

“I AM THE ALPHA
AND THE OMEGA,”

SAYS THE LORD GOD, WHO IS AND
WHO WAS AND WHO IS TO COME



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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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

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
10:30 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

We proclaim Christ our king as he goes to the throne of the cross. We acclaim him our ruler as he sheds his blood. We acknowledge him as our Lord as he gives himself to us in bread and cup. Christ is our king as he reigns from the tree, sharing our fears and experiencing our frailties. In the reign of God, the powerful one does not intimidate the weak, but cares for them. In the reign of God, the powerful one does not intimidate the weak, but cares for them. In the reign of God, the person of authority does not use others, but seeks them out and crowns them with mercy.

Prayer: *Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

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.**

Gather in the spirit of Jesus, whose name we bear!

Thank God for truth that lives in spite of death!

We celebrate the faithful witness of Jesus Christ.

We seek to share the good news that Christ reigns.

As we come to the table of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and the risen Christ.

We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us approach God with a true heart, in full assurance of God's power to heal and to forgive *(SEATED OR KNEELING)*

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Merciful God, you have loved your people from the beginning of time, desiring that we also love you and our neighbor with fullness of heart. We confess that we have sought wealth or betterment for ourselves, without acting generously toward others. Redirect our commitments, that they might reflect your will for us and your creation. 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)

HYMN

O God Beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown -
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav - en's gar - den grown:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

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(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 23:1-7

This song attributed to David speaks of a promise: God will establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Indeed, David's dynasty endured over four hundred years, until the exile in 587 B.C. When there was no longer a Davidic king on the throne, this promise was understood to refer to the Messiah.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 132:1-18

O Lord, remember in David's favor all the hardships he endured; how he swore to the Lord and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob, 'I will not enter my house or get into my bed;

I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids,

Until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling-place for the Mighty One of Jacob.'

We heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar.

'Let us go to his dwelling-place; let us worship at his footstool.'

Rise up, O Lord, and go to your resting-place, you and the ark of your might.

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.

For your servant David's sake do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: 'One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.

If your sons keep my covenant and my decrees that I shall teach them, their sons also, for evermore, shall sit on your throne.'

For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his habitation:

'This is my resting-place for ever; here I will reside, for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless its provisions; I will satisfy its poor with bread.

Its priests I will clothe with salvation, and its faithful will shout for joy.

There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.

His enemies I will clothe with disgrace, but on him, his crown will gleam.'

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the first-born from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 18:33-37

In St. John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"Coming Full Circle"

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

Our offerings measure our faithfulness to you, mighty God. They witness to the importance we place on sharing your Word, ministering to one another, reaching out to make a difference in your world. As we have been influenced by your love in Jesus Christ, help us to communicate that love by what we do and say. Let us become lamps brightening a cloudy day, as light breaking forth at dawn. To that end, we dedicate ourselves with our gifts. 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.

Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We give you thanks that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name.

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.

(You are invited to partake of the elements)

(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.

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

By your word and sacraments, O God, you have given us a foretaste of the new heaven and new earth that will be ours forever. Strengthen in us this vision that we might draw others to believe in the hope that is ours, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

371

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
(Tune: Coronation)

O. Holder
arr. F. Ritter



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Jeff Hackenberger** in memory of my father, Roy Hackenberger, and in honor of the 1st birthday of my granddaughter, Harper.

The Worship Aids are given by **Jodi & Jack Keller** in memory of Hen Burger's birthday.

Money Counters: Diane Rice, Karen Olley, George DeLong, Jodi Keller

Greeters: Dave Connor, Hank Fox, Bob Bistline, Paula Dennes, Denise Huggins

Building Trustee: Pat Sensenig

Lector: Marge Burger

Attendance for Sun., November 14
Sunday School

8:00–20 10:30–70 **TOTAL – 90**
19

Happy Birthday!

Today – Diane Minnich

Monday – Rev. Bob Bistline

Tuesday – Naomi Brian

Wednesday – Elinor Nicholas

Saturday – Dennis Eberly, Dr. Rob Hollenbach

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Wednesday 7:00 PM – Thanksgiving Eve

Thursday OFFICE CLOSED-Thanksgiving Day

Thursday-Friday NO Preschool

Saturday 1:00-5:00PM Advent Workshop

7:00 PM – Alanon

8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 8:00 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:30 AM – Worship Service

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

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

2022 BUDGETS are available on both floors of the church building. This will be voted on at the congregational meeting.



PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Don Huber, the family of Joyce Becker, Denny Eberly, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Hillary Brennan (mother of John Brennan), Ann Wolf (neighbor of George & Sandy DeLong), the Brennan family, 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), Sam & Rosemary Minder, 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).

