CHRIST THE KING

In him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Colossians 1:19

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
Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land' finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

The first and last Sundays in this "season after Pentecost" are days with special themes — Trinity and Christ the King. This season after Pentecost is just that; we celebrate the continuing work of Christ in his Church by the Holy Spirit.

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run," wrote the English hymnist Isaac Watts, who died on November 25, 1748. On this last Sunday of the church year, we honor Christ, who reigns as king from the cross. All space and all time belong to the one who offers paradise to those who live and die with him."

"This festival was first introduced by Pope Pius XI in 1925, the 1600th anniversary of the Council of Nicea, on the last Sunday in October as a preparation for celebrating All Saints Day. It was not observed ecumenically until after the Second Vatican Council and the introduction of the three year lectionary, when in 1969 it was transferred to the last Sunday of the liturgical year. (Mark I. Wegner, New Proclamation: Easter Through Pentecost, Year B, 2003, (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003) p. 257)

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.

Today we welcome the Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, a member of Trinity Church, as our guest preacher. Dr. Call is a graduate of Cornell University and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School. Ordained on November 22, 1994, Dr. Call served as pastor of Old First Church, Middletown, NJ from 1992-1997. Following graduate studies, Dr. Call served as an administrator at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN from 2004-2012. She also served as an adjunct instructor in the Education & Psychology departments at St. Mary's College. In 2012, she became the Associate Conference Minister for the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. Dr. Call joined the staff of Lancaster Theological Seminary in 2016 as the Executive Director of Development & Communications. On August 1, 2019, Dr. Call began as the Transitional Conference Minister of the Penn Central Conference. In 2020, Dr. Call was elected to be the sixth Conference Minister of the Penn Central Conference and was installed to that position on September 12, 2021. Dr. Call is Trinity's Covenanted Minister of Mission, and is currently chairing our Administrative Manual Revision Task Force.

Prayer As You Enter: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.**

By the tender mercy of our God, we meet for worship. God has brought the dawn of a new day for our use.

Praise God for signs and wonders all around us. Praise God for peace and reconciliation.

Jesus invited saints and sinners to dine with him and to be his friends.

Therefore, Jesus invites us, saints and sinners, to this sacred meal, in which we can taste and see, experience and remember the goodness of our God.

Share in the inheritance of all the saints. Come to the table prepared for you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(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 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Let us pray the collect together.

Christ of glory and power, we see the image of God's mercy and gentleness in the love you shine upon our lives. Guide us in your way of peace. Reign in our hearts, with your justice and righteousness. Shepherd us as your people, that we may display your glorious light for all the world to see. In the life of your powerful love, we pray. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock" to be scattered. Nevertheless God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

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

THE PSALTER The Canticle of Zechariah: St. Luke 1:68-79 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,

As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

To grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, **might** serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

To give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and King, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

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

For the saving faithfulness of Jesus Christ, we give thanks. For the church that seeks to extend Christ's ministry, we are humbly grateful. All things we have are gifts from you, O God, so we dedicate more than our money. We reinvest ourselves in patient, joyful response to your promises. Hear our prayers and empower our ministry; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

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.

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.

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation. Guide our pastor, elders, deacons, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

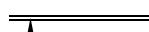
SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, shepherding God, that you have gathered your scattered flock again this day, feeding us richly with the food of Paradise. Accompany us as we serve you all the days of our lives, and gather us with the saints in the day of our death; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by Scott Owens. Happy birthday, Jane.

The Worship Aids are given in honor of Rachel Baynard and Sevi Keares by **their Spiritual Friends**."

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by Cherie Cataldi in loving memory of my mother, June Price.

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

Building Trustee: Pat Sensenig Koinonia: Paula Dennes

Altar Guild: Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy Lector: Pastor Rankin

Attendance for Sun., Nov. 13 7:45–21 9:30–74 TOTAL – 93 Sunday School Attendance 21

Happy Birthday!

