

*Give Thanks*



*Happy Thanksgiving!*



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

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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

Ms. Karen Karosas, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

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**THANKSGIVING EVE**

**November 27, 2024, 7:00 PM**

**Tonight's Theme:** Tonight's readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a National Day of Thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest (Joel) and civic prayer for a peaceable common life (1 Timothy). The core meaning of Thanksgiving for many of us-a home feast for extended family and friends-is not reflected in the reading; but it is reflected weekly in the church's meal of thanksgiving (eucharist). What we wish for both these thanksgiving meals is that they will go deeper than celebration of one another and our own blessings, to recognize in our true Host one wants everyone brought to the table.

**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. **We invite you to join us to join us again:** Worship services are every Sunday at 7:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Christian Education classes for all ages at 9:00 a.m.

**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.*

**HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES** –If you have trouble with hearing, please check with one of the ushers for a Hearing Assist Sound Receiver.

**Prayer:** *Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*



**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*

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**Ministering Tonight**

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Steve Gold
Greeter/Usher	Charlene Cristy

PRELUDE

*Holy Manna*

Emma Lou Diemer

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*We Gather Together*

- 1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
 - 2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
 - 3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou Lead - er tri - um - phant,

He chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known;  
 Or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine;  
 And pray that Thou still our De - fend - er wilt be.

The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing,  
 So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:  
 Let Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

Sing prais - es to His name: He for - gets not His own.  
 Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glo - ry be Thine!  
 Thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free! A - men.

## 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.**

Be glad and rejoice, for God has done great things. Our mouths are filled with laughter and shouts of joy.

**A harvest of abundance surrounds us. We will eat in plenty and be satisfied.** Praise God for all the bounty we enjoy. Give thanks for every good and perfect gift.

**We lay aside our worries and our fears. God has dealt wondrously with us, and we rejoice.**

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

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

### INTROIT

### *Give Thanks*



5 Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One, give



thanks\_\_ be-cause he's giv-en Je - sus Christ his\_\_ Son. Give thanks.

"Give Thanks" words and music by Henry Smith; arranged by Ken Barker © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. CCLI License # 11083455

## CONFESSION OF SINS

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Amid the blessings God has provided, we are tempted to exalt ourselves rather than thank the Creator.

**We begin to think we alone are responsible for our good fortune. In prosperous times, we are less than thankful, and in adversity we feel alienated from the source of help.**

Let us confront our sin in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess together.

O God, we have worried about possessions and lost sleep over matters beyond our control. We have forgotten you as the source of all good things and the resource to strengthen us when our energy is drained and our hope exhausted. We have misused your gifts and invested our time in pursuits that tear down and destroy rather than create and build. Forgive us, God, and set us on a new and right path. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### KYRIE

#### *Haitian Kyrie*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, — Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

1. Save my life, O Je - sus, I im - plore — you. 2.

— Ky - ri - e. — Save my life, O Je - sus, I im -

plore you. Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

"Haitian Kyrie" Haitian Traditional arr. by Andrew Donaldson © 2010 Andrew Donaldson. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON & CHORAL AMEN**  
*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

**ADORATION AND PRAISE**

**PRAISE VERSICLE and RESPONSE**

Praise the Lord!  
**The Lord be praised!**  
 Let us sing praise to God!

**PRAISE RESPONSE** *Praise God the Father*

Praise God the Fa - ther, ho - ly God! Praise God the Son, our Sa - vior! Praise

*(continues on next page)*

God the Spir - it, Com - for - ter! O tri - une God, we prai - se you! The  
 good news, we con - fess: You rec - on - cile and bless. You call us now to  
 serve. Our faith we now con - firm. Your king - dom is for - ev - er! A - men!

Text by Rev. Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe © 2015, Used by Permission; Tune - Ein' Feste Burg by Martin Luther, 1529, public domain

by Rev. Dr. Charlie Hambrick-Stowe

## COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING EVE

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, whose attention is given impartially and completely to each and all of your children, and whose love is ever available, make yourself known to us now. Clothe us with faith, fill us with the knowledge of your truth and lift us up to new heights of godliness and dignity, that our thanksgiving might be generously shared and joyously celebrated. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*



# HOLY SCRIPTURES

## THE FIRST LESSON

Joel 2:21-27

*The prophet Joel understood that a locust plague that ravaged the land of Judah was God's judgment on the people, whom he then called to repentance. Today's reading points beyond the judgment to a time when God will bless the land and cause it to produce food in abundance.*

