October. There will be a class on Sunday after worship from 11:30 am until 12:15 pm in the Library. (Classes will be held on October 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd).
- ❖ **Square Dancing Club:** Peanut Squares dancing club will begin meeting every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in Crystal Hall on October 4th. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun, no experience or partner required. The cost per class is \$5. To learn more, please contact Beth at (412) 680-4837.
- ❖ **WMI Conference:** Everyone is invited to attend the WMI Conference on Friday, October 7th beginning at 5:00 pm. The conference will be held at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 North Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh 15206) or you can attend online. If you would like to learn more, please visit their website at [WMI Conference \(pts.edu\)](http://WMIConference(pts.edu)).
- ❖ **Pancake Breakfast:** The Young Adults will hold a pancake breakfast on Saturday, October 8th beginning at 8:30 am in Findley Hall.
- ❖ **Harvest Festival:** Join us on Saturday, October 8th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm for our annual Harvest Festival. There will be live music, games, a bake sale and more!