Monday – Diane Minnich

Tuesday – Rev. Bob Bistline

Wednesday – Naomi Brian

 $Thursday-Elinor\ Nicholas$

Saturday – Dennis Eberly, Dr. Robert Hollenbach

This Week at Trinity Church

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

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Monday} & 7:00 \mbox{ PM} - \mbox{SOT Choir/8:15 PM-Bells} \\ \mbox{Wednesday} & 7:00 \mbox{ PM} - \mbox{Thanksgiving Eve Service} \\ \mbox{Thursday} & \mbox{OFFICE CLOSED - THANKSGIVING} \end{array}$

Thur.-Mon. NO Preschool

Saturday 8:30 AM – Breakfast followed by Advent Workshop

7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:00 AM - Koinonia 10:30 AM - Worship

PEANUT FELLOWSHIP has resumed from 7 AM to 2 PM with a potluck lunch. The peanuts will cost \$6 a pound. Please call Pat Seachrist (717-392-1427) to order peanuts. We need help with this project. The next date for the Peanut Fellowship is: November 29. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORMS are available in the narthex. The deadline to order poinsettias is **TODAY!** If you have any questions, contact Dan Otthofer.



PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Lynn Dull, Joann Peck, Mary Lou Shaab, Stan Seachrist, Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley, Hilma Slechta (mother of Mike Slechta). **Donna Nesbitt** (neighbor of John & Sarah Paulukow), Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel), Jane Portser, Tom Wolf (son of Donna Wolf), Judie Bistline, Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), Laura Jean Watson (sister of Carol Kratz), David and Brenda Haverstick (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Jeannie & Bill Toy (sister & brother-in-law of Lainie Christensen) Carmen Richards, Donna Zirkel, Pat Seachrist, Don & Pat Miller, Sam Minder III, Marlin "Moe" Weaver (brother of Dottie Schadt), Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Dick & Tillie King (friends of Stan & Pat Seachrist), Robin McComsey (neighbor of Himelwrights), Rylan Brent (relative of Chuck & Sue Husted), Hank Fox, Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner), Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer), Bob Kilgore, the Lehman family, Judy Barr (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Joann Garvin, Rev. Phyllis Baum, Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer), Rev. Paul Ever (former pastor of St. Luke's), Danielle Huggins Holbein, Mary Witmer, the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards). Monica Williams (friend of Sandy DeLong), 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), Nancy Patton, Mike & Judy Barr (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Phyllis Zimmerman, Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach's brother), 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, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger's brother-in-law), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), Doris Leaman, and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

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

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

ADVENT WORKSHOP ON November 26: We are planning on doing



indoor decorating and outside decorating and crafts for both kids & adults as we prepare Trinity Church for the Advent season.

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, use the sign-up sheet in the church

hallway. We will start with breakfast at 8:30 AM.

Schedule: 8:30 AM – Breakfast in Isenberg Hall

9:30 AM - Decorate the church

11:00 AM- Devotional Service in the sanctuary Sign-up sheet in church hallway outside office.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: The Parish Life Committee is planning to go Christmas caroling on December 11 to some of our members and around the East Petersburg community. We will enjoy lunch together after the 10:30 service in Isenberg Hall and the go caroling from 1-3 p.m. Please sign-up on the table across from the church office! This is open to all members and friends of Trinity Church!!!

KOINONIA: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) every Sunday at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments and drinks/coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen coordinator. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the table across from the church office. Please help us by delivering envelopes to some of our homebound members!

MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST: The monthly breakfast will be held at the Family Fare Restaurant on December 10 at 8:00 a.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

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.

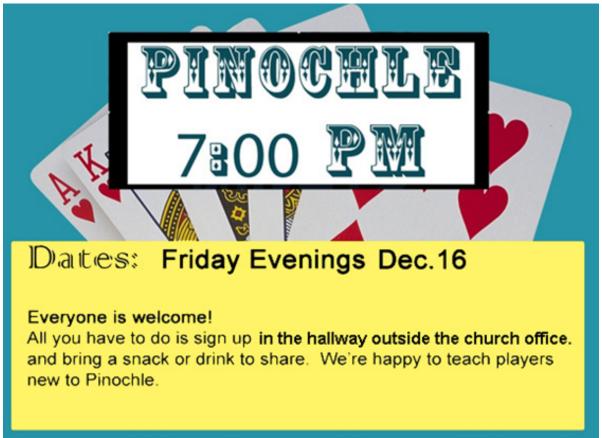
THE 2023 APPROVED BUDGET is available on the table across from the church office or in the information racks on both levels of the church building.

