I was hungry and you gave me food

MATTHEW 25:35

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 Mr. James Landis, Interim Organist Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

Celebrating 175 Years: Honoring Our Heritage, Moving Forward in Faith! CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, make, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

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.*

PRAYER AS YOU ENTER: We come with gladness, loving God, drawn by our need and by a desire to praise you and give thanks. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we may be full of hope. Enlarge the circle of our concern that we may see the stranger as next of kin, the hungry person as part of our own family, the one who is sick as a whole individual deserving of our care. Grant us the presence of Christ that we may learn more fully to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. 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.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere God. As we come to the table of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and the risen Christ.

We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat, and live.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ADORATION AND PRAISE

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.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right, and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 95:1-7a

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord o both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is

named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him. **Glory be to You, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"God's Kingdom"

Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

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

God of steadfast love, receive these expressions of our thanks for the glorious inheritance entrusted to us. We hereby enlist ourselves and our resources toward the realization of your eternal purpose for all humanity. May this congregation become more and more a source of hope for each of us and for all we meet. 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.

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, 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.

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to responds to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

In Christ we know of your merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation. We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by Janet Harriger in memory of my brother, Miles Harriger, Jr.

The Worship Aids are given by **Pastor Rankin** in gratitude for all who made our 175th Anniversary Celebration possible.

Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Diane Rice
Nevin Cooley, John Baileey, Pat Sensenig, Cherie Cataldi,
Sally Rodenberger
Nancy Enders, Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy
Pat Sensenig
Rankin Family
Card Preschool
Called to Care Anne Rankin
Visitation Noreen Trostle

Attendance for Sun., November 19 Sunday School

Happy Birthday

Monday – Dennis Eberly, Dr. Rob Hollenbach Tuesday – Blaine Connor Thursday – Ashley Nygen, Gary Trusz Friday – Hope Krantz, David Trostle Saturday – Randall Woerner

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m2 p.m.)		
Monday	7:00 PM – Choir/8:15 PM Bells	
	No Preschool	
Tuesday	7:00 AM – Peanut Fellowship	
Thursday	6:00 PM – Cub Scouts	
Saturday	8:30 AM – Advent Workshop & Breakfast	
	7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA	
Sunday	$7.45 \mathrm{AM}-\mathrm{Eucharist}$	
	9:00 AM – Sunday School	
	10:00 AM - Koinonia	
	10:30 AM – Eucharist	

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

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MEMBERS

Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman Hedwig Hunsicker Don & Pat Miller The Lehman family Donna Wolf & Family Stan & Pat Seachrist Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser Betty Tyndall and family Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman Joann & Dawn Garvin

Ron Becker	Scott & Jane Owens
Janice Jenkins	John Shelsky
Nancy Patton	Dr. Janet Harriger
Joann Peck	Harry Himelwright
Shelly Family	Mary Lou Shaab
Donna Zirkel	Carmen & Jerry Richards
Sam Minder III	Lainie Christensen
Hank Fox	Charles & Betty Booraem
Mary Witmer	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Erika Otthofer	Kathleen Sensenig Adams
Dave Trostle	Danielle Huggins Holbein
Dr. Blaine Conno	or

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Todd Fischer (husband of Heidi Fischer) The family of Dorothy Fasnacht The family of Dr. Phil Bartholomew (friend of Pastor Rankin) Bill Zahm (brother of Phyllis Zimmerman) Mary Mattern Smith (cousin of Anita Rohrer) **Deb Olley Heagy** (daughter of Jack & Karen Olley) Donna Esbenshade (wife of Rev. Jack Esbenshade) The Haverstick Family (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner) Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty) **Rev. Loy Garber** (former seminarian) Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan) Jaden Allen (nephew of Carol Kratz) **Cindy Commero Cook and family**(friend of Sarah Paulukow) Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty) The Bruno family (friends of Blaine Connor) Jessica Brown (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner) Janice Zimmerman (sister of Ken Zimmerman) **Larry Gerlach** (brother of Dolly Barr) John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr) Kelly Quick (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen) Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity) James Malone & family Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner) Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens) Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel) Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), **Don Pfeifer** (husband of Denise Pfeifer) Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer) The Martin family **Robert Richards** (brother of Jerry Richards) **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) Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards) John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law) Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

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.

THE 2024 APPROVED BUDGET is available on the table across from the church office or in the information racks on both levels of the church building.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the table across from the church office. Please help us by delivering envelopes to some of our homebound members!

TRINITY T-SHIRTS: The Anniversary Committee is working with our own Mitch Gibson (from Elizabethtown Sporting Goods) to celebrate our 175th anniversary with Trinity t-shirts. We have already placed one order, but you can still order shirts on the form across from the church office.

175th ANNIVERSARY GIFTS: There are extra copies of the historical book, the prayer book and the anniversary pens and magnets on the table across from the church office.

GRIEF GROUPS: Prior to the pandemic, Pastor Chris was hoping to form some small groups to look at issues of grief. Please contact him or Carol Kratz if you are interested in participating in one of the groups!

