



March 26, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Shadow of Denial

The denial of Peter was covered by the shadow of the cross and, in the brightness of Easter, it became a great witness.

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.Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Ms. Karen Karosas, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

**WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICE THEME:
SHADOWS OF THE CROSS**

Every Wednesday we will focus on a particular event in Christ's journey to the cross. The shadow of the cross looms over every interaction, to give spiritual insight. Tonight, we focus on the shadow of denial. The scriptures tell us that our denials of Jesus can be forgiven, just as Peter experienced after his denial. We are called to turn our denial of faith into a stronger witness to Christ.

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).

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.

Tonight we welcome the Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, a member of Trinity Church, as our guest preacher. Dr. Call is Trinity's Covenanted Minister of Mission and has served in the life of Trinity Church as a lector, Finance Committee member, and involved with the ongoing revisions of our Administrative Manual.

A graduate of Cornell University and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Dr. Call was ordained on November 22, 1994. She has served the following ministries:

2020- Conference Minister & President, Penn Central Conference

2019-20 Transitional Conference Minister, Penn Central Conference

2016-19 Executive Director of Development and Communication, Lancaster Seminary

2012-16 Associate Conference Minister, Indiana-Kentucky Conference

2004-12 Director (Office for Civic & Social Engagement), St. Mary's College, IN

2002-12 Instructor, (Depts Ed & Psychology) at St. Mary's College, Indiana

1992-97 Pastor, Old First Church, Middletown, NJ

BY YOUR SILENCE OTHERS MAY HEAR THE STILL SMALL VOICE OF GOD!



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

--Share God's love with our community

--Serve God's children

--Bring healing and wholeness to those in need

--Share the Gospel in liturgy, music, and study

PRELUDE

Psalm Voluntary

Lester Groom

(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 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 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.

OPENING HYMN *Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights*

1 Through - out these Lent - en days and nights we
2 The pil - grim Christ, the Lamb of God, who
3 We bear the si - lence, cross and pain of
4 And though the road is hard and steep, the
5 So let us choose the path of One who
6 Re - joice, O sons and daugh - ters! Sing and

turn to walk the in - ward way, where, meet - ing Christ, our
 found in weak - ness great - er power, em - brac - es us, though
 hu - man bur - dens, hu - man strife, while sis - ters, broth - ers
 Spir - it ev - er calls us on through Cal - vary's dy - ing,
 wore, for us, the crown of thorn, and slept in death that
 shout ho - san - nas! Raise the strain! For Christ, whose death Good

guide and light, we live in hope till Eas - ter Day.
 lost and flawed, and leads us to his Ris - ing Hour.
 help sus - tain our cour - age till the Feast of Life.
 dark and deep, un - til we see the com - ing Dawn.
 we might wake to life on Res - ur - rec - tion Morn!
 Fri - day brings on Eas - ter Day will rise a - gain!

"Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights" words by James Gertmenian © 1993 Hope Publishing Co., Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879

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

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.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND CHORAL AMEN

God's love is shown to us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. In the name and for the sake of Christ, I say to you: All your sins are forgiven. In the waters of baptism you were joined with Christ, reborn as children of God, and anointed with the Holy Spirit. You are free to live as God's people in the world. **Amen.** *(sung)*

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE EVENING COLLECT

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, grant to your Church your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from heaven, that your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve you and in the confession of your name may abide to the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLY SCRIPTURES

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 22:54-62

Glory be to You, O Lord. (spoken)

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, 'This man also was with him.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about!' At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ. (spoken)

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

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.

HYMN

In the Hour of Trial

#160

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

Lord, when we pity ourselves and think we make great sacrifices for others:
Remind us of your life-giving sacrifice on the Cross.

Lord, when our patience wears thin and we are ready to give up:
Speak to us through the example of your endurance on the Cross.

Lord, when we get angry and wish to retaliate against our enemies:
Bring to our remembrance your words to your enemies from the Cross.

Lord, when we feel rejected or persecuted for doing what is right and good:
Sustain us by the knowledge of how you were reviled and rejected on the Cross.

Lord, when we suffer pain of body or anguish of mind in this life:
Keep us near the Cross.

Lord, when we are afraid to stand for that which is true and honorable:
Strengthen us with the courage with which you went to the Cross.

Lord, when we feel alone in the world, forsaken and forgotten:
Comfort us with your love made known on the Cross.

Lord, when we come to the time of our own death:
Uphold us with the assurance that life did not end for you on the Cross.

Lord, when we are tempted by despair or fear of what lies ahead:
Fill us with the hope of resurrection and new life which are the fruits of your Cross.

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

THE SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sostenuto Op. 95

Flor Peeters

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

OFFERING RESPONSE

We 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.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

CLOSING HYMN *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name Service*

#32

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

MUSICAL MEDITATION

BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Fred Bock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministering This Evening

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

Building Trustee: Steve Gold

Greeters: Gene & Cathy Kopp, Hedwig Hunsicker

Ushers: George DeLong & Dan Otthofer



March 27, 1:00 PM

Sign-up sheet on table outside office

LENTEN SERVICES 2025
“SHADOWS OF THE CROSS”

Each Wednesday we will focus on a particular event in Christ’s journey to the cross. The shadow of the cross looms over every interaction, to give spiritual insight.

