

Let the
peace of Christ
rule in your hearts



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
717-569-1632

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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 and SOT Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10:30 A.M.

Prayer: *Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE: Originating at England's Truro Cathedral in 1878, the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus in nine short scripture lessons from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels. Interspersed between the readings are hymns and carols that reflect the reading.

Today's service is an adaptation of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College in Cambridge, England. The first festival service was held on Christmas Eve 1918. The service was planned by Eric Milner-White, who had just been appointed Dean of King's College after service as an military chaplain. He was convinced that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship.

Since 1919, the service has always begun with the hymn *Once in Royal David's City*. The scriptures always stay the same, but the choice of carols varies. This service has been broadcast annually around the world on Christmas Eve since 1928. Wherever the service is heard or however it has been adapted, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music.

The main theme of this service is the development and loving purposes of God as seen through the windows and words of the Bible.

PRELUDES

"O Come, One And All"

by Douglas E. Wagner

Based on the hymn tunes ADESTE FIDELES and IHR KINDERLEIN KOMMET

"Great Our Joy!"

by Douglas E. Wagner

Based on the hymn tunes TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM and JÜNGST

(Canticle Ringers)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM and THE BIDDING PRAYER

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (sung)

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

What a rare gift this season brings. God loves us so much that God came to us in Jesus. Let us humble ourselves and confess our sins before the God of love.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our heart with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

KYRIE

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

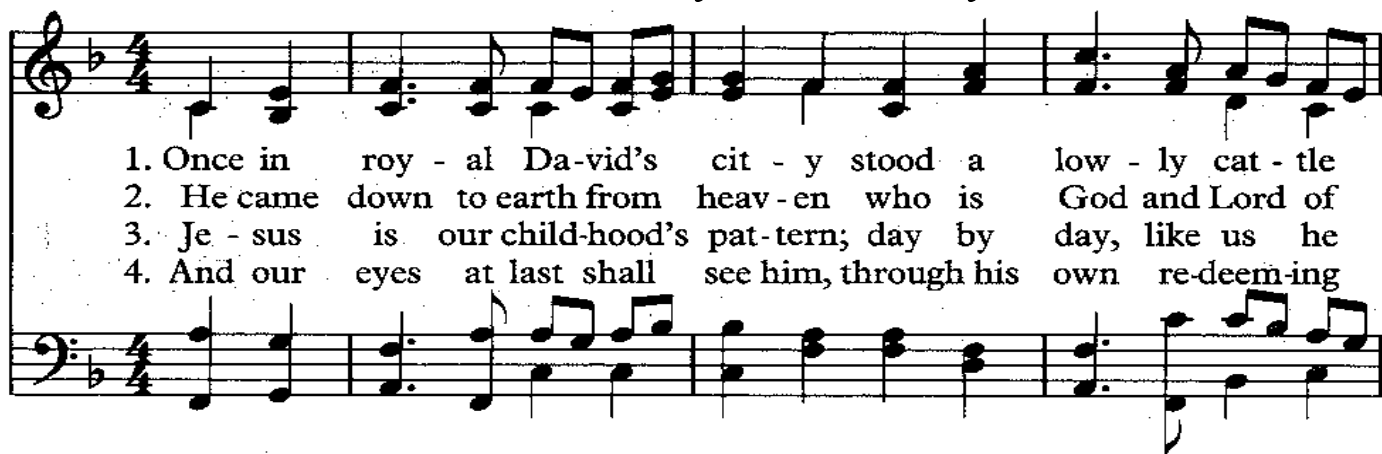
ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