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

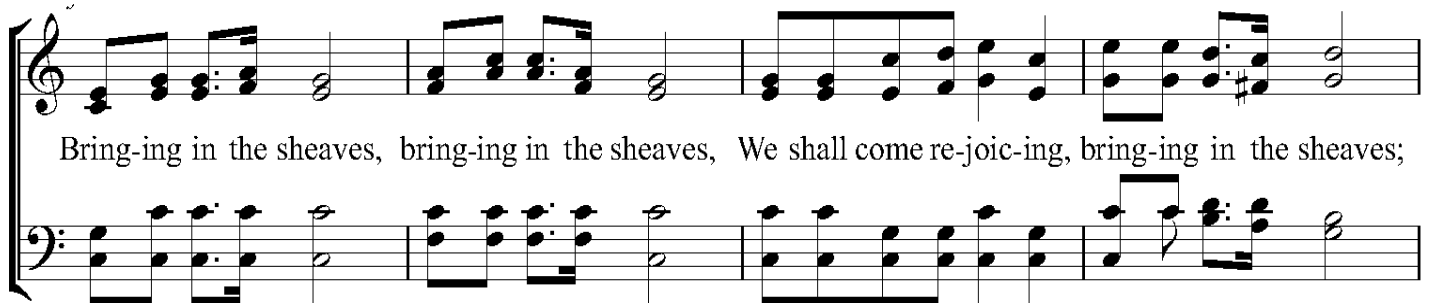
I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

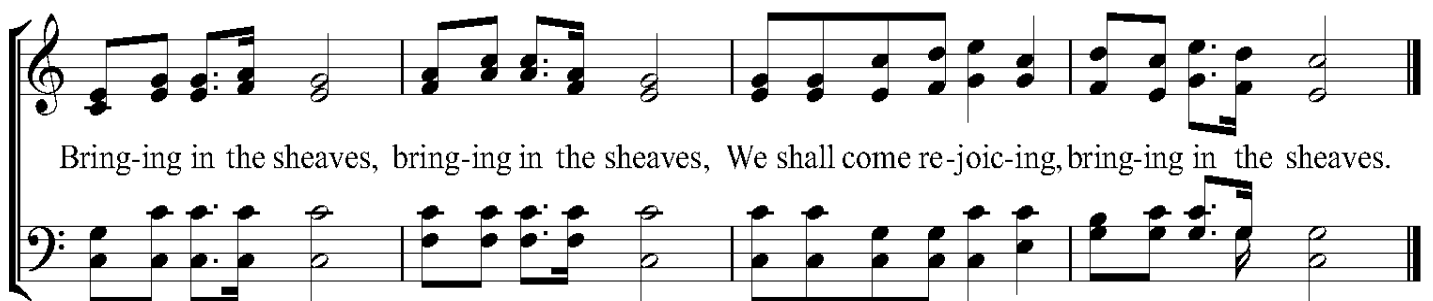
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

## THE PSALTER

Psalm 126



Bring-ing in the sheaves, bring-ing in the sheaves, We shall come re-joic-ing, bring-ing in the sheaves;



Bring-ing in the sheaves, bring-ing in the sheaves, We shall come re-joic-ing, bring-ing in the sheaves.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

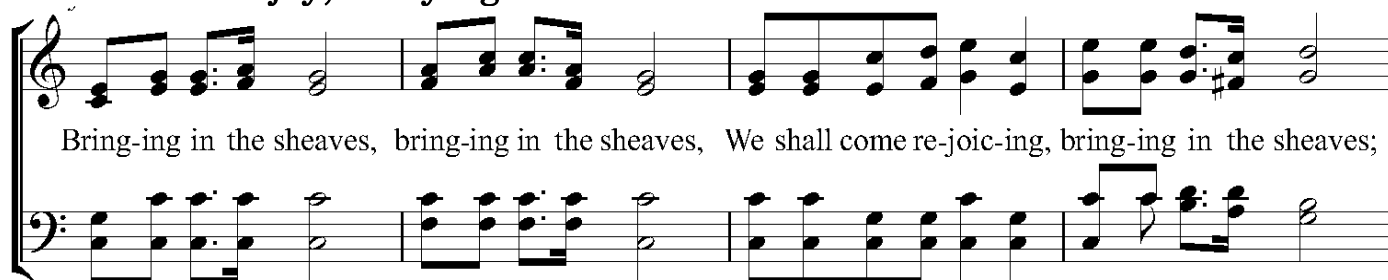
Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

