

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after  
Pentecost



October 24, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

OPENING WORSHIP SONG.....*"Open the Eyes of My Heart"*

WELCOME & INVOCATION

PRELUDE .....*"Trading My Sorrows"*

SCRIPTURE (Revelation 3:14-22).....*Jill Shaffer*

THE LORD'S PRAYER .....*Sue Fuller*

PRAISE & WORSHIP.....*"Mighty to Save"*  
*"Come As You Are"*

KIDS' TALK & DISMISSAL.....*Adrianne Morton*

HYMN #526.....*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

MESSAGE.....*Pastor Keith*

*"Jesus' Words for the Church – Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow"*  
TO THE ANGELS OF THE CHURCHES OF SARDIS AND LAODICEA

*As Good As Dead – Now What?*

Revelation 3:1-6; 14-22

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE.....*"Trading My Sorrows"*

BENEDICTION

EXIT SONG.....*"Knocking on the Door to Heaven"*

10-24-21:

*"Jesus' Words for the Church — Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow"*  
**TO THE ANGELS OF THE CHURCHES OF SARDIS AND LAODICEA**  
*As Good As Dead — Now What?*  
Revelation 3:1-6; 14-22

This week JESUS calls out the churches of Sardis and Laodicea. Jesus actually rebukes them as being soiled, naked and as good as dead!

IF WE ARE "AS GOOD AS DEAD" ... WHAT CAN WE DO?

THE CHURCHES:

SARDIS (Rev. 3:1-6)

**To the Church in Sardis**

"To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup>Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup>Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

<sup>4</sup>Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup>The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup>Whoever has ears, let them

LAODICEA (Rev. 3:14-22)

**To the Church in Laodicea**

<sup>14</sup>"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. <sup>15</sup>I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup>So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup>You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

<sup>19</sup>Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup>Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

<sup>21</sup>To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

PRIMARY PROBLEM = SPIRITUAL COMPLACENCY

THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF BEING DRESSED IN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST  
JESUS' PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST (Matthew 22:1-14)

THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE THAT OUR ACTIONS, BEHAVIORS, and ATTITUDES AFFIRM AND PROVE OUR FAITH  
SAVED BY FAITH ALONE (Ephesians 2:8-9) BUT PROVED BY WORKS

SO WHAT? WHAT CAN BE DONE IF WE'RE NEARLY DEAD?

**REVELATION 3:19-20** “Those **whom I love** I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup> **Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.**”

BACKGROUND ...

CLASSIC OIL PAINTING ---- “JESUS KNOCKING” by WARNER SALLMAN ....

JESUS STANDS AT THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART  
JESUS STANDS AT THE DOOR OF OUR CHURCH’S HEART

HAVE WE OPENED THE DOOR OF OUR LIVES TO JESUS?

WILL WE OPEN THE DOOR TO OUR LIVES TO JESUS?

WHAT WOULD SOMEONE OBSERVING THE BEHAVIORS AND ATTITUDES OF OUR HEART CONCLUDE ABOUT THE VITALITY OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?

ARE WE PEOPLE OF FAITH? OR ARE WE FOOLING OURSELVES WITH SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND PRIDE LIKE THE CHURCH IN LAODICEA?

OR ARE WE FOOLING OURSELVES THINKING THAT WE’RE --- LOOKING GOOD BUT IN REALITY – WE’RE DIRTY AND SOILED?

**FRIENDS ... I INVITE YOU TODAY ... TO NOT ONLY ASK THESE HARD QUESTIONS BUT ONCE YOU HAVE OPENED THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART ...**

**I INVITE YOU TO THEN INCLUDE JESUS IN EVERY ROOM OF YOUR LIVES ... THAT WE MAY BE DRESSED AND SURROUNDING THE THRONE OF JESUS AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS  
JESUS WILL EAT WITH US ... and WE’LL EAT WITH HIM ...**

(Note: significance of the meal in Middle East Culture)

FRIENDS: ROBERT BOYD MUNGER wrote a little booklet called *MY HEART CHRIST’S HOME*  
WE HAVE A COPY FOR EACH PERSON HERE ... and IF YOU’RE IN THE STREAMING CONGREGATION ... LET US KNOW AND WE’LL MAIL ONE TO YOU.

**“MY HEART CHRIST’S HOME”**

+ WILL YOU OPEN THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART TO JESUS?

+ WILL YOU MAKE THE DECISION TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE FROM ONE THAT MAY BE EMPTY ON THE INSIDE TO MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS IN YOUR LIFE?

+ AND WILL YOU INVITE JESUS INTO MORE AND MORE OF YOUR HEART EACH AND EVERY DAY.

AMEN ...

Hear what the Spirit says to the churches.



In Sunday School today, the kids will be learning about DAVID and Abigail  
1 Samuel 25:1-42  
"Hospitality & Peaceful Resolution"

On Sunday, October 31, we will be presenting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders with their new Bibles! On that day we will also recognize the wonderful and faithful teachers who teach Sunday school each week.



## U. M. Women's Soup Sale TODAY!



Calling all singers! We will be putting together an anthem choir for **Sunday, Nov. 21** to sing a thanksgiving song during the worship service. **Practice will begin on Thursday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m.** SATB singers needed!

For those who cannot make the practice on Thursday evening, we'll have a 20-minute practice directly after worship on Sundays for you – beginning this Sunday, Oct. 17!



**October 24-** Erie-Meadville District Youth Event. Harvest party at Burch Farms. Meet at church at 3:30 p.m. Pick up at Burch Farms at 7:00 p.m. Cost \$10. Bonfire, hayride, food, fun and fellowship with other kids from our area!

**October 31** - 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.



### SCRAP METAL DRIVE

**This event is now over!**

We want to thank everyone who brought in metal or collected metal and dropped it in the dumpster -- especially Clay Miller and Dane Charlton who worked tirelessly for this youth fund raiser!

**THANK YOU ALL FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS!**



**Please mark your calendar!**

This year's Christmas pageant will be . . .

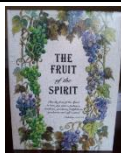
### "SHUMI SAVES CHRISTMAS EVE"

There will be a short meeting after worship on Sunday, October 31 in the Fellowship Hall for those who signed up for the pageant – both children and adults. Thank you!



### EUMA's 22 Annual Ride for the Refuge was a huge success!

Thank you to all those who participated as they were able to raise \$10,100 for families at The Refuge (shelter for homeless families).



These cookbooks were recently found. The U.M.W. had these published years ago & thought they were lost – SO WHAT A FIND! This is a must if you love to cook! The U. M. Women are sharing some of their 'secret' recipes as well as recipes submitted by many of our own fine cooks and bakers of SHUMC. If you are interested in purchasing one for \$10, please see Linda Morey. They also make a great Christmas gift!

### COVID PROTOCOLS

As a leadership team, we are making decisions daily & will continue to do so regarding COVID protocols here at SHUMC. We feel we should show our children a good example as they wear their masks so should we. We need to be mindful of the children AND ONE ANOTHER.

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.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING .... And, of course, we continue to offer 'online worship' and study opportunities.

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.