

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org
The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor
The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission
Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director
Mr. James Landis, Interim Organist
Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist
Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Amy Hummer, Interim Preschool Director

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

Prayer As You Enter: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Join the company of the upright in praise and thanksgiving to God.

With our whole hearts we come, marveling at the powerful works of our Creator.

God is gracious and merciful to us, entering into covenant with all who respond.

In humility and amazement we answer, for the authority of Christ compels us.

God calls us to a prophetic witness and judges the truth of our words and deeds.

Out of our need for renewal and clearer vision we are here to remember and learn.

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference.

Let us confess our sins before God in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

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

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Let us pray the collect together.

Almighty God, whose revelation in Jesus Christ communicated authority and wisdom and strength among people who lived long ago, let your word today address the unclean spirits in our midst, that your church may more fully represent Christ in today's world, reaching out in love to all who need food, inspiration, direction, care, and healing; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 111

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"The Works of the Lord"

Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

By giving away some of the wealth we cherish so much, we keep ourselves focused on who you are, gracious God, and on what you expect of us. As the body of Christ, we seek to be a healing force in our world. May the offerings we present be used in ways that encourage healthful behaviors among us in the church, within our community, and as far as our influence can reach. Receive us and our gifts, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. In ancient days, you created us in your image to be reflections of your glory. When we fell short and dimmed the brilliance of your light shining through us, you held our hands and walked with us out of the garden into all the corners of the earth. When we were afraid to look upon your glory, you came as a quiet traveler, as a burning bush, and as a pillar of light. You called us to be people of light, to walk no longer in darkness, and always, you light our way. Even when we walk in darkness, you shine your light and offer your grace, awaiting our return to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to reveal your glory and grace. And so, with your people on earth and all the angels in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the

sanctuary and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up our church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.

May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Amen.



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers & Worship Aids are given in memory of our mother's (Dorothy B. Royer) birthday January 29 from her children: Donna R. Zirkel & Rev. Harry G. Royer.

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by Pastor Chris, Anne, Zachary, and Rachel in honor of Andrew's 8th birthday tomorrow!

Ministering Today

Pastor Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

Lector Jeff Hackenberger

Money Counters Nevin Cooley, John Bailey, Pat Sensenig, Cherie Cataldi

Altar Guild Charlene Cristy, Anita Rohrer

Building Trustee Mike Wagner

Ministries Card Christian Education Committee (Bob Kilgore)

Called to Care Anne Rankin

Visitation Sue Bowman

Happy Birthday

Today – Rosemary Huber, Dawn Stauffer

Tuesday – Mary Neville

Wednesday – Jodi Keller, Deb Lichtenwalner

Saturday – Hank Fox, Pat Miller

Attendance for Sun., Jan. 7 7:45–7 10:30–67 TOTAL – 74

Sunday School 20

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Monday 7:00 PM – Choir/8:15 PM Bells

Wednesday 1:30 PM - Evangelism

Saturday 9:00 AM – Leadership Seminar (Snowdate: Feb. 10)

7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM –Sunday School

10:00 AM - Koinonia 10:30 AM – Eucharist

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Ken & Phyllis ZimmermanLeo DalyHedwig HunsickerMichael McDonoughJodi KellerRev. Ken TraugerDon & Pat MillerNancy PattonDr. Janet HarrigerThe Lehman familyJoann PeckHarry HimelwrightDonna Wolf & FamilyMary Lou ShaabScott & Jane Owens

Stan & Pat Seachrist Donna Zirkel Carmen & Jerry Richards

Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley Sam Minder III Lainie Christensen Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser Hank Fox Pastor Harry Royer Betty Tyndall and family Mary Witmer Bob & Marlyn Wible

Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline Erika Otthofer Kathleen Sensenig Adams
Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman Ron Becker Danielle Huggins Holbein

Joann & Dawn Garvin The Fischer Family Dr. Blaine Connor

John Shelsky Shelly Family

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Homer Zeigler (grandfather of Katie Weeber)

The family of Bill Zahm (brother of Phyllis Zimmerman)

The family of Larry Gerlach (brother of Dolly Barr)

Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig)

Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

Brian & Liz Culp (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)

Jean Weglarz (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline)

Dan Doughton (Family friend of John and Sarah Paulukow)

Melby Bush (friend of Joan Sensenig)

