

Rooted
and grounded
in love

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/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 & 9:30 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference; it is the power of Jesus working the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

Prayer: *Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

GATHERING MUSIC (9:30 Service)

Christine Oetama

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND CALL TO WORSHIP

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

This is the hour to bend our knee before God.

This is a time to offer our best to our Creator.

We gather before God, who sees all our deeds.

We open our hearts to One who knows all our thoughts.

God's presence evokes our joyous worship.

The Holy Spirit empowers our service.

To God be highest glory in the church.

To God be endless adoration in the world.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but we fear the Spirit's power.

Let us confess our slowness to embrace the new life of the Spirit.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Trusting in God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Almighty God, who sent the promised power of the Holy Spirit to fill disciples with willing faith: We confess that we resist the force of your Spirit among us; that we are slow to serve you, and reluctant to spread the good news of your love. God, have mercy on us. Forgive our divisions, and by your Spirit draw us together. Enflame us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news is that God forgives us and gives us Christ to be living water and true bread. Let us accept with joy these precious gifts of abundant life. Amen.

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)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (9:30 Service)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 11:1-5

King David takes Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, then eventually has her husband murdered. The king, who should be at the battle but stays home, is contrasted in this story with the loyal and upright soldier Uriah.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PSALTER

Psalm 51: 1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:14-21

We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 6:1-21

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

MEDITATION

"God's Abundant Presence"

Rev. Bistline

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

THE VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

(KNEELING OR SEATED)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations. Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger are fed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SILENT PRAYER

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.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

OFFERING DEDICATION

Bless these tithes and offerings, O God, returned to you. Multiply and use them to bring the word and the touch of Jesus to this place and throughout the world, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

HYMN #21

Joyful, Joyful

9:30 Service

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Go out to share what you have received.

God will multiply the gifts you give away.

We will turn away from fears of scarcity.

We will celebrate and share our abundance.

You are the body of Christ! May you be strengthened with the power of God, the love of Christ, and the help of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING MUSIC (9:30 Service)

Christine Oetama

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Ken Geib** in memory of my family & my mother's birthday on July 24.

The Worship Aids are given by **Nancy Enders** in thanksgiving for all the work the Task Force has done during the last 16 months to keep us all safe.

Greeting Ushers: Mike Wagner, Shelley Wagner, Charlene Cristy, Stan & Pat Seachrist

Building Trustee: Hank Fox

Lector: Diane Rice

Today we welcome the Rev. Robert Bistline, a member of Trinity Church, as our guest preacher. Rev. Bistline is a graduate of Winebrenner Seminary and was ordained on November 22, 1964. He has served the following ministries:

2016-20 Designated Pastor, Zion U.C.C., New Providence
2014-15 Interim Pastor, St. Peter's U.C.C. (Lischey's), Spring Grove
2012-14 Interim Pastor, Zion U.C.C., New Providence
2010-12 Interim Pastor, St. Luke's U.C.C., Lititz
2006-09 Interim Pastor, Salem Evangelical Lutheran, Ephrata
2000-06 Pastor, Salem U.C.C., Harrisburg
1998 Interim Pastor, First Reformed U.C.C., Lancaster
1995-96 Interim Pastor, St. Paul's U.C.C., Stoverstown
1992-95 Interim Executive Director, Lancaster County Council of Churches
1979-92 Pastor, Church of God, Landisville
1970-79 Pastor, College First Church of God, Findlay, OH
1962-70 Pastor, Homeacres First Church of God, Toledo, OH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The church office is open Monday-Friday from 9 AM-2 PM.

PASTOR'S VACATION: Pastor Rankin and family will be on vacation from July 23-31. The Rev. Ken Trauger will be covering pastoral emergencies during this time. You can reach Rev. Trauger at 717-203-6425.

THE JULY/AUGUST PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building.

DEVOTIONALS: The July-September edition of *These Days* can be found on both floors of the church building.

PRESCHOOL SUB COUPONS: We have about 20 more S. Clyde Weaver sub coupons to sell for the Trinity Preschool fundraiser. The cost is \$8 per coupon. You can call Carol in the church office or email the preschool at preschool@trinityeastpete.org to order your coupons.

PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of **Randy Leinbach** (father of Chuck Leinbach), the family of **Ray Enders** (uncle of Jay Enders), **Pat Miller**, **Nancy Patton**, **Gary Reynolds** (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), **Joan Sensenig**, **Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser**, **Phyllis Zimmerman**, **Dave Connor**, **Linda Brown** (sister of Mike Wagner), **Chad Zirkel** (son of Donna Zirkel), **Sharon Brown** (sister of Sandy DeLong), **Jose Arroyo** (husband of Sandy & George DeLong's niece), **Chris Rice** (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley), **Meghan Gillerin** (granddaughter of Dorie Altmanshofer), **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**, **Ron Rogers** (Jamy Shelly's stepfather), **Rev. Frank Lantz**, **Lainie Christensen**, **Sandra Englert** (niece of Betty Tyndall), **Charles & Betty Booraem**, **Cindy Pulver** (niece of Marge Burger), **Emma Nissley** (sister of Jane Starr, Nancy Patton, and Pat Miller), **Betty Tyndall and family**, **Virginia Schoffstall** (grandmother of Kayla Brennan), **David Potts** (neighbor of the Himelwrights), **Dorothy Fasnacht**, **Jo Jo Richards & family** (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law), **Doug & Mary Lou Shaab**, **Bob & Marlyn Wible**, **Lily Kilgore & family**, **Barry Moore** (Donna & Ron Denlinger's brother-in-law), **Sam & Rosemary Minder**, **Jordan Sensenig** (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), **Judy Wisniewski** (sister of Chuck Husted), **Elaine Sturgis** (friend of Sue Husted), **Donna Zirkel**, **Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman**, **Doris Leaman**, **Kelsey (Minnich)** and **Tom Burgo**, **Judie Bistline**, **Hilma Slechta**, and the **Bonilla-Rodriguez family** (friends of Trinity Church).

THE 2021 WORSHIP AIDS & CHANCEL FLOWERS: You can either contact the church office or use the website under resources to sign-up for flowers and worship aids for 2021! Worship Aids dates available are: **August 22 & 29**. Chancel Flowers dates available are: **August 29**.

MISSION PROJECT: The VBS Mission Project is Schreiber Center For Pediatric Development. Anyone can give through their envelopes or online giving and specify Schreiber to participate in making donations. Please make checks payable to Trinity.



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 (if not vaccinated) 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, 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.

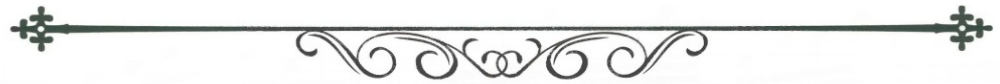
Acknowledge the hard work ahead, and the commitment to care for one another.

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



Mt. Gretna Tabernacle



MT. GRETNA BIBLE FESTIVAL 2021

All Programs are in the Historic Tabernacle • 3rd St. & Glossbrenner Ave.

Parking GPS Address: 41 Boulevard St, Mt. Gretna PA 17064

Please visit MtGretnaTabernacle.org for any program cancellations.

A freewill offering will be received at each program.

Summer at the Tabernacle

Worship, Speakers and Concerts

ALL PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE *Updates will be posted on our website and Facebook page*

MASKS REQUIRED at all programming in the Tabernacle during the 2021 Season.

All programs will conform to strict CBC Guidelines. Visit our website for updates.

Friday programs will be simulcast via the website and on Facebook

July 25 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Alden Keynotes Chorus Directed by Darrell Woerner, Renee Haag, Accompanist.
Voices from Alden Place Community.

August 1 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Lancaster British Brass Band Directed by Dr. Stephen Arthur Allen. 28 instrumentalists from PA, MD, DE, and NJ play brass, winds and percussion instruments. They are accomplished professional performers and teachers.



August 4 Wednesday 7 p.m. Hymn Sing

Music of the Gaithers Hymn Sing led by Rev. Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer.

August 8 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

National Christian Choir directed by Kathy Bowman. Founded in 1984. The choir is called to glorify God through a unique ministry of music which draws people into a new and deeper relationship with Him.

August 15 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Men in Harmony directed by Nathan Minnich. An all volunteer men's chorus of 20+ voices. Their musical repertoire includes sacred, classical, gospel, spirituals, hymn tunes, and patriotic songs.

August 22 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

The Susquehanna Chorale One of the premier choral groups in the nation, directed by Linda Tedford, makes its traditional late summer appearance. *Sponsored by University Music Service of Hershey*



August 29 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

QuintEssentially Brass A quintet with engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances ends another season.



October 2

Saturday 2 p.m. Concert

The Massed Choir Composer Lloyd Larson will direct over 100 voices in a joyous Saturday afternoon concert. *Sponsored by Losers Music Inc. and Cornwall Manor*

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 (9:30 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 9:30 a.m. services.

