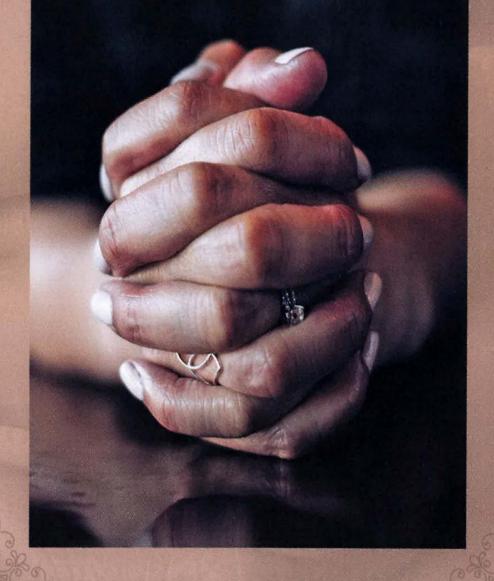
God live

together with him



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org
The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor
The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Carolyne 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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

Today's Theme: Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized-to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus-is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

Prayer As You Enter: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PARISH 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.**

God is eager to restore us to right relationship. The Creator is waiting to claim us now as God's own.

We have come to meet the God who welcomes us. We have gathered to experience God's steadfast love.

God will answer us and will give what is good. God restores us to faithfulness and righteousness.

We come asking, searching, and knocking. We seek the good gifts only God can provide.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read that as the church was gathered, often in the homes of believers, Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and community, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

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

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Gracious God, we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear now the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all that repent and believe. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, I declare to you that our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

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.

COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Holy One, like the disciples who did not know how to pray, we ask that you open the door of our understanding, and feed us with the bread of your holy word. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Hosea 1:2-10

Hosea's marriage to a faithless wife symbolizes Israel's faithlessness toward God. Even the names of Hosea's children- Jezreel (where Israel's idolatrous kings were killed), Lo-ruhamah ("not pitied"), and Lo-ammi ("not my people") – announce the nation's coming doom, countered by the proclamation that Israel remains a child of the living God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 85

Lord, you have been merciful to your land; you have made Israel prosperous again. You have forgiven your people's sins and pardoned all their wrongs.

You stopped being angry with them and held back your furious rage. Bring us back, O God our Savior, and stop being displeased with us!

Will you be angry with us forever? Will your anger never cease? Make us strong again, and we, your people, will praise you. Show us your constant love, O Lord, and give us your saving help.

I am listening to what the Lord God is saying; God promises peace to us. God's own people, if we do not go back to our foolish ways. Surely God is ready to save those who honor God, and God's saving presence will remain in our land.

The Lord will make us prosperous, and our land will produce rich harvest. Righteousness will go before the Lord and prepare the path for God.

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 2:6-19

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in baptism.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"We Are Bold to Say"
(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

Rev. Esbenshade

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

Holy God, whose name is before all names, we worship you with our offerings. They represent our labor, our investment of time and energy. We want them to be put to the best possible use. May they save many from the course of evil and turn them toward faithful discipleship. May they provide bread for body and soul, that your people may be preserved and strengthened for ministry. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you have revealed your mighty presence to us. Have we not heard? Have we not known? In the beginning, you swept across the earth with your Spirit of life and renewal. When we forgot or neglected your truth, you redeemed us and renewed us. From the earth's first gardens to the mountaintop storms, you have spoken to us, and entrusted us to be your people. From laws on tablets to warnings from prophets, you have spoken your truth and renewed your covenant with us, reviving us and reclaiming us through your grace and love. And so, with your people on earth, with all of creation, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn of praise:

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!

Holy are you and blessed is your holy name. In the fullness of time, you sent your son, Jesus Christ to reveal your powerful love for the world. Healing and teaching, proclaiming and prophesying, welcoming any and all, Christ continues to reveal your presence, renewing our souls even now. Through Christ's powerful love and endless grace, we are invited into your presence, rescued from our sins, and led onto your path of justice and righteousness. In Christ's grace, you renew and reclaim us as your holy people, children of mercy and truth. As children of your covenant of love, sealed by water and the Spirit, welcome now with joy and gratitude, remembering how Jesus shared bread and wine, renewing and reviving the lives of his closest friends, his most faithful disciples, even as they faced their deepest fears and their greatest sins.

(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.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Loving God, in this Holy Communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by Scott & Jane Owens to thank those volunteers that step up every week at Trinity!

