



# GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA 18080 610-767-9680

MARCH 24, 2024

### Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: T 11 am – 3 pm; W 1 pm – 6 pm

Sun: 9:00 am Faith Formation  
 9:45 am Procession with Donkey  
 10:00 am **Worship Service/Palm Sunday**  
*Donations for Egg Hunt due*  
 11:00 am Easter Choir Practice until 12:30 pm  
 12:00 pm VALOR Dinner Delivered

Wed: 6:00 pm Egg Coloring in Fellowship Hall  
 7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thurs: 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service

Fri: 12:00 pm Good Friday Vigil until 3:00 pm  
 7:00 pm Good Friday Community Service  
 7:00 pm AA Back to Basics

Sat: 10:15 am Egg Hunt Registration  
 11:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

Sun: 6:00 am **Easter Sunrise w/ communion**  
 9:00 am Faith Formation  
 10:00 am **Worship Service/Easter Communion**  
*OGHS Special Offering*

### First-Time Guests

Welcome to Good Shepherd, an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We are delighted that you joined us for worship. It is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God and know the love and peace that comes from sharing God's Spirit. If you are looking for a spiritual home, please consider Good Shepherd and speak with Pastor James.

REV. JAMES D. ROBISON, JR. can be contacted at the office (610) 767-9680, his mobile phone (484-571-6083), or via his email address at <[jamdarrob@gmail.com](mailto:jamdarrob@gmail.com)>.

### Our Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. James D. Robison, Jr.
Preschool Director	Karen Weaver
Organist	Dr. Yezi Chen
Choir Director	Beth Kutzner
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matt Shields

### Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church.

- There will be a **choir rehearsal with brass and organ today following church, until 12:30 pm.**
- Free Women's Retreat, Saturday, April 27** at St. John's UCC, Slatington from 9 am to 4 pm with snacks and lunch provided. Please call church office at 610-767-5554 to make your reservation **before April 6.**
- Holy Humor/Jazz Worship Service on April 7 at 10:00 am.**
- Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser orders due Sunday, April 7.** Delivery will be the week of April 22. Order forms are in the Narthex.
- Youth Ensemble** meets the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday of each month after church until 11:45 am. This spring the children will be presenting music during the following church services: **April 14, May 12, and June 9.**
- Outdoor Cleanup April 20, 9 am-noon** Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
- Gone Fishin' Night is Saturday, April 20.** Tickets are for sale in the Narthex.
- Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Calendar** in the Narthex.
- Open Preschool enrollment for 2024 began March 1** for all children 3 and 4 years old.
- Clothing drop-off box** at the rear of the property earns the church money per pound. If you are cleaning out your closets, this is a good fundraiser for the church.
- Redner's Save-A-Tape** bucket in Narthex. The church gets 1% of your receipt if you have a Save-A-Tape card from Redner's.
- Aluminum pull tab bucket** in Narthex. All proceeds benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

### Our Worship Leaders Today.

Head Deacon	Joe Conway
Lay Reader	Pam Puskas
Greeter	Randy & Eileen Andrews
Altar Guild	Julie Solt
Media Production Team	Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger and Beth Kutzner



**Altar Flowers** are to the Honor and Glory of God.  
The **Bulletins** are to the Honor and Glory of God.

### Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

**In Hospice Care...**Louise Croll  
**Family and Friends needing prayer:** Amanda Dieter, Fiona Dieter, Kayla Schappell, Connie Beblavy, Sherry Bishop, Louise Croll, Lucy Daddona, Tina Fetchko, Gayle, Lee Haas, Steph Hamby, Sue Jones, Boden Kearney, Heather Moyer, Darlene Nothstein, Allen Pickwick, Allison Pickwick, Janice Schwartz, Charlotte Solt, Catherine Shellhammer, Karen Smith, Charlotte Solt, Frank Strohl, Jane Achey, Gail Bell, Jim Craig, Rob Davis, Doug Farber, Lisa Gilly, Keith Gross, Shawn Kress, Kevin Kroboth, Wayne Kuhns, Faith Mondrick Lauer, Chris Newhard, Connie Renner, Kylie Schneider, Sandy Serfass, Sallie Solt, Mary Storm, Rich Taylor, MaryEllen White, Helen Zolnowsky.

**Homebound Members:** Marge Bass, Mary Bilheimer, Kay Costenbader, Dennis Derr, Betty Humanick, Richard Kuntz, and Susan 'Tillie' Waller.

**All the young men and women serving our country:** Colby Adams, Anthony Babb, Sean Bolza, Dalton Housenick, Kira (Kern) Kelsey, Michael Kelsey, Marcus Loch, Rebecca McMichael, Jacob Molchan, Adam Moyer, Jacqueline Moyer, Spencer Perkins, Nicholas Sander, Benjamin Schaffer, and Janel Tracy.

