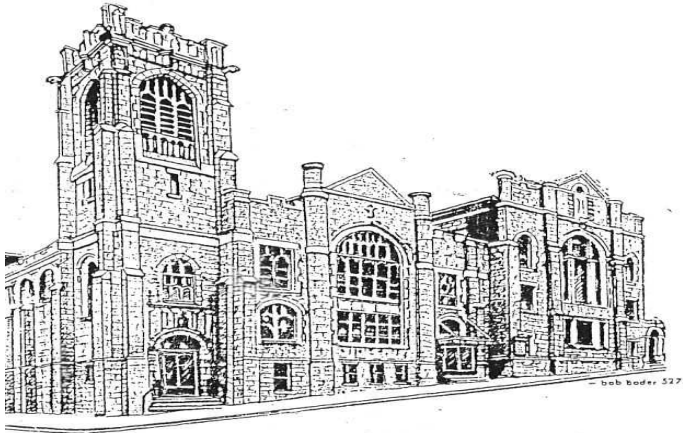


Trinity Lutheran Church
300 West Arch Street, Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone : (570) 622-9910 Fax: (570) 622-7451
Email : tlccares@trinitypottsville.org



17th Week of Pentecost
September 19-20, 2026

Worship can be viewed LIVE every Sunday at 9:30 am:

www.trinitypottsville.com

**Or we invite you to listen on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am
on the radio stations:**

WPPA 1360 AM OR 105.9 FM

Confession

Pastor/LLM:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

Amen.

Pastor/LLM:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation:

Amen.

Pastor/LLM:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Pastor/LLM:

Congregation:

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor/LLM:

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

Amen.

Prelude:

A Song of Rejoicing

Robert W. Thygerson

Entrance hymn:

#865 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

(Next Page)

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

865

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favor
to our forebears in distress.
Praise him, still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Tenderly he shields and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely as his mercy flows.

4 Angels help us to adore him,
who behold him face to face.
Sun and moon bow down before him;
all who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

Kyrie

Worship Assistant: In peace, let us pray to our Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Worship Assistant: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to our Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Worship Assistant: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of
God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to our Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Worship Assistant: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to our Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Worship Assistant: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Worship Assistant: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Congregation: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgement, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Lesson:	Jonah 3:10-4:11	Celebrate Insert
Psalm:	Psalm 145:1-8	Celebrate Insert
Second Lesson:	Philippians 1:21-30	Celebrate Insert

Congregation: **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.

Pastor/LLM: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 20th Chapter

Congregation: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel:	Matthew 20:1-16	Celebrate Insert
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Pastor/LLM: The gospel of our Lord.

Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon	Pastor Chris
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Hymn of the Day:	#732 Borning Cry	(Next Page)
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Borning Cry

732



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

Offering

Anthem:

**Jesus Christ is the Same (9:30am)
Senior Choir**

Cindy Berry

Offertory Response: #185 Create in Me

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away
from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the
joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O
God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

Prayer Hymn-#752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace**

Prayers

**Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.**

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor/LLM:

The Lord be with you.

Congregation:(sung)

And also with you.

Pastor/LLM:

Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:(sung)

We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor/LLM:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation:(sung)

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor/LLM:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection open to us the way of everlasting life. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation:(sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor/LLM:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pastor/LLM:

The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

Congregation:

And also with you.

Pastor/LLM:

Greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

Hymns during communion:

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: #497 Strengthen for Service, Lord

Strengthen for Service, Lord

497



1 Streng-then for ser - vice, Lord, the hands that ho - ly
2 The tongues that sang your ho - ly name now purge of
3 And may the feet that walked your courts be nev - er



things have ta - ken; and let the ears that heard your
all de - cep - tion; keep bright the eyes that saw your
lured to wan - der; but lead the faith - ful nour - ished



word to false - hood nev - er wak - en.
love and sharp - en their per - cep - tion.
here to jour - ney on in splen - dor.

Pastor/LLM:

May the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Strengthen You and Keep You in His Grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Canticle Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with
shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

**Pastor/LLM: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace
In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.**

Dismissal

**Worship Assistant: Go in peace to Love and Serve the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn: #674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

(Next Page)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

674



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*God be with you till we meet again, By His counsels guide uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.*

Organ Postlude

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MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Trinity has been so blessed by the generosity of our members, family members and friends through their monetary donations in the form of memorials or honorariums.

