



For
salvation
is nearer to us now

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. Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

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.

Prayer: *Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

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.**

We know what time it is—the moment to wake from sleep.

We awaken to greet the day, yearning for God’s peace on this earth.

Let us lay down our swords and put aside all works of darkness.

Let us walk in the light and live as peacekeepers.

Let us worship our God as expectant believers.

We worship with joy, knowing Christ will come!

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

John the Baptist calls us to repent, to prepare for the coming of God’s reign.

Let us heed John’s call and confess our sins in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

God of new beginnings, we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE/TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Today is the beginning of Advent—the preparation time for celebrating Christ's birth.

We are here because God's promises to our ancestors came true when Jesus was born.

God's promise is kept each Sunday when we worship because Christ is in our midst.

God will keep the promise to come again in glory.

Let us pray together.

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.”

For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.” For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ’s coming in the future.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

“Can You See It?”

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

Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 very right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star. We thank you for your constant love and for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. Born of your

servant Mary, Jesus shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. As we now await the birth of the Christ child, we offer you our hymn of praise.

Holy, 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.

COMMUNICATION

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 in the narthex 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 prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of loving kindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us prayer together.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by Anne and Chris Rankin in memory and celebration of her grandparents' anniversary on Thanksgiving Day, 1943.

The Worship Aids are given by Scott & Jane Owens in thankfulness for the people who decorated the church.

Money Counters: Lee Bossert, Ron & Donna Denlinger, Steve Shenk

Building Trustee: John Shelsky

Lector: Rev. Jack Esbenshade

Altar Guild: Nancy Enders

Koinonia: Paula Dennes

Attendance for Sun., Nov. 20

7:45–19 9:30–87 **TOTAL – 106**

Sunday School Attendance

21

Thanksgiving Eve Attendance

44

Happy Birthday!

Today – Dr. Blaine Connor

Thursday – Hope Krantz

Friday – Randy Woerner

Saturday – Claire Miller

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Monday 7:00 PM – SOT Choir/8:15 PM – Bells
No Preschool

Tuesday 7 AM-2 PM – Peanut Fellowship

Wednesday 7:00 PM – Anniversary Committee

Thursday 7:00 PM – Parish Life

Saturday 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
6:00 PM – Christmas Concert followed by
Desserts

THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE NORTH WINDOW is given in memory of Leon L. & Ethel Gruber by son Greg, daughter Sharon Armstrong, and granddaughter Jessica.

THE CHRISMON TREE: The Chrismons on the small tree in the stairwell were made by the late Edythe Geib. Several people have asked about the Chrismon tree. The term “Chrismon” comes from the Latin “Christi monnogramma” which simply means “monogram of Christ”. Therefore, a Chrismon is a Christian symbol that represents Christ. There is a descriptive list of the various Chrismons next to the tree.

THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Grace M. Dodson (mother) and Dolores A. Dodson (aunt) of Donna Wolf, given by the family and friends. The candle stand and wreath are in memory of S. Leona Wolf, mother of the late John Wolf.

THE PEW CANDLE HOLDERS, made by John Barr, were given by John and Dolly Barr.

THE NATIVITY SCENE ON THE FRONT LAWN was made by Mike Wagner.

THE CRECHE ON THE LOWER LEVEL BY THE ELEVEATOR was made by Mike Wagner.

PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Doris Leaman the family of Lynn Dull, the family of Emma Grimm (friend of several Trinity members), George DeLong, Danielle Huggins Holbein, Marlin “Moe” Weaver (brother of Dottie Schadt/uncle of Cherie Cataldi), Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens), Joann Peck, Mary Lou Shaab, Stan & Pat Seachrist, Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley, Hilma Slechta (mother of Mike Slechta), Donna Nesbitt (neighbor of John & Sarah Paulukow), Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel), Jane Portser, Tom Wolf (son of Donna Wolf), Judie Bistline, Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), Laura Jean Watson (sister of Carol Kratz), David and Brenda Haverstick (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Jeannie & Bill Toy (sister & brother-in-law of Lainie Christensen) Carmen Richards, Donna Zirkel, Don & Pat Miller, Sam Minder III, Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Dick & Tillie King (friends of Stan & Pat Seachrist), Robin McComsey (neighbor of Himelwrights), Rylan Brent (relative of Chuck & Sue Husted), Hank Fox, Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner), Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer), Bob Kilgore, the Lehman family, Judy Barr (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Joann Garvin, Rev. Phyllis Baum, Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer), Rev. Paul Eyer (former pastor of St. Luke’s), Mary Witmer, the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Monica Williams (friend of Sandy DeLong), 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), Nancy Patton, Mike & Judy Barr (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Phyllis Zimmerman, Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever’s brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach’s brother), Rev. Frank Lantz, Lainie Christensen, Sandra Englert (niece of Betty Tyndall), Charles & Betty Booraem, Betty Tyndall and family, Dorothy Fasnacht, Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry’s granddaughter-in-law), Bob & Marlyn Wible, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger’s brother-in-law), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

THE DECEMBER PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS & CALENDARS: There are devotionals available for adults & children and Advent calendars for children on the table across from the church office.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CARD: Don't forget to sign the congregational Christmas card on the table across from the church office. There is a box for you to put a monetary donation for Milagro House.

