

Blessed are you

LUKE 6:22



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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed are" and the "woe to" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

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: *Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, 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*
-
-

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.**

Blessed are those who trust in God, who delight to meditate on God's law.

We long to hear the Word of God and let the Word shape our lives.

Blessed are the ones who serve God with joy, who risk all they have in faithfulness and hope.

We come now to worship and find new life, to receive healing and empower for our journey.

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

We live as if Christ had never been born.

We abuse the privileges that are ours as children of God.

Let us confess our sins before God in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. 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 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Let us pray the collect together.

Almighty God, whose love poured out in Jesus Christ invests us with strength the world cannot offer, cleanse us from unclean spirits and troubled attitudes, that all who are poor, hungry, and grieving may find a new focus for their lives in the ministry we share. May we be righteous, true, and compassionate, that the world may be transformed. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers, but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

“Let’s Put it Into Perspective!”

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

Thank you, God, for the consolation you offer, the hunger you satisfy, and the healing you produce in those who respond to your love. You have touched our lives in ways that make us rich. Now use what we have shared to provide fulfillment in other lives, among our neighbors, near and far. Enlist our best efforts in the extension of your realm, that our offering of ourselves may bear fruit daily; through 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.

Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history. We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and grace. With the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify you:

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.

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace. Amen.

RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

(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 do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and commune in your pew or ask the ushers to have the pastor and assistant come to you in the 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.

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. We pray for Church World Service and other church-related relief organizations during these challenging times. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. We pray that they will listen to the voices of the captives, the poor, and the oppressed. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way. Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by his goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice. May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Scott & Jane Owens**. Thanks to our Trinity friends who keep Jane and me in your prayers. You are all special to us on this Valentine Day weekend!

The Worship Aids are given by **Rev. Bob & Hedwig Hunsicker** with gratitude for Trinity's ministry.

Ministering Today

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Rev. Sandy Morris
Money Counters	Nevin Cooley, Steve Gold, Pat Sensenig, Cherie Cataldi
Altar Guild	Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker
Building Trustee	Mike Wagner
Koinonia	Rankin Family
Ministries	Card Church Staff (Carol Kratz) Called to Care Anne Rankin Visitation Anita Rohrer

Attendance for Sun., February 9	7:45—No Svc. 10:30—59 TOTAL — 59
Sunday School	24

Happy Birthday

Today – Ali Daly, Alison Kauffman

Wednesday – Dina Slechta

Friday – Arlene Hoxworth

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Today 12:30 PM – Lunch Bunch at Iron Hill Brewery

Monday 7:00 PM – Choir/8:15 PM – Bells
No Preschool

Tuesday 1:00 PM – Prayer Shawl
7:00 PM – Consistory/Bds.

Thursday 2:00 PM – Crop Walk Mtg.
6:00 PM – Cub Scouts

Friday 11:30 AM-1:00 PM – Preschool Lunch Bunch

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist
9:00 AM – Sunday School
10:00 AM - Koinonia
10:30 AM – Worship
Seminary Sunday

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Pat Seachrist

Ron & Donna Denlinger

Don & Pat Miller

Rhonda Hartenstine

The Lehman family

Donna Wolf & Family

Sam Minder III

Rev. Bob Musser

Kathleen Sensenig Adams

Denise Huggins

Ron Becker

Arlene Hoxworth

Betty Fogle

Himelwright Family

Janice Jenkins

Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

Mid Gockley

Joann Peck

Mary Lou Shaab

George & Ellie Latsha

Betsy Bailey

Donna Zirkel

Betty Tyndall and family

Erika Otthofer

Joann & Dawn Garvin

Mary Lou Sturgis

Autumn Shenk

Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline

Jodi Keller

Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

Scott & Jane Owens

Carmen & Jerry Richards

Lainie Christensen

Hank Fox

Danielle Huggins Holbein

Michael McDonough

Rev. Ken & Marilyn Trauger

Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

John Shelsky

Bob & Marlyn Wible

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Zach Pfeifer (son of Denise Pfeifer)

Carol Rogers (mother of Jamy Shelly)

Jessica Clawser (daughter of Betty Tyndall)
Bishop Nathan Baxter and family (friends of Trinity Members)
Sharon Brown (sister of Sandy DeLong)
Brian Long (friend of George & Sandy DeLong)
Mike Dolinski (friend of George & Sandy DeLong)
Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty)
Ryan Dennes (son of Paula Dennes)
Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)
John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)
Rev. Pam Illick (pastor of Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg)
Nancy Scholl (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner)
David Haverstick (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner)
Dan Congelton (friend of Nancy Enders)
Audria Husted (granddaughter of Chuck & Sue Husted)
Cindy Greiman (friend of Betty Fogle)
Carmen Sweigert (friend of Rhonda Hartenstine)
Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)
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)
Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call)
The Herr Family (Former Trinity Preschool Family)
Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley)
David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)
Harvey Sick (friend of Judy Chapman)
Rev. Loy Garber (former seminarian)
James Malone & family
Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)
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)

OTHER CONCERNS

Victims of Fires in California

World Peace

THE FEBRUARY PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building. **Tomorrow is the deadline for the March Parish Post.**

NEXT SUNDAY IS SEMINARY SUNDAY: The United Church of Christ designates the last Sunday as Seminary Sunday. As part of Lancaster Theological Seminary's 200th anniversary this year, we are invited to celebrate our congregation's connection with Lancaster Seminary. Trinity has several members who are graduates of Lancaster Seminary and they will be assisting with the 10:30 service next Sunday!

