

Be doers of  
the **WORD**

JAMES 1:22



**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520  
717-569-1632

Website: [www.trinityeastpete.org](http://www.trinityeastpete.org) E-Mail: [secretary@trinityeastpete.org](mailto: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

Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

---

---

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**7:45 A.M. SERVICE**

**Today's Theme:** Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us, "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

**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:** *O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

---

---

★ **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*
- 
- 

**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.**

Come listen for all God seeks to teach us. God has given us birth by the word of truth.

**We are drawn to God this day. We leap for joy when we know God's care.** Every perfect gift comes to us from God. God's image is part of each one of us.

**God's grace has been poured into our lives. Wisdom and understanding are offered to us.**

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 welcomes you to this table. Come, here is our God.

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing in this time of silent prayer.

*(SEATED OR KNEELING)*

**SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess our sins together.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Let us pray the collect together.

God of all truth, whose reality is far beyond the religion we profess, and whose ways are broader than our flawed human precepts, we would honor you with our lips and our lives, worshipping you above all else in life and welcoming your transforming presence within us, that we might become doers of the Word who offer healing to the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

# THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

*The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

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

## THE PSALTER

Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?  
**Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;**

Who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

**In whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

Who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

**Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

James 1:17-27

*The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

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

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.*

*Glory be to You, O Lord.*

## THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

*Praise be to You, O Christ.*

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## SERMON

**"We Need to Look in the Mirror!"**

**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**

Our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for all the bounty you entrust to our stewardship, O God of light. You have reached into the shadows, where we often flee, to rescue us and give us your work to do. As you have freed us from the chains of sin, we seek to offer healing to others as we listen and share and do. Bless our offering of self and substance, we pray in the name of 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.**

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

**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!**

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

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

### **THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP**

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

**The Bread of Life, broken for us.**

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

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

## **RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*(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.

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Give wisdom and understanding to the Trinity Preschool staff, the children and their families, and the Preschool Board as we begin a new school year. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**



God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

### ***SILENT PRAYER***

Let us pray together.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **CLOSE OF WORSHIP**

### **BENEDICTION**

---

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Chancel Flowers** are given by **Janet Sweigart** in memory of my brother, Herbert Charles.

**The Worship Aids** are given by **Paula Dennes** in memory of my parents.

**Happy Birthday!**

Tuesday – Lori Gold

**Worship Attendance, August 25**

**7:45-18 9:30-86 TOTAL -104**

## Ministering Today

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
<b>Lector</b>	Jeff Hackenberger
<b>Money Counters</b>	Charlene Cristy, Steve Gold, Pat Sensenig, Cherie Cataldi
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Nancy Enders
<b>Building Trustee</b>	Dave Connor
<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Card</b> Children's Sunday School Class <b>Called to Care</b> Nancy Enders <b>Visitation</b> Anita Rohrer

## **This Week at Trinity Church (Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)**

Monday	OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday	Preschool Sneak-A-Peek
Wednesday	Preschool Begins
Saturday	8:00 PM – Alanon/AA
Sunday	7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:00 AM – Rally Day Program (Isenberg Hall) 10:00 AM - Koinonia 10:30 AM – Worship

## PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

### MEMBERS

Kelsey Minnich Burgo	Rick Mowrer	Ron Becker
Betsy Bailey	Betty Fogle	Jack Olley
Bob & Marlyn Wible	Don & Pat Miller	Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman
Harry Himelwright	Dr. Janet Harriger	Joann Peck
Scott & Jane Owens	The Lehman family	Mary Lou Shaab
Carmen & Jerry Richards	Donna Wolf & Family	George & Ellie Latsha
Lainie Christensen	Stan & Pat Seachrist	Sam Minder III
Pastor Harry Royer	Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Hank Fox
Rev. Ken Trauger	Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Donna Zirkel
Kathleen Sensenig Adams	Betty Tyndall and family	Michael McDonough
Danielle Huggins Holbein	Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Joann & Dawn Garvin
Erika Otthofer	Denise Huggins	Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

### FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Ken Jenkins  
The family of Frank Albrecht (friend of Trinity members)  
Shari Jones (co-worker of Rich Weeber)