NEW NURSERY COORDINATOR: Betty Fogle has agreed to serve as our nursery coordinator. If you are interested in providing nursery care for children during worship, please contact Betty.

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: We have returned to passing the offering plate during the second service. We especially need ushers because some people have stepped down!

Lectors: Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.



Highland Presbyterian Church

500 East Roseville Road Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601 717-569-2651 www.highlandpc.org



Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 7:00 pm

MCCL creates exceptional music that represents the diversity of the global church across time. They serve over 100 children and youth representing 45 congregations, 35 schools, and 10 denominations. In addition to local concerts, they tour every summer.

Caleb Kreider is a member of the Mennonite Children's Choir

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, December 20th in the Choir Room from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

2022 & 2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID

SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: January 1,& 8. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: November 27, December 11 & 25. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Contact Carol for 2022 dates and look for the charts in the narthex for 2023 dates.

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY ON DECEMBER 4

As in years past, we will share our blessings with others by bringing (unwrapped) Christmas gifts to the service. This is our special time of sharing our gifts with residents of Ephrata Manor and Bethany Home. The residents are very appreciative of our caring and both homes are requesting gift card suggestions to better meet needs and interests.

Ephrata Manor (United Church of Christ Home)requests:

Gift cards: Amazon, Dollar Tree, Michael's, Wal-Mart, VISA/MC, Giant Food Stores, Target, or CVS

Bethany Home requests:

Washi tape, canvas paper, Zippered Sheet Protectors, Rubber Stamps & ink pads, stencils, origami paper, letter & number stickers, lightweight twin size comforters

Gifts Cards: Lowes, Home Depot, Michaels, Wal-Mart, Target, Amazon, TJ Maxx, Dick's Sporting Goods, Turkey Hill, Giants, McDonald's & Kohls.

Please include Trinity U.C.C Church and address and/or individual along with your card.

Gifts will be received at both services on December 4. The children will collect them during the 10:30 service. Thank You!

CROP WALK MONEY: Trinity has raised \$12,740 for the 2022 CROP Walk. If any walkers still have money, give it to Mark or Chris Eyer or give it to the church office!

You can still support our walkers by giving them money or going online at https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/trinity-east-pete

PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

You will again find a pink envelope in your box of offering envelopes. This is a way for you to give a Christmas gift to Pastor Rankin. If you want the pastor to receive the full amount of your gift, then you should give it directly to him. This means that the money will not go through the church treasury and you will not receive a tax deduction for your gift. All checks should be made payable to the pastor if you choose to give it to him directly.

If you choose to make your check payable to Trinity UCC, you will receive credit on your 2022 contribution statement. A gift sent through the church treasury is considered taxable income for the pastor.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Scott Owens, Church Treasurer

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION: Contributing your donation using our website....trinityeastpete.org....RESOURCES, PAY ON LINE

For several years, members have been able to make weekly/recurring donations on-line in lieu of paying cash/checks or by mail. On-line donations save the cost of a check and envelope and if using the recurring feature, remembering weekly to prepare your envelope. Presently we have several individuals/families using on-line donations either weekly or recurring.

We believe that financial transparency builds trust and is a mark of stewardship so we want to take a moment to remind you that there is a small cost for this convenience. You'll have the opportunity to help cover the cost of processing when you give. Please know that this is 100% optional, but we appreciate your partnership in making your gift go as far as possible to impact our mission.

We have never asked our members to cover these costs especially since 2020 at the start of the pandemic. The costs are 1.05% when paying by check, 3.05% when paying by credit/debit card.

Beginning July 1, 2022, we added a feature to our on-line giving whereby you can help to cover the costs of paying by check or debit/credit card. This is entirely **OPTIONAL**. There will be a check-off block to use if you wish to cover your transaction cost in addition to your contribution.



Sunday, December 4, 2022 Concert – 6:00 PM

Desserts Following The Concert Sign-up Sheet In Church Narthex Or

Call 717-569-1632 For Dessert Reservations

Freewill Offering Benefits
Schreiber Center For Pediatric Development
and Trinity Music Ministry





Also Join Us Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve): 2:30 PM Eucharist 6:30 PM Family Service 10:30 PM Eucharist



FIRST LESSON, Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

SECOND LESSON. Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL. Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

NRSV

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