The Worship Aids are given by Marge Burger in memory of my son Ron Burger's birthday on July 24.

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

Denise Pfeiffer

Building Trustee: Pat Sensenig Lector: Diane Rice

Altar Guild: Nancy Enders

Happy Birthday!

Monday – Jenna Leinbach, Stefan Woerner

Tuesday – Nick Fischer

Wednesday – Meighan Gegg Livingston

Thursday – Isaac Derstler, Lisa Wible

Saturday – Rev. Susan Sokolowski, Robert Kilgore

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Wednesday 7:00 PM – Christian Ed.

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:30 AM – Eucharist

Rev. Jack Esbenshade, Supply Preacher

Today we welcome the Rev. Jack Esbenshade, a member of Trinity Church, as our guest preacher. Rev. Esbenshade, a graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary, was ordained on June 6, 1971. He currently chairs our Stewardship Committee, serves on the Pastor Parish Committee, and leads our adult VBS Class. Rev. Esbenshade has served the following ministries:

2017	Interim Visitation Pastor, Trinity U.C.C., East Petersburg
2010-12	Interim Associate Pastor, Hamilton Park U.C.C., Lancaster
1991-10	Administrator/Executive Director, Ephrata Manor
1990-91	Assistant Administrator, The Lebanon Valley Home, Annville
1978-90	Pastor, Church of the Redeemer U.C.C., Hershey
1973-78	Pastor, St. Luke's U.C.C., Lancaster
1971-73	Pastor, Tri-U.C.C. Parish, Penn Northeast Conference

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

STAFF VACATIONS: Carol will be out of the office July 15-25. Pastor Chris will be away July 23-August 3. The clergy members of Trinity Church will be covering while Pastor Chris and family are away. The Rev. Bob Bistline will be covering pastoral emergencies July 23-28. You can reach Rev. Bistline at 717-917-9716. The Rev. Sandy Morris will be covering pastoral emergencies July 29-August 3. You can reach Rev. Morris at 717-385-1588. The Rev. Jack Esbenshade will be our supply preacher next Sunday.

Here's what's happening at



Zion Lutheran Church 1905 Broad St East Petersburg, PA 17520

Children's Bible Story Hour

for ages 3-7 from 10am -11am

Please RSVP to 717-569-1359: by July 27th for August 10th

Children must be accompanied by parent or guardian

NURSERY COORDINATOR NEEDED: We are hoping to revitalize our nursery care during the second service. The Board of Elders is looking for someone to contact volunteers and create a schedule. If you are interested, contact Pastor Rankin, Tim Geiger, Jeff Hackenberger, Donna Denlinger, Karen Olley, Kathy McCarty, or George DeLong.

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

2022 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS

Contact Carol in the church office to sign-up for chancel flowers and worship aids for 2022. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: August 7, 14 & 28. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: August 21.

Trinity Sunday School is Calling You!

Teacher Positions are available at ALL Levels starting in the Fall 2022 Elementary, Middle/High School, and Adult Join the team. Be a part of Christian Education. No experience necessary. Training and mentors are available, if desired. The only real qualification is to like learning and sharing of the Bible with others.



Proverbs 22:6
English Standard Version

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it

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

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

Ushers: Beginning in June, we will return to passing the offering plate during the second service. We are in need of a few more ushers to complete our teams.

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.

PRESCHOOL SUB FUNDRAISER: There are still 30 Sub Coupons for S. Clyde Weavers available at \$8.00 each. Please contact the church secretary to purchase them.

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



Mt. Gretna Bible Festival 2022

1000000

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

July 24 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

King's Brass
Tim Zimmerman and the King's
Brass present hymn classics
with a contemporary flair. King's
Brass is one of the premier brass
groups in the country. These
instruments blend together to



create a time of innovative worship that will be enjoyed by all generations

July 29 Friday 7 p.m. Concert

Special musical program presented by **Joe Martin**, pianist/composer, and his wife **Sue Martin**, soloist at Disney World for 20 years, best known as Ariel in the stage show version of *The Little Mermaid*. A program of sacred and secular music: hymns, Broadway show tunes, film music, and original piano compositions.

