



<u>March 8, 2023</u> <u>7:00 p.m.</u>

SING WITH ALL THE SAINTS IN GLORY Week 2 of Lent: Perseverance with Endurance (Perpetua & Felicity; Harriet Tubman & Sojourner Truth) 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 EmeritusThe Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor
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, PianistMrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

Lent is a time of renewal. We focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus and in turn focus on our own death and resurrection found in baptism. We who have been baptized into Christ have died to sin and are righteous saints of God. At the same time, we know that we struggle daily with sin as we seek to follow Jesus. This is the wonderful understanding of sinner and saint.

We have a rich calendar of saints in the Christian faith. These are people from every age who have pointed to Christ in their living and dying. In remembering these Christians who have gone before, we find inspiration for our Christian journey. This Lenten midweek series honors the commemorations that occur during the weeks of the Lenten season. Commemorating these individuals is a starting point for a deeper engagement with our Christian faith.

This week's commemorations –Perpetua and Felicity were early Christian martyrs who chose to die rather than forsake their faith in Jesus and their commitment to each other. Harriet Tubman was Moses to her people, leading many enslaved people to freedom during the horror of American slavery. She was deeply religious and believed her work was a direct call from God despite her own personal challenges. As an enslaved woman in New York, Sojourner Truth sued for her freedom, then spent the rest of her life working for abolition and woman's suffrage. Throughout history Christians have been called to lives of service and sacrifice. In our own lives of faith, we draw courage from the examples of the saints, and most of all we find strength from God, who is with us always. **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.

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).

From Sojourner Truth:

Children, who made your skin white? Was it not God? Who made mine black? Was it not the same God? Am I to blame, therefore, because my skin is black?... Does not God love colored children as well as white children? And did not the same Savior die to save the one as well as the other? (The Great Sin of Prejudice against Color, 1863)

From Harriet Tubman:

Long ago when the Lord told me to go free my people I said, "No, Lord! I can't go. Don't ask me." But He came another time, and I said again, "Lord, go away. Get some better-educated person. Get a person with more culture than I have." But He came back a third time, and spoke to me as He did to Moses. He said, "Harriet, I want you." I knew then I must do what He bid me do. (James A. McGowan, Harriet Tubman: A Biography, 2011). PRELUDE

Andante Religioso F. Mendelssohn/arr. Steven Scott

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



"Give Me Jesus" Tune GIVE ME JESUS African American Spiritual Arr. Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879.

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND LENTEN VERSICLES

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross.

Despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

O Jesus, we adore Thee, upon the cross, our King.

Let us pray.

You are gracious and merciful, O God, slow to anger, rich in love. Receive our prayers as you have promised and uphold us by your Spirit, until all things, mended by your mercy, are made whole and well with you, through Jesus Christ, our healer and our hope. 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)

LITANY PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal,

have mercy on us.

For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For misuse of human relationships, for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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)

HOLY SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-4

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 12:1-2, 12-13

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of¹ the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

U.C.C. STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

There Is A Balm in Gilead



THE VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness and bears the wounds of the world. Therefore, let us be bold as we pray, trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

THE EVENING PRAYER

For those persecuted in the faith, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For an end to systemic racism, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all women in ministry, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the those working for civil rights and social justice, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

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

Let us pray together.

Into your wide embrace, O God, we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting that you will receive them into your heart of mercy, Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY	In the Cross of Christ I Glory	R. Lau
(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)		

OFFERING RESPONSEWe Give Thee But Thine Own#506

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.



"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Tune SOJOURNER African American Spiritual Arr. Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

MUSICAL MEDITATION

BENEDICTION

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

Ministering This Evening

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin Preacher: Rev. Dr. Carrie Call Building Trustee: Mike Wagner Ushers/Greeters: Dan Otthofer, Denise Huggins, and Mike Wagner

Tonight 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.

LENTEN DENIAL ENVELOPES: The Board of Deacons decided to divide the donations in the Lenten denial envelope to assist those impacted by the war in Ukraine and the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Please be generous as we help our brothers and sisters in need.

SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER ON MARCH 12

As part of our 175th anniversary, we will welcome the Rev. Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe (Anne Rankin's mother) as our guest preacher on March 12. Rev. Hambrick-Stowe served as our associate pastor with Pastor Geisler from 1989-1990. Upon Pastor Geisler's death in 1989, Elizabeth served as supply pastor until Pastor Royer began his ministry in February of 1990.





Turn your clocks ahead one hour next Saturday night!!!

CHURCH DIRECTORY—Look for a copy on the table across from the church office. Make any changes by March 12!

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES: "Sing with All the Saints in Glory" Join us for worship on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. Here is the list of themes and preachers:

March 15 (Faithful in Prayer—Gregory the Great/Patrick)---Rev. Bob Bistline preaching

March 22 (Striving for Justice—Oscar Romero)---Rev. Ken Trauger preaching

March 29 (Dying and Rising with Christ—Hans Nielsen Hauge/John Donne)---Pastor Emeritus Harry Royer preaching

April 5 (The Beginning of Life—Dietrich Bonhoeffer)---Rev. Dr. Rich Christensen preaching



LENTEN ADULT STUDIES Becoming Jesus' Disciples: The Hard Examples of Those Who Did

Sunday mornings in Lent at Trinity East Pete Isenberg Hall 9:00 a.m. with Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe

When we think of "the disciples" who followed Jesus, it's usually the twelve that he named as apostles who come to mind. But when we look closely at the gospels, the category "disciple" becomes much wider and more complicated. Who were these men and women, why did they follow Jesus, and what were the challenges they faced?

March 12 — The Secret Disciples

In these Lenten sessions Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe (Anne Rankin's father) will explore surprising implications for the decision to follow Jesus in our own time. Come and learn more about "the cost and joy of discipleship" from the hard examples of those who first followed him.

Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe is minister emeritus of the First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, Connecticut. Previously, he served as academic dean of Northern Seminary in Illinois, director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and pastor at Church of the Apostles in Lancaster and St. Paul's UCC in Westminster, Maryland. In addition to MA and MDiv degrees, he holds a PhD in American Studies from Boston University.

Finding the Gospel in the Old Testament with Dr. Rich Christensen 9:00 A.M. in Isenberg Hall

March 19—The Freedom of God

March 26—The Power of Names

April 2—Life-Saving Faithfulness

Dr. Rich Christensen, a member of Trinity Church, is a retired professor of Church History. He previously served pastorates in Pennsylvania and Ohio, a missionary in Botswana, and professor at Phillips Theological Seminary in Oklahoma and Lakeland

College in Wisconsin. He received degrees from Lancaster Theological Seminary (MDiv) and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (PhD).





KNIT IN GOD'S LOVE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY The Prayer Shawl will meet **Tuesday, March 21 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.

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

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS can be found on the table across from the church office.





MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST: The monthly breakfast will be held at the Family Fare Restaurant on **April 1 at 8:00 a.m.** Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

The YMCA of the Roses Good Friday Breakfast



The Lancaster YMCA is planning to have the Good Friday breakfast on at the Farm & Home Center on April 7 at 7:30 a.m. (doors open at 7:00 a.m.). The Rev. Devin Jeffers, First Reformed United Church of Christ, Lancaster, will be the speaker. Pastor Rankin will offer the invocation. Trinity will once again have a table of 8 people for the breakfast. The cost will be \$20 per person. Contact the church office to make a reservation. Tickets are not available at the door.

2023 CONCERT SPONSORS: Forms are available on the table across from the church office for you to sponsor this year's concert series.

