

Lent

40 DAYS OF RENEWAL



March 23, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Week 3 of Lent:

Colossians 3:1-17

Luke 13:1-9

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
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The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music and SOT Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

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.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES –If you have trouble with hearing, please check with one of the ushers for a Hearing Assist Sound Receiver.

Why no alleluias or hymns of praise during Lent? You may have noticed that the hymn of praise following the assurance of forgiveness is missing from our worship. We join other churches in omitting alleluias, glorias, and other hymns of praise as we turn again to our Lenten journey of exile and repentance. We long for the eschatological New Jerusalem "...the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother" (Galatians 4:26). We walk in darkness awaiting the city of God where... "there will be no more night; the servants of God need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:5). Until then, we travel with our Lord Jesus into the desert to face the devil, we join him in his triumphant procession into Jerusalem, we pray with him in the garden of Gethsemane, and we follow him to the painful cross and to the cold dark tomb. We trust that our journey with Christ does not end there. On Easter we once again join the praises of the choirs of heaven: "The Lord is risen; the Kingdom has come; our joy is complete; and, in concert with the angels and saints, we greet the risen Lord with shouts of 'Alleluia!'"

(http://catholicism.about.com/od/worship/f/No_Alleluia.htm).

PRELUDE

God's Time is the Best J. S. Bach/arr. E. P. Biggs
(Sinfonia to Cantata No.106)

(Please use the prelude as a quiet time to begin worship)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND PSALTER (Psalm 63:1-4)

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

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Let us pray together.

We gather to worship, O God, under the shadow of the cross, sign of human shame and divine wisdom. Help us by your grace to follow faithfully in your ways so that we may live to you and die to you. We are your people; we belong to you. Therefore, we offer you our worship and our lives. May your name be glorified in your church as we are open to your presence this night! In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

CALL TO CONFESSION

In Jesus Christ, God came among us to save us from sin and death. In walking to the cross, Christ freed us from the bondage of guilt and judgment. We come before God now, seeking grace freely given to us.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LITANY PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When we hear and obey the voice of the world rather than turning to you for guidance,

grant us grace, O God, and free us.

When we critically judge others without wanting to look at ourselves,
grant us grace, O God, and free us.

When we fail to love any of your people out of prejudice and fear,
grant us grace, O God, and free us.

PRAYER FOR MERCY (TRISAGION)

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy Immortal One, **Have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND CHORAL AMEN

In the cross, we see God's amazing love for us. We are God's children living in a confused world. So in abundant grace, God answers our doubt, heals our pain, and forgives our failures in grace. I announce therefore in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free in grace. Thanks be to God! **Amen.** (sung)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

272

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

HOLY SCRIPTURES

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Colossians 3:1-17

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE GOSPEL LESSON ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

Glory Be to You, O Lord

St. Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise Be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"Christ of Compassion"

Rev. Rohnacher

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

THE EVENING PRAYER

Save us, Father, from living in the past, and from resting on the work of others. Let us find a new beginning and a new vision; that we may know our duty in this place and this world today.

O Lord, hear us.

Keep us from pride that excludes others from the shelter of your love; and from mean prejudice and mass evils that scar the tissues of our common life.

O Lord, hear us.

Spare us from the selfishness that uses your house as a means of getting social petition or personal glory, and let us not hold back what we have or what we are when there is so much need.

O Lord, hear us.

Defend us from the ignorance that nourishes injustice and from indifference that causes hearts to break; that, in these times of racial bitterness, we may demonstrate your love and live beyond caste or color as Christ's men and women.

O Lord, hear us.

Help us to avoid isolation in our homes, while others near us do not have a bed of their own or any quiet place; and, as we work to bring a decent life to others, let us know a purer enjoyment of all your blessing.

O Lord, hear us, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now in a time of silence, let us offer prayers for our loved ones who are in need of your healing love.

THE 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, forever. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with the words of grace and life. Bless us and these gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

HYMN

In the Cross

#164

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

MEDITATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesus, Thou My Life Art Ever

(Chorale tune: Alle Menschen müssen sterben)

F. W. Zachau

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

Ministering This Evening

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

Preacher: Rev. Margaret Rohnacher

Building Trustee: John Shelsky

Tonight we welcome the Rev. Margaret Rohnacher, a new member of our congregation, as our guest preacher. Rev. Rohnacher earned her Bachelor of Music (organ performance) from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University and her Master of Divinity from Lancaster Theological Seminary. She has been a church organist in a variety of denominations. She served as chaplain and organist at the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown for fifteen years.

LENTEN/EASTER SERVICES---Theme for Wednesday services: Turning Toward God's Abundance

Week 4: Forgiveness (March 30 at 7 p.m.)---Rev. Bob Bistline

Week 5: Love (April 6 at 7 p.m.)—Rev. Sandy Morris (may include the order of healing)

We are also planning to stream the Wednesday evening services.

MAUNDY THURSDAY (April 14 at 2 p.m./7 p.m.): Service of Word & Sacrament with Pastor Rankin preaching. The 2 p.m. service will be streamed on our Facebook page and later uploaded to our website.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE (April 15 at 7 p.m.)

EASTER MORNING SCHEDULE:

6:15 a.m.—Sunrise Service in the parking lot with Holy Communion

8:00 a.m.—Service in the sanctuary with Holy Communion

9:15-10:00 a.m.—Breakfast in Isenberg Hall (sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office)

10:30 a.m.—Service in the sanctuary with Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST: The Lancaster YMCA is planning to have the Good Friday breakfast on at the Farm & Home Center on April 15 at 7:30 a.m. (doors open at 7:00 a.m.). The Rev. Gerald Simmons, Pastor of Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary, will be the speaker. Trinity will once again have a table of 8 people for the breakfast. We already sold 4 of the 8 tickets. The cost is \$20 per person. Contact the church office to make a reservation.