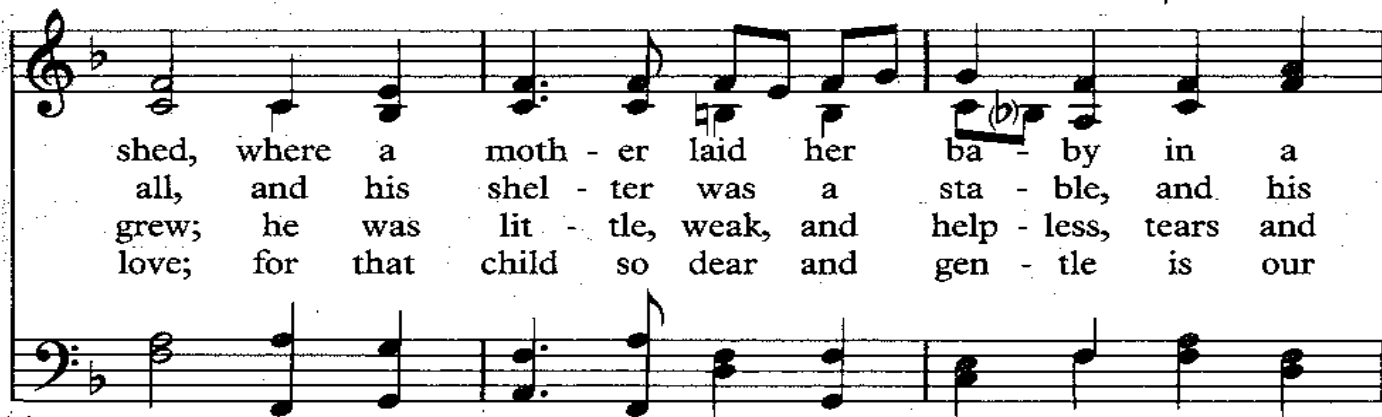
ADORATION AND PRAISE

HYMN

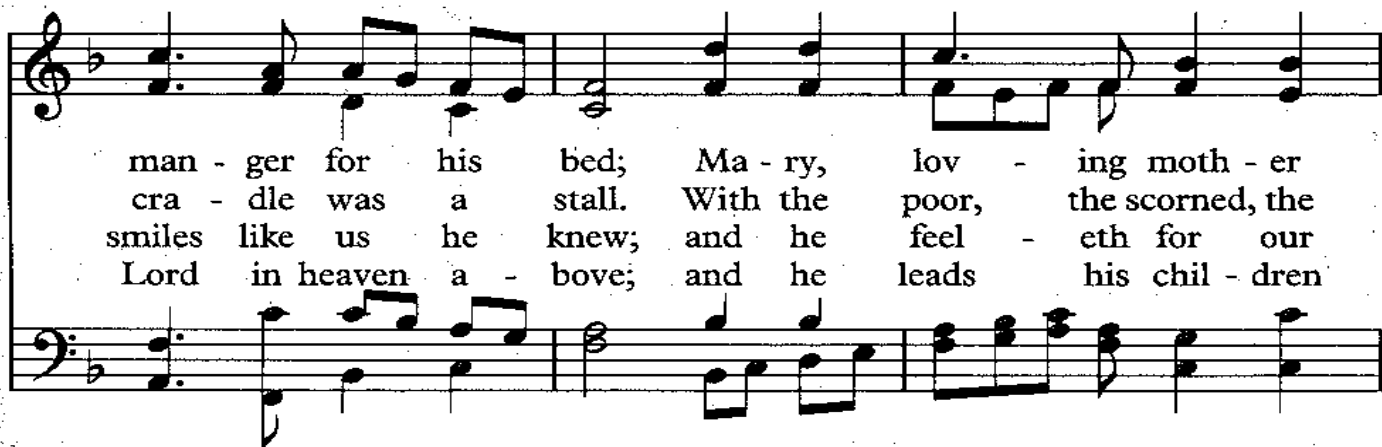
Once in Royal David's City



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day, like us he
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing



shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
grew; he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our



man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er
cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the
smiles like us he knew; and he feel - eth for our
Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

"Once in Royal David's City" harmonization © 1927 Novello & Company. CCLI License # 11083455

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON
HYMN NO. 88

Genesis 3:8-19
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verse 1)

Jerry Richards

SECOND LESSON
HYMN NO. 13

Genesis 22:15-18
Of the Father's Love Begotten (verse 1)

Karen Olley

THIRD LESSON
PIANO SOLO

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Once in Royal David's City
 Carmen Richards, pianist

Sally Rodenberger
Gauntlett
 arr. Jay Rouse

FOURTH LESSON
HYMN NO. 113

Isaiah 11:1-9
Behold a Branch is Growing (verses 1 & 2)