Harvey & Dianne Sick (friends of Judy Chapman)

Aaron Flickinger (nephew of Pat & Joan Sensenig)

Deb Olley Heagy (daughter of Jack & Karen Olley)

The Haverstick Family (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty)

Rev. Loy Garber (former seminarian)

Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan)

Jaden Allen (nephew of Carol Kratz)

Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty)

The Bruno family (friends of Blaine Connor)

Jessica Brown (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

Janice Zimmerman (sister of Ken Zimmerman)

John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)

Kelly Quick (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)

Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)

James Malone & family

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens)

Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)

Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig),

Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer)

Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer)

The Martin family

Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)

Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright)

Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)

Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)

Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

THE FEBRUARY PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

DEVOTIONALS: The January-March edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

2023 CELEBRATION: Join us after the 10:30 service on TODAY for a luncheon and celebration of our ministry in 2023. The Parish Life Committee is planning a short program as we look back over the past year in our annual reports and through a video slideshow.

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR: The Pastor/Parish Committee is working with the Samaritan Counseling Center to provide a leadership seminar on effective communication to be held on Saturday, February 3 (snow date is February 10). This is for members of Consistory and the various committees/boards. We are planning to meet in Isenberg Hall at 9:00 a.m. and will be finished by noon. Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office!

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) every Sunday at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments and drinks/coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen coordinator. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.

THE MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST: The men will be meeting in February 17 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet across from the church office.

PRAYER SHAWL The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, February 20th from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

GRIEF GROUPS: Prior to the pandemic, Pastor Chris was hoping to form some small groups to look at issues of grief. Please contact him or Carol Kratz if you are interested in participating in one of the groups!

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: February 4, 11, 18 & 25. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are February 4, 18 & 25. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

Come enjoy choirs, instrumentalists and other musical groups representing various UCC congregations in the Lancaster Association for our first ever



Febraary 4th, 2-4pm

at Church of the Apostles, Lancaster

At 2pm, come enjoy snacks and fellowship time while our performers set up and warm up.

The program will begin at 2:30pm.

This event is free of charge and open to the public.

Come celebrate the gift of music in our congregations!

If you would like to perform at the fair please contact Rev. Brad Haws at revhaws@ptd.net.
The sign up deadline is January 29th.

SPEAK TO DIANE RICE, A MEMBER OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, FOR MORE INFORMATION!!!



CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY: The Evangelism Committee is in need of more volunteers to provide meals for our members! If you are interested, speak with Pastor Chris!

175TH HISTORICAL DISPLAY AND INFORMATION

We have moved the historical displays from Isenberg Hall to different parts of the building so that you can see them as you come and go on a Sunday morning or throughout the week.

You will also find copies of the 175th Historical Book, the Trinity Prayer Book, a booklet of letters sent to us for the anniversary, anniversary pens and magnets on the table across from the elevator on the second floor.

LIFE LINE SCREENING, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Trinity United Church of Christ on Saturday, March 2, 2024. A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque), Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA), Atrial Fibrillation.

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at https://llsa.social/



TRINITY'S MEALS WITH A MISSION February 11, 2024

Trinity will again be preparing/assembling meals for some of our members on Sunday, February 11. We will meet after the second service to prepare the meals - it should take about an hour.

If you are able to help out with the assembly or delivery of the meal, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex! Hands of all sizes are welcome to help.

If you have guestions, contact Deb Lichtenwalner-717-203-9506 or deblich@comcast.net.

LOVE SUNDAY/SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Trinity will celebrate "Love Sunday" and the "Souper Bowl of Caring" on February 11, 2024. We will collect canned goods and money for the Hempfield Power Packs. The Peanut Butter (they are paying nearly \$2 a jar through the Central PA Food Bank)

Soup – Tomato, Chicken Noodle, Cream of Chicken or Cream of Mushroom Macaroni and Cheese

Pasta (1lb – elbow, spaghetti, penne, etc) Tuna



Here is a list of supplies needed by our Preschool. Please consider purchasing an item and placing it in the basket in the Narthex.

Small dry erase markers

Beginners pencils

Foil

Cotton balls

Coffee filters-large & small

Plain white muffin cups-small

Glue bottles with brushes

Scissor scoops

Plastic spoons and forks

Hot glue sticks

Thank you!

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." 17 Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. 19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Psalm 111

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. 22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴ and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." 25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" 26And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.

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