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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Knit in God's Love Prayer Shawl Group will be meeting on February 18 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.



THURSDAY, February 27, 1:30 PM
Sign-up sheet on table outside office

2024 ANNUAL REPORTS are available on both floors of the church building!



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SUPPORT: We continue to support the medical mission project that was presented on Rally Day by Donna Geisler and her brother-in-law, Dr. Bill Lovett. Look for the display across from the church office. There are cans for you to place monetary donations. **We have already raised over \$5,100 toward our goal of \$5,000!**

A Message from Christian Education for February

New beginnings abound! New possibilities are near us just lurking around the corners waiting for us to discover them and respond!

Isaiah 43:18-19: “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” (NSRV)

God promises to do something new in our lives, turning challenges into pathways for progress!

Next Sunday, the Christian Education Committee will hold a special session in Isenberg Hall at 9:00 a.m. for all members of the congregation, teachers, and attendees of the Youth and Adult Sunday School classes past and present.

“Sunday Mornings & Beyond” is an opportunity for folks of all ages who would like to share in the shaping of our Christian Education program at Trinity. Prior to the COVID pandemic, there were book studies online led by various members of Trinity, clergy and lay alike. **What about providing an online experience again for those not able to make a Sunday morning class? Would mid-week gatherings be meaningful where, day or evening, either in person or presented in a recorded lecture, issues of faith be presented and discussed? What we have been used to in the past may or may not be pertinent to young families; the message of assurance the same; but the method of delivery different? How do we start with who we’ve been and be led by the Spirit into becoming something we’ve yet to be – finding a new way in the wilderness?**

The Christian Education Committee invites you to come and share the things that you have always valued, and continue to value in a Christian education that enables you and your family to belong in our faith community and that can be taken out in the world beyond!

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES: There will be two Ash Wednesday services (2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.) on March 5. We are in need of greeters for both services and ushers for the evening service. If you are willing to serve, please contact Carol or Pastor Chris.

2025 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **March 2, 9, 16 & 23.** Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **March 2, 16, 23 & 30.** 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.

MINISTRY SERVER SCHEDULE: We have created a serving schedule for the various volunteer ministries for January thru March. You can find them on the table in the Narthex.

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP happens every Sunday in Isenberg Hall at 10:00 a.m. 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.**

SCOUT FUNDRAISER: Cub Scout Pack 133 is selling flower bulbs. The money and orders are due on March 2. The order form is on the table across from the church office. Trinity is the charter organization for Cub Scout Pack 133 and they hold their meetings in Isenberg Hall.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY: We have already seen some snow this season! If it snows on a Saturday night or Sunday morning, we will try to hold worship services as long as the pastor can safely travel to the church. However, there may be times when we have to change the Sunday morning schedule or cancel services & Sunday School. The pastor and the Consistory president will make these decisions in enough time to inform you through the website, Trinity Facebook page, e-mail, and church voicemail. You can always contact the pastor if you have any questions. If we decide to hold services and Sunday School, we ask that you make a personal decision on whether you can attend. We don't want you to risk your health!

CONCERT FOR REFUGEES

BENEFITTING  **CWS** | *Lancaster*

FEATURING
CORTY BYRON
& FRIENDS

WITH GUEST
APPEARANCES
& MORE!

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 23RD
2PM



*ADDITIONAL
DONATIONS
ACCEPTED AT
TICKET PURCHASE
CHECKOUT



TELLUS 360 | 24 E KING ST

Save the date and support
CWS Lancaster after loss of vital funding!

Friday February 28th
8am to 8pm

Rachel's Cafe and Creperie
201 W Walnut St Lancaster, PA

10% of all sales will
be donated
to Church World
Services Lancaster



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




Trinity Concert Series

Presents

J. P. McCASKEY HIGH SCHOOL

VOICES

of Freedom



Trinity UCC

2340 State St., East Petersburg, PA 17520
www.trinityeastpete.org 717-569-1632



Sunday, March 23, 2025

Concert – 3:00 PM

Freewill Offering Benefits
McCasky Friends of Music
and Trinity's Music Ministry





TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Preschool



1-day 2-day 3-day 4-day Enrichment
Ages 2 – 6

2025-2026 School Year
57 years of experience since 1968

2340 State Street
East Petersburg, PA 17520
(717) 569-1632 or preschool@trinityeastpete.org
Website: trinityeastpete.org/preschool

Registration fees & information:

Registration for the new September school term is open. Registration fee of \$75 and application are accepted in the order received and are non-refundable. You are invited to call or email for information. All classes are held depending upon enrollment. Registration forms are available on the website.

First tuition, due August 15.

Tuition for the 2025-26 term is:

Tiny Tots — \$437.00 (\$48.56 per month)

2-Day Class — \$875.00 (\$97.22 per month)

3-Day Class — \$1,250.00 (\$138.89 per month)

4-Day Class — \$1,688.00 (\$187.56 per month)

1-Day Enrichment Class — \$480.00 (\$53.33 per month) Enrichment begins in October

Our Philosophy

Trinity U.C.C. Preschool provides a developmental approach to learning which cares for the whole child.

Special screening package for \$159 for our members includes:

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ FREE Hypertension Screening

**Call to schedule an appointment near you!
888-814-0466 and use code: HSCA001**



**March 8, 2025
Trinity U.C.C.
2340 State St.
East Petersburg**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the
wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—

who can understand it?

¹⁰I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Psalm 1**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:
12-20**

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38.

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