**Tracy McLaughlin** (co-worker of Rich Weeber)  
**Carol Hooper** (sister of Rev. Dr. Rich Christensen)  
**Marlene Harlow** (friend of Gail Kogut)  
**Chad Zirkel** (son of Donna Zirkel)  
**Kaitlyn, Ben, and Lucy Miller** (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)  
**Barbie, Jon, and Will Bundy** (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)  
**Rev. Jim Martin** (Rev. Dr. Rich & Lanie Christensen's former pastor)  
**Ken Hoshauer** (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)  
**Kurt Kalbach** (brother of Dr. Cathy Houshauer)  
**Tuyet Nguyen** (husband of Pat & Stan Seachrist's granddaughter)  
**Mary Call** (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call)  
**Art Cobb** (nephew of John & Dolly Barr)  
**The Herr Family** (Trinity Preschool Family)  
**Sharon Brown** (sister of Sandy DeLong)  
**Chris Rice** (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley)  
**Sally & Joe Carrol** (friend of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)  
**Kurt McEllhemmey** (relative of Betty Tyndall)  
**David Brown** (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)  
**Annette Stork** (niece of Pat Sensenig)  
**Logan Davis** (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)  
**Brian & Liz Culp** (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)  
**Jean Weglarz** (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline)  
**Melby Bush** (friend of Joan Sensenig)  
**Harvey & Dianne Sick** (friends of Judy Chapman)  
**Rev. Loy Garber** (former seminarian)  
**Roland Anderson and family** (friends of John & Kayla Brennan)  
**John Martin** (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)  
**James Malone & family**  
**Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner** (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)  
**Jordan Sensenig** (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig)  
**The Martin family** (Trinity Preschool 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 SEPTEMBER PARISH POST** is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

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

**2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS:** Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **September 15, 22, & 29**. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **September 22 & 29**. 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.

**KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP:** Beginning next Sunday, we will resume koinonia (community fellowship) at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. The Christian Education will be sponsoring it for Rally Day. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments. The drinks/coffee will be taken care of for you! The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen counter. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. **Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.**



East Petersburg Parade

The annual East Petersburg Day Parade will follow the 5K at 10AM and lead families, friends and neighbors to East Petersburg Community Park for an amazing day filled with live music, jugglers, rides, games, and food!

**The Parish Life Committee will be organizing a float for this year's parade. We will meet on September 14 at 8:00 a.m. to decorate the float prior to the parade. There is a sign-up sheet across from the church office for those who want to ride the float or those who will donate candy for us to distribute. Contact Pastor Chris or Anne Rankin for more information!!**

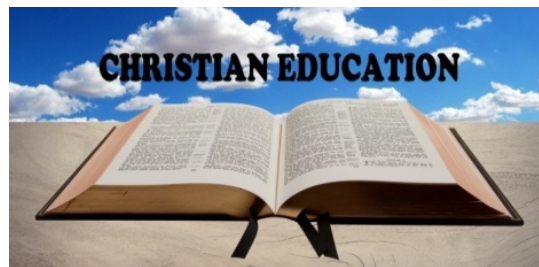
## RALLY DAY AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASS INFORMATION!!!



Our fall worship schedule (7:45 and 10:30), will begin on  
September 8 (Rally Day)  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Koinonia at 10:00 AM



*There will be a special Rally Day program at 9:00 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Donna Geisler and her brother-in-law, Dr. Bill Lovett, will speak about their recent mission trip to the Dominican Republic.*



1. The Children's Class will meet in the lower classroom and will be using the Spark lectionary based curriculum. These Sunday school lessons connect kids with Bible stories heard in worship. The Bible story have lessons that are packed with activities, interactive games, and creative crafts.
2. Adult/Youth Bible Class will be studying *Christianity and World Religions* by Adam Hamilton. In examining Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbors, and find positive ways to share the gospel. The class will meet in Isenberg Hall and will be led by Sue Bowman and Pastor Rankin. There will be opportunities for the youth to have breakout sessions during the class.
3. The Wired Word (Christian Issues Today) Adult Class will meet in the Choir Room. Each week they will have a Bible study lesson linked to the latest headlines and current events using appropriate scriptures. Students can opt in or out of receiving the lesson by email before Sunday. To opt in before the first session, contact Diane Rice with your email address.

**TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.:** The Christian Education Committee is planning to sponsor a trip to Washington D.C. on October 26. We are hoping to visit the National Cathedral and the other museums. We don't have any details yet on the cost, but we are asking you to sign-up if you are interested at this point. The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. **For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin.**

**TRINITY LUNCH BUNCH:** The Parish Life Committee is sponsoring another lunch gathering for church members and friends on September 22 at Loxley's (500 Centerville Rd). The luncheon will begin around 12:30 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. **The deadline to sign-up is September 15!!!** Contact Denise Pfeifer for more information.

**THE MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST** will meet for breakfast on September 21 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office! This is open to all men of the congregation!

**PRAYER SHAWL:** The Prayer Shawl will resume meeting on September 17 at 1:00 p.m. and 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.