July 31 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Massed Choir Composer Joe Martin will direct over 150 voices in a joyous Sunday concert. Sponsored by Losers Music, Inc. and Cornwall Manor

August 3 Wednesday 7 p.m. Hymn Sing Hymn Sing led by Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer. Congregation favorites from the Celebration Hymnal

August 6 Saturday 7 p.m. Concert

Handbell Festival Ringing to the praise and glory of God, under the direction of Dr. Shawn Gingrich. Sponsored by Albright Life.



August 10 Wednesday
7 p.m. Concert
Brothers in Grace Gospel Quartet
Music Group presentation with a unique Southern Gospel

style. Sponsored by JoAnn Thomas Show



August 14 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 21 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

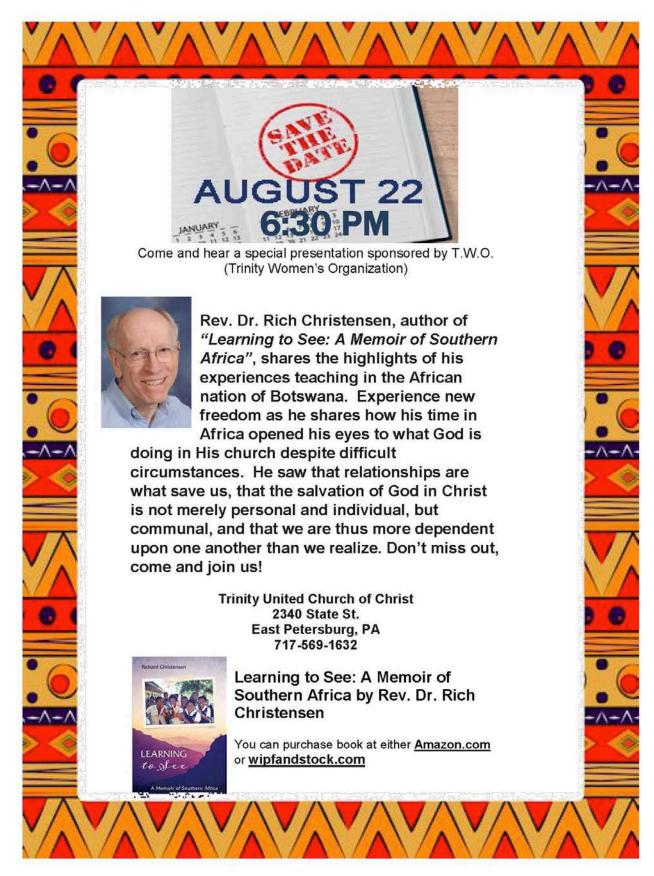


August 28 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert QuintEssentially Brass A quintet with engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances ends another season.





Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office. There is also a sign-up sheet for the cake walk at the church picnic.



Dr. Christensen will have books to sell at this event!!



Since 1965, the communities of United Church of Christ Homes have been providing gracious retirement living. Serving each new generation of seniors throughout south central Pennsylvania, UCC Homes provides a full continuum of residential care. We welcome people of all faiths and life experiences.

In the Spirit of Christ's love, the ministry of United Church of Christ Homes is to provide care and service to elders through acts of love and compassion. We carry out our mission at The Lebanon Valley Home, Thornwald Home, Ephrata Manor, Sarah A. Todd Memorial Home and Kindred Place.

We do highly value our covenantal relationship with the UCC congregations within the Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and Mercersburg Associations and view our faith-based ministry as a partnership with these congregations.

Sponsoring UCC congregations share in the ministry in a variety of different ways:

As Volunteers – Congregation members give of their time and talents to help further the ministry in a wide variety of important ways.

Through Pastoral Leadership -- Pastors assist our Chaplains to minister to the spiritual needs of the residents by visiting the communities and providing leadership for worship services.

Through Benevolent Fund Support -- Each sponsoring church annually considers a suggested per capita contribution (currently \$10.00) to the corporation's Benevolent Fund. **One hundred percent** of these resources are used to help underwrite those we serve who are unable to pay for the cost of their care and are not deemed eligible for governmental assistance programs.

UCC Homes is blessed and uplifted by the generous support of Trinity UCC in East Petersburg and we thank you for being our partners in this faith-based ministry. May the ministries that Trinity UCC provides continue to grow as you continue to listen to God's call.

To learn more about UCC Homes, please visit our website at www.ucc-homes.org

FIRST LESSON. Hosea 1:2-10

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel." She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen." When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God." Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

SECOND LESSON. Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. (Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.)

GOSPEL. Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christian the U.S.A.



Ptd. in USA