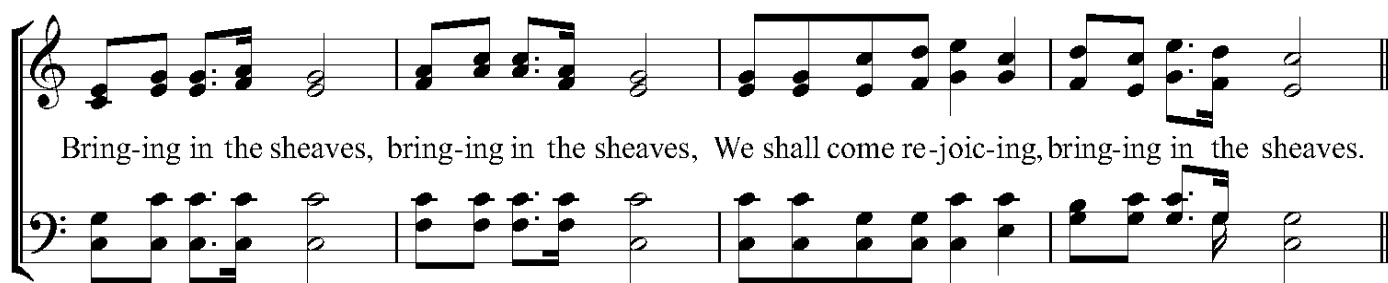
Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.



Bring-ing in the sheaves, bring-ing in the sheaves, We shall come re-joic-ing, bring-ing in the sheaves;



Bring-ing in the sheaves, bring-ing in the sheaves, We shall come re-joic-ing, bring-ing in the sheaves.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 2:1-7

*Christians are encouraged to offer prayers and thanks for all people, including rulers. We offer such inclusive, far-reaching prayers because God desires to save all people.*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

St. Matthew 6:25-33

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples about the providence of God so that they would regard life with thanksgiving and trust rather than anxiety.*

*Glory be to You, O Lord.*

**#498**

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?’

And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

*Praise be to You, O Christ.*

**#498**

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

**SERMON**

**“God Will Provide!”**

**Pastor Rankin**

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

HYMN

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

"For the Fruit of All Creation" text by Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing Co.; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams © Oxford University Press. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879

## 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.

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## PEOPLE'S OFFERING

### CHOIR ANTHEM

### *Simple Thanks*

### Besig & Price

We see your world around us; we know you're everywhere.

We feel your love surround us and keep us in your care.

So we come now, dear Father, to thank you, one and all,

For gifts so rich and wonderful, for blessings great and small.

For the gifts that are simple, for the gifts that are free, for the chance to be whatever we can be, we thank you, Lord, each passing day

For the countless gifts you send our way.

Now hear the world as it sings of the joy and the peace that your love can bring.

Now all our voices we raise to offer thanks and sing your praise!

O Lord of all creation, we come to you this day.

We join in celebration of all that you have made.

We rejoice in the wonder around us everywhere.  
We thank you now, dear Father, for all the gifts we share.  
Give thanks for the gifts we share!

"Simple Thanks" words by Don Besig and Nancy Price, music by Don Besig © 1992 Harold Flammer Music. CCLI License # 11083455

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Plainsong*

acc. David Hurd

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*All God's Children Give Thanks*



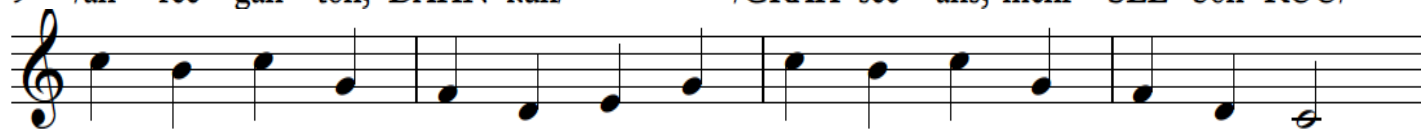
Lis - ten to the chil - dren of all na - tions sing their thanks to God.

5



A - ri - ga - to, dan - ke, thank you, gra - ci - as, mer - ci beau-coup!

9 /ah - ree - gah - toh, DAHN-kuh/ /GRAH-see - ahs, mehr - SEE boh-KOO/



Ju - bi - la - te, ju - bi - la - te, sing thanks - giv - ing to the Lord.