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

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SALLY BRIGHT will be held at Trinity Church on August 21 at 11 a.m. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

RALLY DAY: For this year's Rally Day, we are able to make recordings and put them together to create a video of the Rally Day play, "A Wrinkle In Time," (by Morgan Gould, from the book by Madeleine L'Engle), which can be streamed for one day, September 12. Conditions permitting, our intentions are to also have a showing of the recording on a screen at church, either outside or in the social hall at 9:00 AM, on Sunday, September 12. So, our plan is to schedule two, hopefully in-person, recording sessions, hoping to get as much recorded in succession as possible to reduce the amount of editing needed. Anyone interested, please contact Dina Slechta to receive a script and a role to begin rehearsing in advance, at home.

Some Possible Recording Session Dates (Expecting to only use 2 of these.): **August 23** – Evening **August 25** – Evening
August 28 - Morning

List of Roles Available (You don't need to be these ages to play these roles, just letting you know who the characters are.):

Meg - pre-teen or young teenage girl, one of the main characters

Charles Wallace - five year old younger brother, extremely intelligent, one of the main characters

Mother - beautiful scientist, mother of the four children

Mrs. Whatsit - zany, larger than life, ethereal being/angel

Mrs. Who - thoughtful, kind, ethereal being/angel, loves to study great artist, philosophers, and recites lots of quotes in various languages.

Mrs. Which - ethereal being/angel phases in and out of reality, drawn out speech

Calvin - teen boy, athlete, cares for Meg tenderly

Red-eyed Man - evil administrator

Father - scientist, father of the four children

Little Boy Who Drops Ball - young boy who doesn't conform

(CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE)

The following may want to be Ensemble Members in addition to reading these lines:

Teacher - One line near the beginning

Postalworker - One line near the beginning

Bully - One line near the beginning

Dennys -10 year old twin brother, one line near the beginning

Sandy - 10 year old twin brother, one line near the beginning

Camazotz Mom - fearful, suspicious mother

Ensemble Member - May act in various capacities to create the illusion of wind, trees, animals, tables, walls, etc. May chant or exclaim, or create other background sound effects.

Have Mercy On Me, O God

*Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions ...
You desire truth in the inward being ...
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.*

— Psalm 51:1, 6a, 10-12

Theme: The greatest of all penitential prayers

Outline

- 1-2 I am guilty and need mercy.
- 3-5 I confess my sinfulness.
- 6 I need inward integrity.
- 7-12 I need and seek from you:
 - 7 purging, cleansing,
 - 8 relief from agony,
 - 9 the record against me blotted out,
 - 10 a new creation within me,
 - 11 your Spirit's presence and ministry, and
 - 12 a grateful, obedient spirit.
- 13-15 I commit myself to tell others of your grace.
- 16-17 All I can offer is a broken spirit.
- 18-19 Later addition — when the psalm was used by exiles who had returned home. (See Ezra 6:16.)

Notes

- Penitential
- David's sin with Bathsheba (and Uriah) is told in 2 Samuel 11, and the prophet Nathan's rebuke in 2 Samuel 12. Luther writes: "Here the doctrine of true repentance is set forth before us. There

are two elements in true repentance: recognition of sin and recognition of grace ... the fear of God and trust in mercy ... David is an outstanding example. One by one he broke almost the whole Decalogue. Yet, he would not have acknowledged these sins if Nathan had not come, but would still have wanted to be known as a righteous and holy king ... if Nathan had not come, David might have sinned against the Holy Spirit.”¹

For Reflection

- On what ground does David ask for forgiveness? And what is the condition for receiving it?
- List the things (or verbs of God’s work) which, when penitent, we ask God to do with us.
- The words used here for sin are transgression (*peshā*) = rebellion or defection against God, iniquity (*aven*) = depravity of conduct, perverting of right, and error (*chata*) = to miss the mark in life.
- “Create” means not restoring what was before, but to bring into being what was not there and is needed — new heart and spirit from the creative, life-giving power of God. (See Ezekiel 36:25-27.)
- Luther: “Now with us the situation is that Adam must get out and Christ come in, Adam become as nothing, and Christ alone remain and rule. For this reason there is no end of washing and cleansing in this life. For the old Adam, with which we are born, makes sinful and nullifies also the good works, in which we make a start and some progress, if God did not look upon the grace and cleansing which has begun.”²
- Note how this psalm prefigures (vv. 10-13) the Christian teaching of regeneration (John 3:1-16; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21), sanctification (Romans 6:19; 12:1-2), and mission or witness (Matthew 28:19-20).

FIRST LESSON. 2 Samuel 11:1-5

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

SECOND LESSON. Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL. John 6:1-21

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.