Each week, individuals have an opportunity to support our Worship Ministries by sponsoring altar flowers, bulletins, and radio/digital broadcasts in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Altar Flowers are \$35.00, and Bulletins, and Digital Ministry are \$30.00 each; Radio Ministry is \$50.00 (Radio Ministry half-sponsorships are also available). (Please contact the church office at 570-622-9910 to reserve your date.)

Altar flowers provided by: Forget Me Not Florist

Altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Nancy Weigand on her birthday, September 23rd, by her daughter, Cindy and Family.

Children's Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of deceased class members, by Craft Class.

Radio Ministry is presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Carl & Carolyn Watters on their 59th wedding anniversary, September 24th,
Also in honor of Charles and Arlene Sibbett who are celebrating their 63rd wedding anniversary on September 21st.

MEMORIALS

Elevator Fund

In memory of Albert Schneider by Karen Rismiller Shuman & Ross Rismiller.

Digital Ministry

In honor of Robert Thomas' commissioning as Licensed Lay Minister of our church by Karen Rismiller Shuman and Ross Rismiller.

***STATEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL MISSION
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH***

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world. We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

***Adopted by the Congregation
January 25, 1998***

Prayer List

Members of Trinity with immediate concerns: Donna Albert, Andrea Antolick, Cindy Bohr, John Bordonaro, Gary Bruen, Mike Ciccanti, Susan Fees, Carolyn Gauntlett, Arline Hufnagle, Richard Kline, Thelma Mansfield, Missy White Marshall, Barbara Miller, Donna Rohrbaugh, Owen Rossachacj, Cindy Seltzer, Ron Schaeffer, Peg Schappell, Barbara Wagner, Helen Walasavage

Members of Trinity with ongoing concerns: Donald Andrews, Twila Bair, Dolores Barton, Ruth Bensinger, Nancy Berger, Brian Bohr, Josephine Cicero, Carole Coyle, Tom Coyne, Virginia Coyne, Susan D'Ambrosio, Brenda Denning, Jodi Denning, Tony Downey, Paul Ebert, III, Debbie Ebert, Joel Ebling, Benjamin Evans, Wesley Evans, Nancy Fellows, Sharon Fessler, Margaret Gretskey, Jeff Holley, Diane O'Leary-Hughes, Ruth Ann Juranis, Ruth Ann Kerrick, Jodi Klein, Kathy Kritak, Christina Linder, Betsey Lord, Dennis Lord, Andrea Madara, William Manness, Margie Mataka, Megan McGeever, Brandon Miller, Adam Morrow, Len Moser, Chester Moyer, Ray Moyer, Collin Pryce, Marilyn Reed, Suzanne Rich, Ruth Russell, Fay Russo, Paula Ryan, Jill Schaeffer, Linda Seiwel, Harold Seltzer, Ida Sheeler, Jack Shuey, Donald Smith, Margaret Snyder, Sally Spotts, Barbara Staller, Terry Stank, Pastor Frank Stinner, Richard Stoltz, Colin Studlack, Jill Weaver, Brock Weber, Ellen Wesnoski, David White, The Willard Family, Mary Jane Wilson, Sissy Wilson, Pat Wishousky, Donna Wood, Karen Wood, Damon Yost

Shut-Ins: Merle Amos, Delight & Paul Ashembrier, Jeanette Augustine, Leah Brokhoff, Marsha Ehlers, Mary Evans, Helen Harvey, Carole Kline, Nancy Schriner, Carolyn Spiess, Ann Spotts, Edna Uranko, Carolyn Wire, Kathryn Wodack

Nursing Home/Personal Care Residents: Yvonne Blankenhorn, Earlamay Downing, Hope Fisher, Tom Fredericks, Louise Gradwell, Dianna Hutton, Mary Leary, Linda Shollenberger, Judy Thomas.

Military Personnel: Jacob Barton, Savannah Butler, Elizabeth Chattin, Kevin Gregory, Sean Grube, Seth Grube, Joshua Hager, Wil Hanson, Ashton Muncy Humphrey, Aaron Oswald, Zachary Reichert