Dan Otthofer

FIFTH LESSON
HYMN

St. Luke 1:26-38
When Gabriel Brought the News

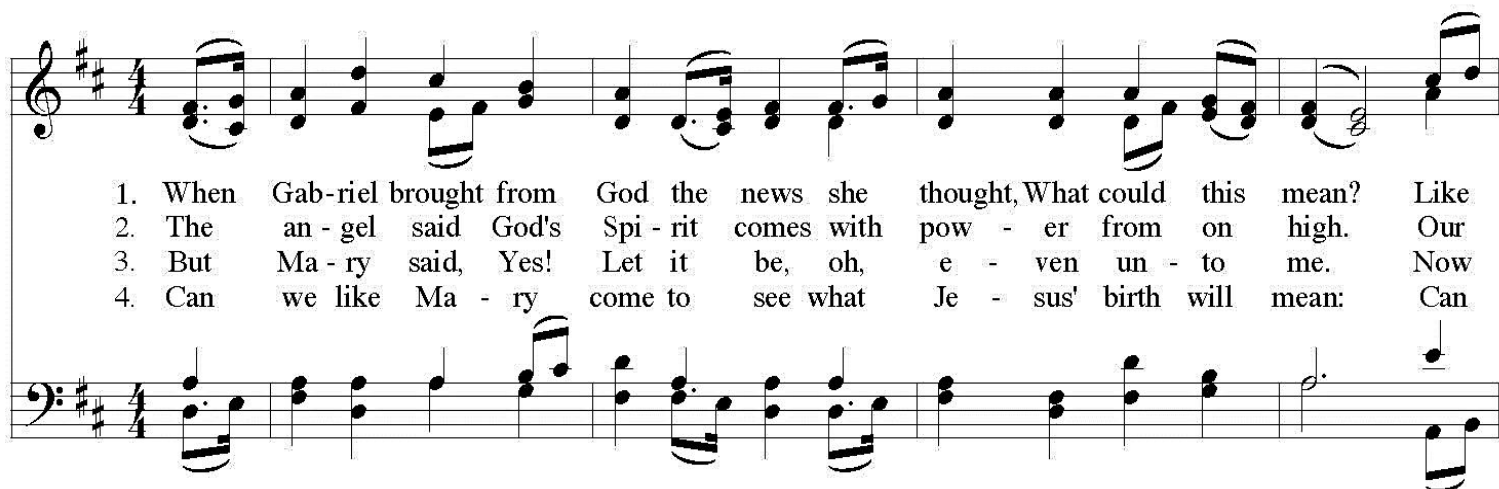
Marge Burger

Luke 1:26-38

Charles Hambrick-Stowe, 2021

George Frederick Handel, 1728

Arr. Lowell Mason, 1821



1. When Gab-riel brought from God the news she thought, What could this mean? Like
2. The an - gel said God's Spi - rit comes with pow - er from on high. Our
3. But Ma - ry said, Yes! Let it be, oh, e - ven un - to me. Now
4. Can we like Ma - ry come to see what Je - sus' birth will mean: Can



Ma - ry then we now pro - test, No way! It can - not be. No way! It can - not be.
rea - son sees just earth - ly things. We doubt and we de - ny. We doubt and we de - ny.
here am I, your ser - vant, Lord. No Christ - mas fan - ta - sy. No Christ - mas fan - ta - sy.
we like her pray, Let it be? God's true re - al - i - ty. God's true re - al - i - ty.

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SIXTH LESSON
CHOIR ANTHEM

St. Luke 2:1-7
Mary, Did You Know?

Anne Rankin

Words and Music by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene
Choral Setting by Jack Schrader

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would someday walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you delivered, will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kissed your little baby, then you kissed the face of God.

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again;
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.
Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb?
This sleeping child you're holding is the great, the great "I AM!"

"Mary, Did You Know?" words by Mark Lowry, music by Buddy Greene, choral setting by Jack Schrader © 1991, 1993, and Arr. © 1998 Word Music, LLC, Rufus Music. All Rights Reserved. CCLI License # 11083455

SEVENTH LESSON St. Luke 2:8-16 Diane Rice
PIANO SOLO *Jesus, King of Angels* Ortega/arr. Jay Rouse
Carmen Richards, pianist

EIGHTH LESSON St. Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor Rankin
CANTICLE RINGERS *"Star of Wonder, Star of Light"* by Douglas E. Wagner
Based on the hymn tunes **KINGS OF ORIENT** and **PERSONENT HODIE**

NINTH LESSON St. John 1:1-14 Rev. Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe
HYMN NO. 112 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
(Stand if you are able for the hymn)

PRAYER OF THE DAY & THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

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, forever. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

No. 102

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In dulci jubilo BWV 729

J. S. Bach



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers & Worship Aids are given by Chaplain Jere Chapman in honor of my wife Judy on her birthday today.

Greeting Ushers: Don Miller, Zach Baynard, Cherie Cataldi, Betty Fogle, Dottie Schadt

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

Building Trustee: Pat Sensenig

Thank you to our readers, the Sound of Trinity Choir and the Canticle Ringers for participating in today's service.