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!

CALLING NEW SINGERS AND RINGERS: We invite anyone who is interested in providing a solo as a Musical Offering this fall, in joining the SOT Choir, or in playing bells to email Michael and Dina at Music@Trinityeastpete.org.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 27TH FROM 1:00-5:00 P.M.

It's time to think about preparing Trinity Church for the Advent season.

We are planning on doing indoor decorating and outside decorating and crafts for both kids & adults.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for the season. Call the church office at 717-569-1632 or use the sign-up sheet in the church hall way or use the link on the home page of the church website. We will conclude with a brief service and a pizza dinner!

Schedule for Advent Workshop

1:00-3:30 decorating and crafts

3:30-4:00 worship service

4:00-5:00 pizza and fellowship

Speak with me if you are willing to help plan the workshop.

Thank you, Cherie Cataldi



Holiday Wishes for Jordan Sensenig

Since Jordan is deployed overseas, he will not be coming home for three years. This Christmas will be a difficult one, 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.

With the issues surrounding mail delivery, we would like to have your well wishes by the end of November. We will collect your encouraging correspondence and will send all as a single mailing. It takes about three weeks for him to receive his mail from us.

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.

Many Thanks!
Pat and Joan

Put cards in the envelope on
table across from church office.

WHITE GIFT SERVICE: DECEMBER 5

As in years past, we would like to share our blessings with others in need by providing gifts to the residents of Bethany Homes and Ephrata Manor. The residents at both locations are always very appreciative of our caring and giving. Both organizations rely on our donations to make Christmas special for each of their residents.

This year, due to the pandemic, they are asking for GIFT CARDS so that they can use them to purchase desired gifts for each individual. The following are the gift card requests for each location.



Ephrata Manor (United Church of Christ Home) requests:



Amazon, Walmart, Dollar Tree, Visa/MC, and Target gift cards.

Bethany Home requests: Target, Walmart, Amazon, Dick's, Michael's, Food Locker, Turkey Hill, and McDonalds gift cards.

We will receive all donations on Sunday, December 5. Contact Beth Bossert for more information.

PINOCHLE FELLOWSHIP: Mark your calendars now because the Pinochle Fellowship will meet again on January 4th 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!



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

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.

HEMPFIELD POWER PACK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Hempfield Power Packs could use a few volunteers! We are most in need of people to help with delivery and distribution on Thursday afternoons.

“Delivery” means bringing the bags from our room at EPACC (East Pete Civic Center – corner of State and Lemon) to Arbor View Traylor park on Columbia Ave (across from Super Shoes). This takes about 45 minutes from start to finish. You help to load the bags into your car (and a few coolers) and bring them to the ‘community room’ at Arbor. The two volunteers there will help unload your car and they stay to distribute. (And then you are free to go!) (Pick up bags at EPACC about 2:50pm on Thursday, deliver to Arbor and leave)

“Delivery AND Distribution” are about a 2 hour time commitment. Volunteers pick up bags/coolers, etc at EPACC, and bring them to either Hempfield United Methodist or Mountville Church of the Brethren, and then stay to distribute them when our families come. (We are serving approx. 32 families at MCOB and 48 families at HUMC)

MCOB distributes from 3 - 4:15 – which means pick up at EPACC approx. 2:25 and returning leftover bags to EPACC after 4:15.

HUMC distributes from 4:30 – 5:30 – which means pick up at EPACC approx. 3:45 and returning leftover bags to EPACC after 5:30.

“Distribution” – this one is without a delivery – as it happens right at EPACC between 5:30-6:30. We distribute out of the entrance of EPACC – so it’s just a matter of showing up about 5:15 and handing out bags to our families. (We are serving approx. 35 families at EPACC)

You are not alone at any site – we always have 2 volunteers.

If you want any other details or info, feel free to email or call me – I’d be happy to chat! (717-203-9506 or deblich@comcast.net)

Thanks,
Deb Lichtenwalner

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

(B)

**CHRIST THE KING/
LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

FIRST LESSON. 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the LORD speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

SECOND LESSON. Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL. John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

