



Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church

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

10:15 am WORSHIP
July 28, 2024

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

The person who loves their dream of community will destroy community, but the person who loves those around them will create community.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German Theologian and Martyr, 1906-1945

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.

- Ephesians 3:14-15

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer of Preparation

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Kara Yates

Leader: God created all things visible and invisible; none other.

People: God provides food for our stomachs and food for our spirits; none other.

Leader: God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.

People: Let us worship the Trinity, and none other.

*Hymn: *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

No. 343

*Call to Confession

Leader: Even in the midst of the miracles of life, we often do not acknowledge God's presence. And yet the Spirit is with us as the source of life. Therefore, let us confess our sins and receive Christ's mercy.

*Unison Prayer of Confession

God of wonder, you uphold those who are falling and raise up all who are bowed down. Therefore we confess our sins – both things we have done and things we have left undone – in every confidence that you will open your hands to us in an embrace of forgiveness and love. We pray this in Jesus' name.

(Silent Confession)

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Dearly Beloved, through the power of the Spirit that is at work within us, God forgives our sins and strengthens our inner beings. So now live knowing the love of Christ, which surpasses all knowledge and fills us with the fullness of God. Amen.

People: Alleluia! 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.

Special Music: *In His Presence*

Tunney & Hayes

(Sarajane Obarsky & Tori Vernacchio)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hymn: *Jesus Loves Me!*

No. 304

Children's Story Time

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴⁻¹⁹ My response is to get down on my knees before the Father, this magnificent Father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

²⁰⁻²¹ God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Glory to God in the church!

Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus!

Glory down all the generations!

Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!

Gospel Reading: John 6:16-24

¹⁶⁻²¹ In the evening his disciples went down to the sea, got in the boat, and headed back across the water to Capernaum. It had grown quite dark and Jesus had not yet returned. A huge wind blew up, churning the sea. They were maybe three or four miles out when they saw Jesus walking on the sea, quite near the boat. They were scared senseless, but he reassured them, "It's me. It's all right. Don't be afraid." So they took him on board. In no time they reached land—the exact spot they were headed to.

²²⁻²⁴ The next day the crowd that was left behind realized that there had been only one boat, and that Jesus had not gotten into it with his disciples. They had seen them go off without him. By now boats from Tiberias had pulled up near where they had eaten the bread blessed by the Master. So when the crowd realized he was gone and wasn't coming back, they piled into the Tiberias boats and headed for Capernaum, looking for Jesus.

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Laura Strauss

Hymn: *O Savior, in This Quiet Place*

No. 390

(Tune: *O Lord, Our God*)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith: The Confession of 1967, 9.32

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as man involves the church in the common life of men. His service to men commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of mankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of men in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on man's inhumanity to man and the awful consequences of its own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of man's life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

Joys, Concerns, & Testimonies

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: *God Bless Your Church with Strength!*
(Tune: *This is My Father's World*)

No. 418

*Benediction (from the Northumbria Community)

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.*

A Special Thank You to Sarajane Obarsky and Tori Vernacchio for sharing their special musical talents with us today.

Happy Birthday to Ben Kennedy (29th), Dee Borman (31st) & Jeannine Stimmel (3rd)!

The Chancel Flowers were given today by the Rickard family in memory of our parents and grandparents.

The Flower Delivery will be made by Mike Duffner & Jonathan Fako.

Our Greeters today were Mike Duffner & Jonathan Fako.

Deacon Food Drive Donations for July: Shelf Stable Milk/Juice

Most Needed Items for SHIM: Dried Beans, Lentils, Pasta Sauce in jars, Cereal & Oatmeal, Soup, Condiments, Spices, Adult Diapers, Baby Diapers (size 4-6), Dog & Cat Food, and Personal Care Items.

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 – The D’Amico family; Jason, Heather, Emily & Jacob and Anna Daniels

July – Jim McKeen, Elizabeth Wallace, Harriet Ross, Rev. Bob Meyer (Christ Tang’s father)

June – Betty Coffey, Rev. Dr. Bill Gracey, Evelyn Lape, Tim Slater (Jeff Allison’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 Makhalanyaane, Healthcare and all Essential Workers, Jon Weaver (Sarajane’s friend), all those who continue to be affected by the fires, storms, hurricanes, excessive heat waves and other natural disasters



WELCOME TO SUNSET HILLS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

CONNECT with us!

Phone: 412-561-6261

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Address: 900 Country Club Dr. Pgh, PA 15228

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Laura E. Strauss

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. William Gracey

Website: www.shupchurch.org

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. July 28

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

Tues. July 30

7:00 pm Square Dance Class – Crystal Hall
7:00 pm Counseling Group – Cort Room

Wed. July 31

7:30 pm Sunset Hills Book Club – Cort Room

Thurs. Aug 1

9:00 am Quilting Group – Findley Hall
6:45 pm Yoga – Crystal Hall

Fri. Aug 2

5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall

Sun. Aug 4 – Guest Worship Leader/Chip McCoy

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Days for Girls:** DfG will not meet after worship today or this Wednesday.
- ❖ **Children’s Sunday School:** The CE Commission will not have Children’s Sunday School during the month of August. See you in September!
- ❖ **Pastor Away:** Pastor Laura will be away for continuing education from August 4th through August 10th. If you have a pastoral emergency outside of office hours, please contact Bev Knasko at (412) 563-7154.
- ❖ **SHIM Clothing Closet:** The SHIM Clothing Closet located at the Church of Nazarene (5601 Library Road in Bethel Park) has reopened. All are welcome to shop or donate clothing (in season), shoes, & household linens (no furniture or other large household items) on Mondays between 10 am – 1 pm. If you are unable to drop off donations on a Monday, please leave your donations in the closet near the entrance in Findley Hall and a Mission Commission member will deliver them for you.

2024 BORDER-TO-BORDER DELEGATION:



Coffee, Migration & Faith

Join with people on both sides of the border for a pilgrimage from the US/Mexico border to the Mexico/Guatemala border, exploring the connections between coffee, migration, and faith.



From Douglas, Arizona & Agua Prieta, Sonora to Salvador Urbina, Chiapas

- Walk the migrant trails where coffee farmers walked
- Visit the Café Justo roasting facility
- Get an overview of the US border policy
- Talk with ranching families affected by migration
- Enjoy meals with families who have migrated from Chiapas to Agua Prieta
- Spend time in biblical reflection and prayer
- Enjoy a fiesta with members of the coffee cooperative
- Participate in harvesting coffee
- Enjoy fellowship and meals with the co-op families
- Talk with parents whose children have migrated
- Participate in a grower meeting
- Visit the new Café Justo El Aguila Cooperative
- Tour the Mexico/Guatemala Border
- Visit the Scalabrini Migrant Center in Tapachula
- Visit local markets and a butterfly sanctuary
- See local waterfalls and popular sites
- Drink lots of great coffee

Oct 18-26, 2024



Register Online

- **Cost: \$1,800**
- **\$200 to reserve a spot**
- **\$800 due August 15**
- **\$800 due September 15**
- **Limit 15 participants per trip**

For more information or to register, contact Mark at 520-364-9257 or mark@fronteradecristo.org

All expenses included from Douglas, Arizona, except for two meals on travel days. Based on round trip air travel between Hermosillo and Tapachula. We may be able to arrange for a flight back to the airport of your choice from Mexico City at no additional cost if we know by September 1. If the cost is more, you would be responsible for the difference.