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

PEANUT FELLOWSHIP has resumed from 7 AM to 2 PM with a potluck lunch. The peanuts will cost \$6 a pound. Please call Pat Seachrist (717-392-1427) to order peanuts. We need help with this project. The next date for the Peanut Fellowship is: November 29. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: The Parish Life Committee is planning to go Christmas caroling on December 11 to some of our members and around the East Petersburg community. We will enjoy lunch together after the 10:30 service in Isenberg Hall and then go caroling from 1-3 p.m. Please sign-up on the table across from the church office! This is open to all members and friends of Trinity Church!!!

ADVENT ENVELOPES: The Board of Deacons decided to give funds from the Advent offering envelope to the U.C.C. Christmas Fund for retired clergy, widows/widowers of U.C.C. clergy, and ministerial assistance. We will hear more about the U.C.C. Christmas Fund offering in December.

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY ON DECEMBER 4

As in years past, we will share our blessings with others by bringing (unwrapped) Christmas gifts to the service. This is our special time of sharing our gifts with residents of Ephrata Manor and Bethany Home. The residents are very appreciative of our caring and both homes are requesting gift card suggestions to better meet needs and interests.

Ephrata Manor (United Church of Christ Home)requests:

Gift cards: Amazon, Dollar Tree, Michael's, Wal-Mart, VISA/MC, Giant Food Stores, Target, or CVS

Bethany Home requests:

Washi tape, canvas paper, Zippered Sheet Protectors, Rubber Stamps & ink pads, stencils, origami paper, letter & number stickers, lightweight twin size comforters

Gifts Cards: Lowes, Home Depot, Michaels, Wal-Mart, Target, Amazon, TJ Maxx, Dick's Sporting Goods, Turkey Hill, Giants, McDonald's & Kohls.

Please include Trinity U.C.C Church and address and/or individual along with your card.

Gifts will be received at both services on December 4. The children will collect them during the 10:30 service. Thank You!



PINOCHLE
7:00 PM

Date: Friday Dec. 16

Everyone is welcome!
All you have to do is sign up in the hallway outside the church office, and bring a snack or drink to share. We're happy to teach players new to Pinochle.

UPCOMING FUNERALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES:

1. **The funeral service for Doris Leaman** will be held at the Groff Funeral Home (528 W. Orange St. Lancaster) on Tuesday, November 29 at 11:00 a.m. There will be a viewing on Monday, November 28 from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home and on Tuesday, November 29 from 10-11 a.m.
2. **The memorial service for Lynn Dull** will be held at Trinity Church on Tuesday, December 7 at 7 p.m. There will be a time for visitation from 6-7 p.m.

KOINONIA: 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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for worship volunteers on Sunday mornings. Contact the church office to sign-up!

Greeters: To welcome worshippers at the door for the second service.

Ushers: We have returned to passing the offering plate during the second service. We especially need ushers because some people have stepped down!

Lectors: Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.

Special Note: We are in need of ushers & greeters for Christmas Eve services and our Christmas Day Service (10 a.m.). We also need readers for the Christmas Day Service. Speak with Pastor Chris if interested.

2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS:

Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: January 8, 15 & 22.

Upcoming dates for worship aids are: January 1, 8, 15 & 22. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Contact Carol and look for charts for 2023 dates.

Highland Presbyterian Church
500 East Roseville Road
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601
717-569-2651
www.highlandpc.org



**Mennonite Children's Choir
of Lancaster**

Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 7:00 pm

MCCL creates exceptional music that represents the diversity of the global church across time. They serve over 100 children and youth representing 45 congregations, 35 schools, and 10 denominations. In addition to local concerts, they tour every summer.

Caleb Kreider is a member of the Mennonite Children's Choir

NEW MEMBERS: Are you interested in joining Trinity U.C.C.? Do you know of someone looking for a church home? Please speak to Pastor Chris about joining our congregation.

MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST: The monthly breakfast will be held at the Family Fare Restaurant on December 10 at 8:00 a.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the table across from the church office. Please help us by delivering envelopes to some of our homebound members!

THE 2023 APPROVED BUDGET is available on the table across from the church office or in the information racks on both levels of the church building.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, December 20th in the Choir Room 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.

NEW NURSERY COORDINATOR: Betty Fogle has agreed to serve as our nursery coordinator. If you are interested in providing nursery care for children during worship, please contact Betty.

UPCOMING FUNERALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES:

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2. **The memorial service for Lynn Dull** will be held at Trinity Church on Tuesday, December 7 at 7 p.m. There will be a time for visitation from 6-7 p.m.

PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS GIFT: You will again find a pink envelope in your box of offering envelopes. This is a way for you to give a Christmas gift to Pastor Rankin. If you want the pastor to receive the full amount of your gift, then you should give it directly to him. This means that the money will not go through the church treasury and you will not receive a tax deduction for your gift. All checks should be made payable to the pastor if you choose to give it to him directly.

If you choose to make your check payable to Trinity UCC, you will receive credit on your 2022 contribution statement. A gift sent through the church treasury is considered taxable income for the pastor.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Scott Owens, Church Treasurer

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION: Contributing your donation using our website....trinityeastpete.org....**RESOURCES, PAY ON LINE**

For several years, members have been able to make weekly/recurring donations on-line in lieu of paying cash/checks or by mail. On-line donations save the cost of a check and envelope and if using the recurring feature, remembering weekly to prepare your envelope. Presently we have several individuals/families using on-line donations either weekly or recurring.

*We believe that financial transparency builds trust and is a mark of stewardship so we want to take a moment to remind you that there is a small cost for this convenience. You'll have the opportunity to help cover the cost of processing when you give. Please know that this is **100% optional**, but we appreciate your partnership in making your gift go as far as possible to impact our mission.*

We have never asked our members to cover these costs especially since 2020 at the start of the pandemic. The costs are 1.05% when paying by check, 3.05% when paying by credit/debit card.

Beginning July 1, 2022, we added a feature to our on-line giving whereby you can help to cover the costs of paying online by debit/credit card or checking account. This is entirely **OPTIONAL**. There will be a check-off block to use if you wish to cover your transaction cost in addition to your contribution.

CROP WALK MONEY: Trinity has raised **\$12,740** for the 2022 CROP Walk. If any walkers still have money, give it to Mark or Chris Eyer or give it to the church office!

You can still support our walkers by giving them money or going online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/trinity-east-pete>

Community Grab 'N Go COMMUNITY Meal: Tuesday, December 27 at First Reformed U.C.C. (40 E. Orange St., Lancaster)

Trinity has another opportunity to feed the underserved on December 27. A few volunteers will be needed to pack and distribute 120 to-go dinner bags. The sign-up sheet for volunteers and food donations is on the table in across from the church office. The food items needed for this meal are: fruit cups, hamburger rolls, water, individually wrapped desserts and baby carrots. Donations can be placed in the basket on the table.

Contact Kathy Cooley for more information! Thanks for your continuing support!

Holiday Wishes for Jordan Sensenig



Since Jordan is deployed overseas, this will be his third Christmas away from home. Christmas will be a difficult time for him, and we hope you will help to boost his spirits. Whether you share a note, a Christmas card, or a memory, we hope you will help by sending him words of encouragement.

You surprised him with your wonderful greetings last year, and we hope we can surprise him again. He couldn't believe how many greetings he received. You were great!

Jordan appreciates his Trinity family, and we hope this will be a great reminder of all the times he spent at Trinity. He's far from home, and this will help him feel all the caring that surrounds him.

With the issues surrounding mail delivery, we will collect your encouraging correspondences and will send all as a single mailing. We will send one mailing in early December, and then another a few weeks later.

Many Thanks!
Pat and Joan



Trinity UCC

2340 State St.

East Petersburg, PA

www.trinityeastpete.org

Concert/Desserts

Featuring

Trinity Church Musicians

Sunday, December 4, 2022

Concert – 6:00 PM

Desserts Following The Concert

Sign-up Sheet In Church Narthex

Or

Call 717-569-1632 For Dessert Reservations

Freewill Offering Benefits

Schreiber Center For Pediatric Development

and Trinity Music Ministry



**Also Join Us Dec. 24
(Christmas Eve):
2:30 PM Eucharist
6:30 PM Family Service
10:30 PM Eucharist**



NOVEMBER 27, 2022

(A)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

SECOND LESSON. Romans 13:11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL. Matthew 24:36-44

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