Happy Birthday!

Today – Judy Chapman

Friday – Rev. Jack Esbenshade

Saturday – Joan Cash, Pat Seachrist

Attendance for Sun., Dec. 19

8:00–25 10:30–60 **TOTAL – 85**

Sunday School

18

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Monday OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon
 8:00 PM - AA
Sunday 8:00 AM – Eucharist
 9:00 AM – Sunday School
 10:30 AM – Eucharist

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

DEVOTIONALS: The January-March edition of *These Days* is available in the Narthex or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Ken Geib, the family of Greg Wagner (brother of Mike Wagner), the family of Tim Landis (friends of Paula Dennes), the family of Nancy Neiswender (friend of Pastor Chris), Dolly & John Barr, Mary Witmer, Steve Owens (son of Scott & Jane Owens), Mark & Mary Anne Ritter (friends of the Paulukows), Lee Bossert-Davis (son of Hillary Bossert Davis), Patrick & Mel (nephew of Marianne Gibble & his wife), the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Hillary Brennan (mother of John Brennan), Ann Wolf (neighbor of George & Sandy DeLong), Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, David & Ann Potts (friends of Brenda & Harry Himelwright), Pete & Nora Petrosky (friends of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer), Lynn Dull, Jill Otthofer, Paul Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel), 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), Donna Denlinger, Cathy Hoshauer, Pat Miller, Nancy Patton, Gary Reynolds (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Phyllis Zimmerman, Donna Zirkel, Jose Arroyo (husband of Sandy & George DeLong's niece), Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley), Jaimie & Aurora Commero (friends of Sarah Paulukow), Mark Zody (friend of Denise Huggins), Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach's brother), Scott Summers, 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, Lily Kilgore & family, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger's brother-in-law), Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), Elaine Sturgis (friend of Sue Husted), Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Doris Leaman, Kelsey (Minnich) and Tom Burgo, Judie Bistline, Hilma Slechta, and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church).

2022 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AIDS SPONSORS

Contact Carol in the church office to sign-up for chancel flowers and worship aids for 2022. We recently changed florists and so the new price for flowers will be \$60. The price for worship aids will remain at \$26. Chancel Flowers dates available are: **January 9 & 16**. Worship Aids are available **January 2, 9 & 16**.

If you have any flower cans from recent chancel flowers, please return them to the church!!!

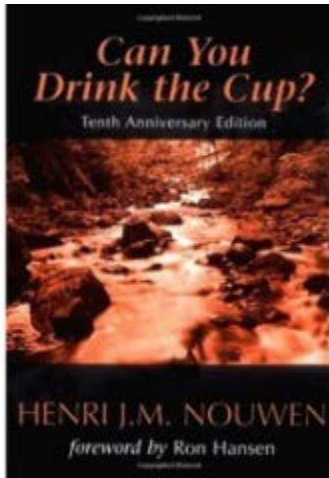
WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for worship volunteers at the in-person worship services:

Greeters/Ushers: To welcome worshippers at the door and to seat them in the sanctuary (10:30 a.m. service only)

Lectors: Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 8:00 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.

Please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz if you are willing to volunteer.

JANUARY BOOK STUDY: Pastor Rankin will be leading a book study via Google



Meet on January 17, 24, and 31 from 7-8 p.m. We will be reading Henri Nouwen's *Can You Drink the Cup?*

This question---one that Jesus asked his friends James and John---"has the power to crack open the hardened heart and lay bare the tendons of the spiritual life," explains world-renowned spiritual writer Henri Nouwen.

The cup, a powerful image in the human experience, a symbol used to celebrate a wide range of human endeavors, becomes for Nouwen a doorway opening on the spiritual horizon.

"Drinking our cup to the bottom is seen as the expression of the full freedom of the sons and daughters of God," he writes. His goal is to make the question Jesus posed pierce our hearts so that a personal answer can emerge from it.

Please sign-up by contacting Carol in the church office. **The deadline to order books through the church is December 27.**

MONEY BOXES: The children's Sunday School class has been learning about sharing God's gifts with others. They created boxes to collect coins to support a mission project or the work of our Christian Education ministry. Look for the boxes on the table across from the church office. Talk to Anne Rankin for more information.

CHURCH UNDECORATING SCHEDULED: Please plan to stay after the 10:30a.m. service on Sunday, January 9 to help remove and pack up Christmas decorations from the exterior and interior of the church. Thank you in advance for your assistance in packing up decorations in preparation for next year! Speak to Cherie Cataldi or Pastor Rankin for more information.

