

25th Sunday after Pentecost



November 14, 2021

10:00 a.m.

OPENING WORSHIP SONG.....*"Thrive"*

WELCOME & INVOCATION

PRELUDE*"A Mighty Fortress"*

THE LORD'S PRAYER*Sue Fuller*

PRAISE & WORSHIP.....*"I Will Praise You"*
"Unchanging"

KIDS' SING & DISMISSAL

HYMN #110.....*"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

SCRIPTURE.....Psalm 46:1-11; Mark 4:35-41

MESSAGE.....*Harold Blair*

God Speaks to Us in the Midst of the Enemy's Siege

"Be Still and Know that I AM God"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE.....*"Hallelujah"*

BENEDICTION

EXIT SONG.....*"Better Is One Day"*

God Speaks to Us in the Midst of the Enemy's Siege

“Be Still and Know that I AM God”

PSALM 46: 1-11; MARK 4:35-41

PSALM 46:1-11

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah. ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. ⁶ The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. ¹⁰ **“BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.”** I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth. ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

MARK 4:35-41

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, **“PEACE! BE STILL.”** Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

MARTIN LUTHER AND PSALM 46

Our hymn this morning was written by Martin Luther during the 10 months he spent in Wartburg Castle near Eisenach, Germany in 1521 and 1522. He sought refuge in this nearly impregnable refuge where he was able to escape the fierce opposition to his reformation movement as well as refocus his ministry going forward.

SCOTTISH SOLDIERS AND PSALM 46

As the young Scottish soldiers from an island off the coast of Scotland prepared to sail to the mainland and transport to the battle front during World War I, their families would gather at the wharf and bid them farewell by singing the words to Psalm 46. These young patriots left with the assurance that God was their refuge or “foxhole” in the battle in which they would engage a cruel and vicious enemy.

THE ASSYRIANS AND PSALM 46

It is thought that in part, this psalm was written against the backdrop of the Assyrian Siege of the city of Jerusalem by the wicked and cunning King Sennacherib recorded in **II Kings 19**. The Assyrians had already conquered much of the known world including the cities of Judah and now were conducting a noisy, taunting, and crippling siege of Jerusalem. Sennacherib had boldly told Judah's King Hezekiah that there was no need for him to trust in his God. To the inhabitants of the city of Jerusalem it felt like the world was caving in upon them.

GOD'S PRESENCE AND PSALM 46

Several times in this Psalm, God reminds his people that he is ever with them (omnipresent) and though all around them changes, He never changes. (Immutable) God reminded the people of a river, more accurately an underground water tunnel built by King Hezekiah to assure a secret and ample water supply to the city. Consequently, God commands the people to **“be still and know I am God.”** In their stillness came a new awareness of God, as both their refuge and deliverer. One heaven-sent angel slew 185,000 Assyrian soldiers sending the remaining 15,000 and their king fleeing homeward in defeat and shame.

GOD'S PRESENCE IN OUR STILLNESS

We live in times in which we often feel under siege. God reminds us to be still, to quit attempting to be victorious in our own strength. God invites us into regular times of stillness in his presence, we are reminded of our refuge in God and of our inner stream of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The enemy may lay siege to our souls at times, but he is no match for our God who is the great **I AM WHO I AM**. Because the Holy Spirit dwells within us as the **Living Water**, in stillness our hearts are gladdened as we hear his voice saying as Jesus of old, **“Peace! Be Still.”**



SHUMI Saves Christmas Rehearsal

There will be **no pageant practice on Sunday, Nov. 14.** Will will have practice on Sunday, Nov. 21. Time is directly after church until 12:45 p.m.



In Sunday School today,
Solomon's Wisdom
(Proverbs 6:6-8; 10:1, 17)
"Promoting and Nurturing Wisdom"



November 14- SMALL GROUPS (6-12 grade) will meet 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided directly following Church. We'll break up into small groups.



The **HILL** **TOPPERS**

(anyone 55 yrs. & up)

The HillToppers Potluck Thanksgiving Dinner & Game Night will be held on Friday, November 19 at 6:00 p.m. here at the church. There will be 2 sign-up sheets (one for how many attending and the other for what food item you'll be bringing). Bring a friend and LET THE GAMES BEGIN!



SATB singers needed! Practice for our Thanksgiving Anthem which we will sing on **Sunday, Nov. 21 is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.**

For those who cannot make the practice on Thursday evening, we'll have a 20-minute practice directly after worship on Sundays for you.



On Sunday, November 21 from 4:00-5:30 p.m., SHUMC youth will be involved in a Mission/Service project at Our Lady of Mercy. This event is a Harborcreek Community Event and all youth in surrounding community churches will be attending. Our guest speaker will be Andy Kerr, Chaplain at the Erie City Mission. There will be games, pizza, fun and service.



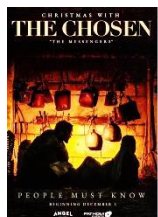
We'll have a *Community Thanksgiving Service* on Sunday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy at 837 Bartlett Road in Harborcreek.

The service will feature music with the choir members made up from many of the congregations in our area including SHUMC, scripture and a message from Rev. Keith McGarvey with a number of other pastors from area churches sharing in the worship service. The service is ecumenical in nature and all are invited to attend.

Traditionally, we ask those attending to bring a canned or boxed food item which will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.



In *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*, Adam Hamilton travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Please join us on Sunday evenings starting November 28 at 5:00 p.m. or Wednesday afternoons beginning December 1 @ 1:00 p.m. for this wonderful Advent bible study. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you'd like to join us.



Christmas with The Chosen: The Messengers

The Chosen has a new episode! To launch the Christmas season this December, The Chosen has created a special episode about the birth of Christ through the eyes of Mary and Joseph. You'll also see an extraordinary lineup of musicians perform both new and classic Christmas. This is the perfect opportunity to bring friends and family, including those who haven't seen The Chosen, for a unique Christmas experience. This is also ideal for small group Bible studies who have been watching the series and discussing. Mark your calendar for Dec. 1-9 when it will be at Tinseltown in Erie, PA. More details on showings to come.

COVID PROTOCOLS

As a leadership team, we are making decisions daily & will continue to do so regarding COVID protocols here at SHUMC. SO... We're asking a couple of things of you as you come to worship:

- 1) That people be mindful of responsible 'distancing' between family units
- 2) We're asking that everyone wear masks until the children are dismissed for Sunday School. Once the children are dismissed, you're welcome to take off your mask for the balance of the service.
- 3) We're asking that we all wear masks as we leave the sanctuary and return to our cars.

With love and care,

SHUMC



Please hit the "Like" button so we know that you are viewing! It helps us with our attendance to know who is watching.