**Prayers for Students in higher education:** Megan Bankes at Glenville State WV, Asa Blynn at Kutztown Univ., Dylan Coffin at Moravian Univ., Carissa Fallon at Penn State Univ., Riley Fallon at Penn State Univ., Ben Griffith at Wilkes Univ., Emma Hope at Kutztown Univ., Evan Horninger at DeSales Univ., Olivia Horninger at Cedar Crest College, Mitchell Hourt at Moravian Univ., Jade Rice at Bloomsburg Univ., Brody Ritter at the University of Delaware, Caden Shields at LCCC, Cameron Shields at Kutztown Univ., Colleen Shields at Strayer Univ., Caleb Sommers at Kutztown Univ., Calista Smoyer at West Virginia Univ., Gabriella Smoyer at Cedar Crest College, Luke Zook at Villanova Univ.

### Offerings Mission Calendar

**Our Mission focus for March is Feed My Starving Children (FMSC).** FMSC believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, they are dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition.

### Joyful Noise Offering

**Joyful Noise Offering** is an outreach mission of the church that goes to individuals or families in need. Please drop your contributions into the red bucket during the offering.

### Financial Update Offering & Attendance

Mar 03-\$3,487.00 E-Giving \$295.66 (86)  
 Mar 06-\$126.00 (37)  
 Mar 10-\$2,866.00 E-Giving \$500.03 (73)  
 Mar 13-\$99.00 (21)  
 Mar 17-\$2,281.00 E-Giving \$135.10 (74)  
 Mar 20-\$

Online offering at **Tithe.ly**  
or text **GIVE to 610-615-7657**

### Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations

check out TV Channel 69 or Radio Station WAEB 790am, our website and Facebook sites. Email or Texts.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 24, 2024 - PALM SUNDAY

NOTE: People's responses in **bold**; \* rise in body or in spirit

Gathering for God's WORD

## PROCESSION OF THE DONKEY AND BLESSING OF THE PALMS

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *How Can I Keep from Singing*

#### \* SOLEMN DECLARATION

Our service is in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ *Hosanna Loud Hosanna*

~ *Screen*

#### \* SERVICE OF THE LENTEN CROSS ~ **Crown of Thorns**

A Crown of Thorns symbolizes the kingship of Christ - again, though the Roman soldiers meant it for harm, God meant it for good; and as Christians (followers of Christ) our King is crowned for us so that we might carry out God's will by Christ's example of service and sacrifice. "And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" - Mark 15: 17-18

#### \* LENTEN CONFESSIONAL CREED

**I confess my need of God for all that I am and all that I have.**

**I confess my need of Jesus Christ for healing in relationships and guidance in my life that I might be a worthy steward of all that has been entrusted to me.**

**I confess my need of the Holy Spirit to kindle the Divine spark in my heart that draws me closer to the Holy so I may respond in love to all.**

#### SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *Prepare the Way*

Chancel Choir

Hearing God's WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Open our hearts and our minds, so that we can understand the fullness of Your WORD. Amen!**

#### A READING from the Gospel of Mark 11:1-11 (NRSV)

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never

been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The LORD needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

## **RESPONSE**

The WORD of the LORD. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Let us give generously for the well-being of the world. **Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY ~ *Great Is Thy Faithfulness***

### **\* DOXOLOGY**

**#46**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Holy God, giver of life, we thank You for raising us up and joining us together as one people, Your people, flesh and bone in the body of Christ. As You have delivered us from death, use our lives to proclaim the good news of new life in Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen!**

### **\* RECESSIONAL HYMN ~ *Ride on, Ride on in Majesty!***

**#191**

Living God's WORD

### **\* THE COMMISSION, BENEDICTION, AND THREE-FOLD AMEN**

**#312**

## **POSTLUDE ~ *I Am the Light of the World***

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

CCLI#1783708

**Easter Egg Coloring in Fellowship Hall  
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm.**

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, March 30, 2024**

Registration is 10:15 am to 11:00 am. Egg Hunt starts at 11:00 am.



*Birthdays*

Mar 24-Randy Parks

Mar 24-Eric Smith

Mar 25-Megan Bankes

Mar 25-Tania Kresge

Mar 25-Michael Sander

Mar 26-Douglas Farber

Mar 26-Michael Gellis

Mar 26-Calliope McGinnis

Mar 26-Gail Nonnemaker

Mar 26-Mary Storm

Mar 27-Richard Smith

Mar 28-Kevin Fister

Mar 28-Tucker Kern

Mar 30-Todd Fetchko

Mar 30-Richard Kohler

Mar 30-Troy Weaver

## Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday with Communion, March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Prayer Vigil, Friday, March 29, 2024 Noon - 3:00 pm

Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm



Easter Sunday Services, March 31, 2024

Sunrise Service with Communion 6:00 am

Regular Worship with Communion 10:00 am

Please join us as we worship the Risen Savior