13 /yoo - bee-LAH- teh, yoo - bee-LAH- teh,/



Ju - bi - la - te, ju - bi - la - te, sing your thanks for - ev - er - more!

/yoo - bee-LAH- teh, yoo - bee-LAH- teh,/

"All God's Children Give Thanks" (From Treasures New & Old) Adapted and Arranged by Jean Anne Shafferman © 1996 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. CCLI License # 11083455

## OFFERING DEDICATION

For food and water, for all the blessings of the land you have given us, for family and friends who enrich our lives, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to you, O God. We have been sheltered and educated and empowered by your generosity. In Jesus Christ, we have been shown a way to the wholeness you intend for us. Receive these offerings as a joyous expression of our gratitude. 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.

### SERAPHIC HYMN

### *Santo (Holy)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

"Santo (Holy)" Text variation on traditional liturgical text; Music unknown, arranged by The Iona Community, based on two-part version as taught by Pablo Sosa © 1990 WGRG The Iona Community GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-711879.

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION & 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, forever. Amen.

## BREAKING THE HOST AND POURING 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.**

## COMMUNION HYMN *Bread of Life from Heaven*

*Refrain*

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



*(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.)*

### **SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST**

*I do not presume to come to your Table, Lord Jesus, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your great mercy. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you, Lord, have promised always to have mercy. Therefore, I ask you to have mercy upon me and to enable me to receive your real life and presence through this Sacrament of Holy Communion. Fill all of us with the gift of your Holy Spirit so that we may grow in love for you and for each other. Cleanse us of all sin. Increase our love for you and all your people. Enable us to know that you are here and that you invite us to enter into a deeper and fuller union with you, our Lord and our God. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **SILENT PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST**

*I bow before you, Lord Jesus, in awe and wonder. You have blessed me with the gift of your life and presence. I am not worthy, but you invite me to come to be washed, loved, and empowered. For this great gift, I thank you with my whole being. As you live in me, mold me and transform me so that I may be a sign of your presence and a vessel through which your love touches the persons I encounter. May my heart and soul and all my words and actions give glory and praise to you, my Savior and my Redeemer. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

*(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.

## LITANY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God our creator for the gifts so freely bestowed upon us:

For the beauty and wonder of creation, in earth, and sky and sea.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all the valiant seekers after truth, liberty, justice, and peace.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the communion of saints, in all times and places.

**We thank you, Lord.**

Above all, let us give thanks for the great promises and mercies given to us and to all the world in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**To Christ be praise and glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### *TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER*

By your word and sacraments, O God, you have given us a foretaste of the new heaven and new earth that will be ours forever. Strengthen in us this vision that we might draw others to believe in the hope that is ours, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**HYMN**

*Now Thank We All Our God*

**#72**

**BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

**POSTLUDE**

*The Thirsty Fields Drink in the Rain*

**Mark Sedio**

## ADVENT GATHERING ON NOVEMBER 30



We will prepare Trinity Church for the Advent/Christmas season on November 30. The gathering will begin with light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. After breakfast, we will decorate the church for the season. Our time will conclude with a brief service in the sanctuary.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for the season. Sign-up sheet is on the table across from the office.



**Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office!**

## AMERICAN MUSIC THEATER CHRISTMAS SHOW



We have reserved seats for the American Music Theater Christmas Show on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The cost to see the show is Adults \$43, students \$22. To reserve your seat use the sign-up sheet on the table outside the office. For more information, speak to Jeff Hackenberger.



**Trinity UCC**  
2340 State St.  
East Petersburg, PA  
717-569-1632  
[www.trinityeastpete.org](http://www.trinityeastpete.org)

**Concert/Desserts**

Featuring  
Trinity Church Musicians

**Sunday, December 8, 2024**  
**Concert – 2:00 PM**  
Desserts Following The Concert

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



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Pastor Chris and the Parish Life Committee would like to go Christmas caroling to some of our church members on December 15 after the 10:30 service (weather permitting). We will provide a light lunch and then drive to some of our fellow parishioners. There is a sign-up sheet on the table for those interested in participating.

### **TRINITY PRESCHOOL COLLECTION**

Trinity's Preschool is again looking for some help from the congregation! We are very thankful for your continued support. Here's the list of items needed!

**Magnetic Bingo Chips**

**Dry Erase markers (Wide and skinny)**

**Aluminum Foil**

**Stickers (Any kind!)**

**Cotton Balls**

Donated items can be placed in the box near the church office!!!