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.

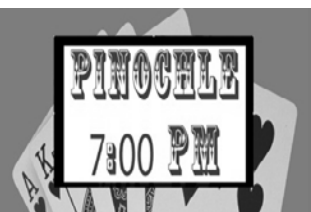
THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Grace M. Dodson (mother) and Dolores A. Dodson (aunt) of Donna Wolf, given by the family and friends. The candle stand and wreath are in memory of S. Leona Wolf, mother of the late John Wolf.

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.

PINOCHLE FELLOWSHIP: Mark your calendars now because the Pinochle



Fellowship will meet again on January 14th at 7:00 PM. There is no December meeting. Look for more information in the December Parish Post. You can respond using the electronic version that Carol already sent via e-mail or on the website under Ministries! Speak with Karen Olley for more information!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES: Christian Education classes will be held for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Here are the locations for the classes:

1. **Children's Class** will meet in the classroom on the first floor.
2. **Middle School/High School Class** will meet in the classroom on the second floor.
3. **The Combined Adult Class** will meet in Isenberg Hall.

There will be no Koinonia at this time!

Come, Follow Me Retreat



Mark your calendars for a church retreat to be held at Trinity Church February 18-20, 2022. The retreat will be led by Pastor Rankin and Rev. Dr. Dave Bushnell, Pastor Emeritus of Hamilton Park U.C.C. and author of the retreat.

Here is what Dr. Bushnell says about the retreat:

The Come Follow Me retreat seeks to invite people to experience being the body of Christ in our own time and place. This corporate identity, this “we”, can open us up to others, even to all creation. It invites us to experience others as I/Thou relationships (to use the Jewish scholar Martin Buber’s language).

In order to experience being the body of Christ today, the Come Follow Me retreat uses worship as its basic paradigm. The retreat follows the essential elements of worship from being called, to confession, then moving on to a unique experience of Jesus Christ, exploring how Jesus’ spirituality can help shape our own. The retreat includes a time of sharing deeply with one another remembering the waters of baptism. Then, after seeing the church as a community of abundant Christian practices, we will work to envision what our incarnational ministry will be like. Finally, we are sent out into the world, into “the long emergency” with solid “next steps” to follow.

Contact the church office to register for this retreat!!!

CHURCH COVENANT IN THE MIDST OF THE PANDEMIC

As an individual who attends Trinity United Church of Christ I covenant to work with my fellow church members, family and friends to keep our community safe and healthy.

I covenant to . . .

Wear a face mask as a symbol of love and care for others.

Sit six feet apart from others, leaving room for God to work in the in-between spaces.

Clean up after myself in the spaces I use because germs are everywhere I go too!

Honor and respect the sacredness of each person in this space and to stay home if I don't feel well or have been around someone who is waiting the results of a COVID test, knowing God is with us wherever we are, whether inside or outside the walls of the church.

Work together with my church family in creating a safe and healthy space to gather for worship, fellowship, or church activities as one body, united in God's love.

Acknowledge the hard work ahead, and the commitment to care for one another.

Together, we as the church, covenant to care and love one another in new and different ways as we:

- Share God's love with our community
- Serve God's children
- Bring healing and wholeness to those in need
- Share the Gospel in liturgy, music and study

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY



The United Nations has designated the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz - Birkenau concentration camp as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



The Lessons of the Holocaust

Join us on Thursday, January
27th, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

This is a hybrid event, and will be held
simultaneously in person and on Zoom.

The speakers will be:

Pastor Mark Ammerman - Grace Evangelical Congregational Church

Pastor Timothy Bistline - Church of God of Landisville, and Real-Life Church of God

Pastor Pamela Carnes - Evangelical Lutheran, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Doug Hinton - Hempfield Church of the Brethren

Pastor Christopher Rankin - Trinity United Church of Christ

Rabbis Daniela Szuster and Rami Pavolotzky - Temple Beth El Lancaster

[Register to attend in person and on Zoom here now.](https://www.tbelancaster.org/holocaust-2021/)

<https://www.tbelancaster.org/holocaust-2021/>

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Parish
Resource
Center

Solutions For Churches & Communities

Feb 26,
10-11:30am



Annie Browning
M.Div., LCSW

Using Intuition in Your Work



DECEMBER 26, 2021

(C)

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER
CHRISTMAS**

FIRST LESSON. 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

SECOND LESSON. Colossians 3:12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL. Luke 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