April 2 (The Shadow of False Accusations): Dr. Randall Zachman

April 9 (The Shadow of a Last Chance): Rev. Dr. Joel Hummel

April 16/Holy Wednesday Order of Healing (The Shadow of Death): Rev. Jack Esbenshade

April 17 (Maundy Thursday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.) Rev. Dr. Chris Rankin

April 18 (Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m.) Rev. Dr. Chris Rankin



**LOOK FOR THE EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE TABLE
ACROSS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE!!**

Good Friday Breakfast at YMCA of the Roses

Join us for community gathering that brings people of faith together to mark this important holy day with an inspirational message and ecumenical worship service in keeping with the Christian traditions of the YMCA.

When: Friday, April 18 @ 7:30 am (Doors open at 7 am)

Where: Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA

Details: The speaker will be Rev. Dr. John Gordon Smith, Lead Pastor from Lampeter United Methodist Church, along with live music, and a buffet-style breakfast. Tickets are \$25 per person.

Call the church office to reserve your ticket.

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 are available on the table across from the church office.**

WELCOME LUNCHEON: The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a welcome luncheon after the 10:30 service on March 30 to welcome new members or recent visitors to Trinity Church. This is a way for us to share with our guests about Trinity's story through the DVD and conversations around the tables. Mike Lichtenwalner and Pastor Rankin have updated the DVD! We hope that Trinity members will attend the luncheon to welcome new people to the congregation! **Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office**



LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, April 9

Where: Oregon Dairy - in the Meadows Room (back of the restaurant).

When: April 9, 2025 at 12:30

Sign up by date: March 30, 2025 (sign up sheet is located outside the office).

Additional information: We can order off the menu or you can order off the buffet. We will get separate checks for each party.

SPEAK TO DENISE PFEIFER FOR MORE INFORMATION!!

2025 CONCERT SPONSORS: Forms are available on the table across from the church office for you to sponsor this year's concert series.

CHURCH MULCHING: The Property Committee is looking for volunteers on **Saturday, April 5 @ 8:30 am** to mulch the church property. We will be doing this in conjunction with the Trinity Preschool families, AA Group, and the Scout troop. Look for the sign-up sheet in the hallway across from the church office!

THE SERVICE FOR PAT MILLER will be held on Saturday, April 19 at the Blue Collar Restaurant in Landisville (where we had our 175th anniversary luncheon). The family invites you to arrive at 11:30 a.m. and we will begin shortly before noon.

Preschool Fundraiser Announcement

**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**

Deadline to Order: April 15, 2025

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

Please make checks payable to: **TRINITY PRESCHOOL**

Sign-up sheet on table outside office

WANTED: Mystery Readers For The Trinity Preschool

If you would like to come in to the preschool to be a Mystery Reader, please follow the link below, sign up for one slot, and surprise our students with your favorite children's book. If you have any questions, you can contact Amy Grube, Preschool Director, at preschool@trinityeastpete.org

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49A8AE23A4FBC52-54859987-mystery>

March 2025 Our Gifts to Others from the Board of Deacons

Each year Trinity U.C.C. considers donations titled “*Our Gifts to Others*” (OGTO). These annual gifts serve to support various missions of the U.C.C. and the wider community!

Here is a brief summary of the missions you can 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. Youth will stay an average of 10-12 days and receive basic medical care, food, clothing, shelter, and basic education while their families are located.
- **Hoffman Homes Inc.** is a nonprofit that provides comprehensive psychiatric care, treatment, support, and education to youth and young adults and their families from across Pennsylvania. We inspire hope and brighter futures.
- **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. A ministry of the U.C.C., they seek donations to help cover the cost of residents stay, regardless of their ability to pay.
- **U.C.C. 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.

□ **Local Mission**—The Board of Deacons chose The Mix in Lancaster to receive the Local Mission funds from OGTO. The Mix is a faith-based after school program for youth in Lancaster. Their mission is: To develop youth and families to be leaders of and within thriving communities.

□ **Wider Mission**— The Board of Deacons chose the U.C.C. Disaster Ministries to receive the Wider Mission funds from OGTO. This will respond to the needs of those impacted by the recent hurricanes, wild fires, and other natural disasters.

□ **Undesignated Gift**— If you don't have a preference on where you want to designate your gift, you can mark it as undesignated and the Board of Deacons will distribute it among the other OGTO missions.

In 2024, we received **\$25,206.77** for the Our Gifts to Others fund. Please consider these worthy agencies as you think about your possible financial offerings for **March 30, 2025**. In addition, you can donate online, designate as "Our Gift to Others", and specify which one(s) you are donating towards.

LENTEN DENIAL ENVELOPES: The Board of Deacons decided to support the work of Church World Service (CWS) through this year's Lenten Denial offering envelope. CWS and other faith-based relief organizations have been denied government funding for the important work that they do with refugees. This lack of funding has also impacted the way these organizations put an end to hunger and poverty and respond to natural disasters in the U.S. and around the world. Our offering will be sent to both the national office and the Lancaster office of CWS. You can find that envelope in your box of offering envelopes.



**East Petersburg - Scout Troop #33
(Trinity is the charter organization)**

**Annual Pancake Breakfast FUNDRAISER
Our 34th annual breakfast!**

**Located at the East Petersburg Mennonite Church
Saturday, April 26, 2025
7:00am – 11:00am**

- ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES!!**
 - 2 SAUSAGE LINKS (\$1.00 FOR 2 EXTRA SAUSAGES)**
 - COFFEE, TEA, O.J. OR WATER**
- Pre-sale tickets - \$6.00 (2 & under, free)**
Stop by the Scout Hut (end of Pine St.) Mondays 7:00-8:00
or, the neighborhood Ticket Blitz on Saturday 4/12/25)
OR
At the door - \$8.00 (2 & under free)
Raffles Available

Donations are graciously accepted at the breakfast.