**Calling all Singers and Ringers  
2024-2025 Season Starts**

September 9, 7:00 - 8:00 PM SOT Choir  
September 16, 8:15 - 8:45 PM Canticle Ringers

**\*New Singers and Ringers Welcome  
Contact Michael or Dina Slehta**

**PINOCHLE**  
**1:30 PM**

**Date: September 26 @ 1:30 PM**

**Everyone is welcome!**  
All you have to do is sign up on the table outside office and bring a snack or drink to share. We're happy to teach players new to Pinochle.

**GRIEF GROUP:** Since the first grief group will be ending this month, Pastor Rankin would like to form another group(s) beginning in October. If you are interested in this small group, look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. Contact Pastor Rankin if you have any questions.

**FALL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR:** The Pastor Parish Committee is sponsoring another leadership seminar for all members of the Consistory and committees on Saturday, October 12 from 9 a.m.-noon. The Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, Conference Minister & President of the Penn Central Conference and member of Trinity, will talk about emotional intelligence. Dr. Call will be preaching at both services on October 13. Look for a sign-up sheet in the near future.

**WELCOME LUNCHEON:** The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a welcome luncheon after the 10:30 service on October 13 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. We hope that Trinity members will attend the luncheon, so look for the upcoming sign-up sheet.

**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

**Psalm 15**

**SECOND READING: James 1:17-27**

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look

at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile . . .

<sup>21</sup>"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 7:24-37.

Cover: *Hands Held High* by smartboy10. Copyright © 2022 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at [www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org).

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2  
ELCA-R



**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LANCASTER CROP WALK:** Trinity Church was recently recognized as being 34<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. to raise funds for the 2023 CROP Walk!! Also, the Lancaster CROP Walk was recognized for being ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Pennsylvania for the 2023 CROP Walk! Pastor Rankin continues to serve as the Lancaster CROP Walk Coordinator!

There are two important dates to remember:

1. Saturday, September 29---CROP Walk Rally at the Church World Service office in Lancaster (10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.)
2. Sunday, October 20 at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. Registration begins at 1 p.m. and a program follows at 1:30 p.m. The walk will begin at 2 p.m.

Mark & Chris Eyer are once again serving as the coordinators for Trinity Church. The following people from Trinity have already signed up for the walk: Mark & Chris Eyer, Diane Rice, Karen Olley, Nancy Enders, and the Rankin family.

You can register for the walk on the table across from the church office or at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/trinity-east-pete>

**THE 2024 CONCERT SPONSOR FORMS** are available on the table across from the church office.

**THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES** are available in the information racks on both floors of the church building!

**SERVERS NEEDED:** We are in need of greeters, ushers, and nursery care volunteers for the 9:30 worship service. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving as an usher or greeter. Please contact Betty Fogle if you are interested in serving as a nursery attendant (717-471-1026 or [bettsfog@comcast.net](mailto:bettsfog@comcast.net)).

## Harvest Home Worship Service at Old Zion German Reformed Church

On Sunday, September 8, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., Old Zion German Reformed Church, Brickerville, will conduct an annual anniversary service. The service provides an opportunity to reflect on Old Zion's rich history and faith traditions. This year's theme will be "Harvest Home," and will draw on excerpts from a late 19<sup>th</sup> Century liturgy of the Reformed Church entitled "Golden Sheaves." For the last several hundred years, Protestant churches have celebrated and given thanks for abundant harvests. In many rural churches, whose congregations were comprised of farm families and businesses supporting agriculture, the Harvest Home celebrations were a highlight each year.

Rev. William LaSalle will portray the Rev. Frederick C. Hullhorst, who served as the minister at Old Zion, Bethany, and Jerusalem Church in Penryn from 1896 to 1902. The worship service will include music and hymns from the period and will feature the choir from nearby Brickerville United Lutheran Church, which has had a long-standing relationship with Old Zion Church. J.P. Welliver, Director of Music at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Penryn, will play the historical pump organ at Old Zion as part of the service. A free-will offering will be collected during the service and donated to Ephrata Area Social Services and Warwick Community Chest. In addition, Scott Hartz will display a variety of antique and period farm implements.

Please join us for an afternoon of faith, music, history, and fellowship. Refreshments will be served after the service. Old Zion German Reformed Church is located near Brickerville at 187 Reifsnyder Rd.

Please visit our website [www.oldzionchurch.org](http://www.oldzionchurch.org)

### Directions

*From Lititz – take Route 501 North of Lititz, turn right at the light at Brubaker Valley Road, and turn left on Reifsnyder Road*

*From Ephrata – take Route 322 west of Ephrata, turn left on Reifsnyder Road as you enter Brickerville*