LENTEN DENIAL ENVELOPES: The Board of Deacons decided to use all donations given through the Lenten Denial envelope to assist those impacted by the crisis in Ukraine. Please be generous as we help our brothers and sisters in need.

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Do you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure? Have members of your family suffered from these ailments? do you have a poor diet? If you answer “yes” to any of these questions, you may want to consider being screened through the services of Life Line Screening. Life Line Screening uses ultrasound technology to view the plaque buildup in your carotid arteries, the main arteries that carry blood to the brain. Blockages in these arteries are a leading cause of stroke. We are pleased to host this Life Line Screening event on **March 26** at Trinity UCC. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149(\$139 with our member discount).

All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979. You can also sign up on the Screening Apt. Sheet on the table across from the church office.

Also available are coupons for either a free screening or a half price screening. There are a limited number of coupons. First come, first served. Contact the church office for more information.

DEVOTIONALS: The April-June edition of *These Days* & Lenten devotionals are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

MEAL AT ZION LUTHERAN, LANDISVILLE: There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the hallway across from the church office for our next community meal on April 7 at Zion Lutheran in Landisville. We are in need of volunteers to help serve the meal. The volunteers should arrive by 5:00 p.m. Contact Nancy Enders or Paula Dennes for more information.

CHURCH MULCHING: The Property Committee is planning to put mulch around the church property on Saturday, April 2, 8:30 AM. Rain date to be announced. Sign-up sheet is in the hallway across from the church office.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



TRINITY PRESCHOOL SUB SALE

We would like to thank you for supporting our fund raiser. When you redeem your coupon at S. Clyde Weaver you get to choose from at least seven sub varieties:

**Sweet Bologna · Ham · Italian · Turkey
Roast Beef · Chicken Salad · Tuna Salad**

Each Sub Redemption Certificate: \$8.00

- BREAD OPTIONS:**
white sub roll · bread · tortilla wrap
- CHOICE OF YOUR CONDIMENTS:**
mayonnaise · mustard · creamy horseradish · olive oil · vinegar
- CHEESE OF YOUR CHOICE:**
American · Provolone · Swiss
- YOUR CHOICES OF VEGETABLES:**
lettuce · tomatoes · onions · marinated onions · sweet peppers
banana peppers · hot peppers · black olives · pickles
salt · pepper · herb mix · Parmesan

Place your order form and money in church office

NAME	PHONE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	PAID (Please check)

Please make checks payable to: TRINITY PRESCHOOL

NAME _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

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. Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: **April 24**. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **April 10, 17 & 24**.



April 8

May 20

Masks may required per CDC guidelines

Snacks and Drinks to share are welcome!

Any Questions call: Karen Olley (717)598-0247

Our Gifts to Others 2022 from the Board of Deacons

Each year Trinity UCC considers donations titled “*Our Gifts to Others.*”

These annual gifts serve to support various outreaches that are important to our friends who are in need throughout the area.

We have a number of outreach options from which we may choose. Here is a brief summary of those seeking your consideration and support.

- **Milagro House** is committed to providing education, counseling and housing for women and children experiencing homelessness here in Lancaster County.
- **Bethany Children’s Home** started its *Helping Hands* program to provide unaccompanied children and youth the opportunity to be reunited with their families in the U.S. Youths stay an average of 10-12 days and receive basic medical care, food clothing shelter more development and basic education while their families are located.
- **Hoffman Homes Inc.** is a similar but longer term stay facility for troubled youth.
- **Love, Inc.** is a national agency that seeks to provide a conduit through which people in need can seek out much needed support efforts by local churches. This agency is geared for those among us in chronic need and seeks to transform lives in the community.
- **Lancaster Theological Seminary** – educates men & women for here for a variety of ministry settings. Donations to LTS help to support students in need with tuition, housing, etc.
- **Phoebe Devitt** – operates nursing home facilities here in central Pennsylvania. The ministries seek donations to help cover the cost of residents stay, regardless of their ability to pay.
- **UCC Homes**– provides benevolent care, and uncompensated care for needful seniors. This organization seeks our help to meet this need. There are homes in Ephrata, Annville, Carlisle, and Harrisburg.
- **Hunger Ministries**– You can designate to support the Hempfield Power Packs, the Lancaster Food Hub, or the Trinity Community Meal ministry.

In 2021, we received **\$20,606** for the Our Gifts to Others fund.

Please consider these worthy agencies as you think about your possible financial offerings for **March 27, 2022**. In addition you can donate online, designate as “Our Gift to Others”, and specify which one(s) you are donating towards.

PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Donna Smoker (friend of Trinity), Anne Rankin, Donna Zirkel, Marvin Lehman and family, Lee Bossert, Dr. Cathy Hoshauer, Joann Garvin, Herb Charles, Rev. Phyllis Baum, Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Herb Holbein (father-in-law of Danielle Huggins Holbein), Jean Otthofer (mother of Dan Otthofer), Rev. Paul Eyer (former pastor of St. Luke's), Danielle Huggins Holbein, Carole Connor, Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty), Mary Witmer, Mark & Mary Anne Ritter (friends of the Paulukows), 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), David & Ann Potts (friends of Brenda & Harry Himelwright), Pete & Nora Petrosky (friends of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer), Lynn Dull, Hilma Slechta (mother of Mike Slechta), Chad & Paul Zirkel (sons 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, Nancy Patton, Gary Reynolds (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Phyllis Zimmerman, 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), Doris Leaman, Judie Bistline, and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church).