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP: 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. Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.







2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: November 26, December 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 2024 Flower Chart is now up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

> YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! **Greeter /Ushers Needed**



If you would like to volunteer as a Greeter/Usher for the 10:30 a.m. service please contact the church office. We recently had some vacancies as ushers, so we are in need of help!!!



We are looking for a greeter coordinator that will recruit new people to serve and create a schedule. Contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz.



Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz if you are willing to volunteer!

SAVE THE DATE - ADVENT WORKSHOP: Saturday, Dec. 2nd



We are coming up on preparing Trinity Church for the Advent season.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for the season. We will start with breakfast at 8:30 AM. There is a sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

Barry L. Sawyer, *Director* Sarah Repkoe, *Accompanist*

Winter oncert

ancaste

Liederkranz

Chorus

Saturday, December 2, 2023 • 4pm 🐳

Zion Lutheran Church 85 East Brandt Blvd., Landisville *FREE ADMISSION

*A freewill offering will be accepted to benefit Zion Lutheran Church

Trinity UCC

2340 State St. East Petersburg, PA 717-569-1632 www.trinityeastpete.org

Concert/Desserts

Featuring Trinity Church Musicians

Sunday, December 3, 2023 Concert – 6:00 PM

Desserts Following The Concert

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







WHITE GIFT SUNDAY ON DECEMBER 3

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, Wal-Mart, VISA/MC, Giant Food Stores, or CVS.

Bethany Home requests:

Black & white athletic socks: men and women • joggers/sweatpants: men and women • men's athletic shorts: sizes sm-xl • Zippered waterproof mattress cover • twin • comforters • lightweight(twin-size blankets • towels • fabric paint • paint pens • paintbrushes • washi tape • scratch art paper • calligraphy pens and inks • Pony Beads/ unique beads

Gifts Cards: Lowes, Home Depot, Michaels, Wal-Mart, Target, Amazon, TJ Maxx, 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 3. The children will collect them during the10:30 service. Thank You!

INSTRUMENTALISTS, YOU ARE INVITED to join Trinity Instrumentalists in playing some Christmas Carols as Preludes on Christmas Eve, before the 6:30 PM service. Please let Michael or Dina Slechta know of your interest and availability. **Rehearsals are scheduled on the following Monday evenings at** 6:15 PM: Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 18

UPCOMING CONCERTS:

- 1. The Mennonite Children's Choir will be performing the following concerts:
 - --November 30 at Neffsville Mennonite Church at 7 p.m.
 - --December 2 at First United Methodist, Lancaster at 3 p.m.
 - -- December 3 at Neffsville Mennonite Church at 4 p.m.

Caleb Kreider is a member of the choir. No tickets are needed, but a freewill offering will be received.

2. The Lancaster Chamber Singers will be performing the following concerts:

--December 2 at Bethany U.C.C., Ephrata at 3 p.m.

--December 3 at St. Edward Episcopal at 3 p.m.

Rev. Jack Esbenshade is a member of the choir. Advance tickets are \$10 and tickets at the door are \$15. Children 18 and under are free.

- 3. The Lebanon Valley College Children's Choir will be singing at the annual Christmas at the Valley:
 - --December 2 at the Miller Chapel, Annville at 7 p.m.

--December 3 at the Miller Chapel, Annville at 3 p.m.

Andrew Rankin is a member of the choir. No tickets are needed, but a freewill offering will be received.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT

Advent Day Apart at The Farm - December 9, 2023



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania Wittel Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Advent/Christmas in the Barn at The Wittel Farm - December 17, 2023 Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald - January 5 - 7, 2024

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: The Parish Life Committee is planning to go Christmas caroling on December 10 to some of our members and around the East Petersburg community. We will enjoy a pizza lunch together after the 10:30 service in Isenberg Hall and then go caroling by car. Please sign-up on the table across from the church office so that we can order enough pizzas! This is open to all members and friends of Trinity Church!!!

ADVENT ENVELOPES: The Board of Deacons decided to give funds from the Advent offering envelope to the U.C.C. Christmas Fund for retired clergy, widows/widowers of U.C.C. clergy, and ministerial assistance. We will hear more about the U.C.C. Christmas Fund offering in December.

CROP HUNGER WALK UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who has already supported the walkers from Trinity Church! As of November 2, we raised \$11,820!! You can still support the CROP Hunger Walk by giving money to Mark & Chris Eyer or Pastor Rankin or donate online at https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/trinity-east-pete

"I PROMISE" FORMS are still being accepted! We hope that you will submit the forms to help us plan for our ministry in 2024. Extra forms are available on the table across from the church office!



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST-East Petersburg

We received \$66.36 from the Sharing Our Success Program from the last quarter year.

TRINITY PRESCHOOL SUB COUPONS: We still have eight coupons for subs at S. Clyde Weaver. The cost is \$8. Contact the church office if you are interested.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm 95:1-7a

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 [not printed]

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37.