Family Members/Friends: Joseph Alfonsi, Michael Allen, George Allison, Mackensie Archibald, Bonnie Baker, Martha Balboa, Bob & Christine Baum, David Bechtel, Dennis Benjamin, Tawnya Bickelman, Heather Boltz, Xavier Bowman, Robert Bruce, Joan Koslosky Buehner, Jerry & Brenda Christensen, Aiden Corby, Jean McHugh Cosby, Hayden Daubert, Donna Dayson, Jackie Dercole, Monique Derfler, Dolores Ege, Neil Eisenhard, John Fees, Ryan Fees, Arlene Fehr, Carol Fenton, Michelle Furman, Jeff Gates, Jamie Johnson, Connie Hale, Maureen Hill, Shalee Hindes-Ball, Melinda Hinnershitz, Brenda Hostetter, Elizabeth Brady Jones, Warren Jefferson, Lindsay Kastner, Landon Killian, Kaylynn Klunk, Carol Lasco, Pastor Burlington Latshaw III, Samantha Lease, Margaret Ledford, Julia Leibensperger, Regnal Leibensperger, Cindy Liddick, Barry Long, Ronald W. Lord, Helen Love, James Lucas, Christine Masteller, Maria Masteller, Lenny McHugh, Margaret Meyer, Jess Marie Michael, Liz Navitsky, Brenda Nungst, John Olfhinski, Pastor Mary Owens, Carolyn Pahira, John Passierb, Patrice, Joy Pater-son, Aimee Penny, Pastor Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Sue Petresky, Joe Piazza, Robert Pomian, Ava Potts, Evelyn Potts, Alice Powers, Cheryl Powis, Kathy Pritchard, Daniel Prutzman, James Pryce, Jr., Debbie Reed, Stacy Reed, Elaine Riotto, Tina Robinson, Derek Roland, Nancy Roshannon, Don Roth, Pastor Stephanie Roth, Andrew Rothermel, Kay Russell, Angel Saez, William Schuettler, Linda Schweigert, Sandy Schlemmer, Anne Schock, Donna Schumacher Katei Schumacker-Cawley, Cameron Schuster, Julia Shemanski, Pastor Jim Seifert, Ethan Selfridge, John Shuman, John Smolock, John Sullivan, Patti Travisano, Charlie Thompson, Faye Tom, Steven Tom, Tammy Uhrin, Gloria Uzick, Charlie Wagner, Carol Weiss, Jean Wenger, Eilene Witmier, Kelly & Jason Yondura, Donna Zermeno, Emily Zick

Those who mourn: Especially the family and friends of Caralyn Mummert.

**Members are encouraged to call the church office to place individuals on our prayer list. If an individual is not a member of Trinity, we will place them on the Family Members/Friends list for a period of two weeks. If an individual needs to remain on longer, please call the church office. Thank you!*

TRINITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Saturday, Sept. 19	6:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, Sept. 20	9:30 am	Worship
Monday, Sept. 21	6:00 pm	Adult Volleyball
	6:30 pm	Bible Study: Women of the Bible
Tuesday, Sept. 22	10:00 am	Exercise Club
	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 23	10:00 am	Weaver's Orchard & Farmer's Market Trip
Friday, Sept. 25	10:00am	Exercise Club

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pastor/LLM</u>	<u>Worship Assistant</u>	<u>Lector</u>
Saturday, Sept. 19	Pastor Chris		
Sunday, Sept. 20	Pastor Chris/ Lay Minister Bob	Madelyn Amburn	Brandon Miller

“THE CONNECTING LINK”

Sunday mornings, WPPA, 1360 AM or 105.9 FM at 11:00 am

Trinity Lutheran Guest Account

Password: TrinityWIFI
(password is case sensitive)

E-Mail Addresses:

Pastor Chris Rothharpt, Senior Pastor: crothharpt@trinitypottsville.org

Bob Thomas, LLM: rthomas@trinitypottsville.org

Janet Little, Administrative Assistant: jlittle@trinitypottsville.org

Melissa Amburn, Administrative Assistant, Senior/Family Coordinator:
mamburn@trinitypottsville.org

Main email address: tlccares@trinitypottsville.org

Barbara Miller, Church Council President

Michael Kiehner, Organist & Choir Director

Tom Leshner, Sexton

Cathy Koons, Receptionist

Robert Thomas, a LLM, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation.



Celebrate

Sunday, September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Jonah 3:10—4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush and

made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Psalm

Psalm 145:1-8; refrain, Ps. 145:8



I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.

²Every day ¹ will I bless you
and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.

³Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another
and shall de- ¹ clare your power. **R**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love. **R**

Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner

worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give

them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

TLC September 19—September 25, 2026

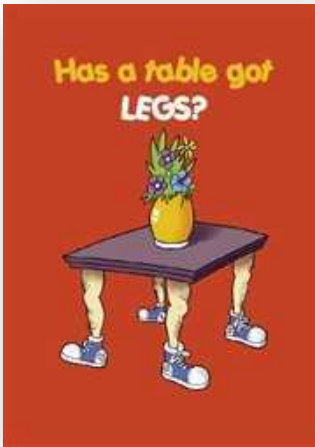
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Bulletins: 9/27

Radio Ministry: 9/27

Digital Ministry: 9/27

If you would like to sponsor any of the dates above, please call
Melissa in the church office (570) 622-9910



Apparently, YES!

As the 8 tables (plastic, 6 foot)
Bought for Trinity Hall several years
ago have all disappeared.
Thankfully, one of them recently found
its way home. If you see any of the
wayward children, please encourage
them to do likewise.

New Members Classes

Sunday, October 25th &
November 1st after
worship, we will meet in
the church lounge.

Sunday, November 8th
during the 9:30 worship

service, new members will be welcomed into the
Congregation.

Please see Pastor Chris if you have any questions or call the
church office (570) 622-9910.



SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

Prayer Shawl Ministry

To date, 73 shawls have been distributed to recipients experiencing difficult times. Please keep that ministry in mind if you identify someone in that situation. Anyone is welcome to pick up and deliver a shawl/blanket/lap cover to anyone in need. Please just sign out in log so each recipient doesn't receive duplicates. As pages are filled, please just place new one on top, but filled pages are always available. Anyone talented in crocheting and knitting is welcome to participate so this ministry can continue. Start-up supplies are available in the Prayer Shawl room off Main Sunday School for your use. Thank you.

Recycling Projects

Please continue to save newspapers, prescription and non-prescription glasses and sunglasses. We are also restarting our collection for pull-tabs from aluminum cans. All your efforts to date have been greatly appreciated and will continue till the end of the year.

Operation Christmas Child

We will be participating in Operation Christmas Child again this year. If you are unfamiliar with this outreach, Samaritans Purse takes the boxes that you fill with items for the child and delivers them to the children in the most remote areas of the world. Samaritans Purse shares the joy of being a follower of Jesus to the local people. It is a wonderful outreach program to participate in, and in the past has been very successful outreach here at our church. Thank you to those who participated in the past and we look forward to another successful outreach this year.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Who is ready for an ADVENTURE?

Join us as we kick off our new Sunday School year! Classes are getting ready for all age groups, offering a great space to learn, grow, and connect as we travel back in time to experience Jesus alive today through the stories of the Bible, with snacks and crafts after our story time.

Called To Freedom - Called To Serve presentation (Celebrating Americas 250th anniversary)

Sunday September 20th at 10:30AM in the Main Sunday School Room

Confirmation, First Communion, and Sunday School orientation Sunday, Sept. 27th at 10:30am.

Sunday School and Confirmation/First communion classes will start Sunday Oct 4th at 10:30am

STAY TUNED FOR MORE UPDATES...

Come and Join the ADVENTURE!!

Speak with Pastor Chris, Minister Robert Thomas, Minister Candidate Brandon Miller,
or Christian Ed chairperson Debbie Sheehan if you would like to volunteer...

Our kids would love YOUR help!

"Let the next generation know the Lord." — Psalm 78:4

SENIOR/FAMILY MINISTRY

September

Join us on Wednesday, September 23rd as we travel to Weaver's Orchard and Farm Market. We will be stopping for lunch. We will still depart Trinity at 10am. ***** this is a change from the newsletter. Change has been made due to office vacations.*** Also coming up on Tuesday, September 29th we are having a Football Tailgate Night with a Maroons presentation by the Sch. County Historical Society at 6:30pm. \$7.00 admission includes presentation, food and drinks.

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Movie Night: *Luther* October 25th 4pm Main Sunday School Room. Come see the remarkable true story of Martin Luther—his faith, courage, and the stand that changed history.

Upcoming Church Events Cont.

Bible Study: Women of the Bible starting Thursday, September 10th, then Monday, September 14, 21, 28, and ending on Thursday, October 1. Bible Study will take place at 6:30pm. If interested see Minister Bob. All are welcome, come as you are, grow in faith with us.



Circle V

October: On the October 1, 2026 meeting we will have a program by Martha Fletcher, dietitian at Life Geisinger. The hostesses are Circle V Leaders.

November: **Program is changed due to Hemlock Hannah's personal schedule she will be unavailable until our March 4, 2027 meeting. November Program TBA
The hostesses will be announced later.

December: Thursday, December 3rd meeting will be our Christmas Gift Exchange Meeting.

Frieda Hoh

October: On October 20th at 6:30pm we will have our Rummageless Rummage Sale. Each member is asked to donate \$5. Hostesses to be determined.

November: On November 17th at 6:30pm we will be making Christmas cards for our shut-ins. Hostess is Susan Morgan.

December: Christmas Party, date & place to be determined.