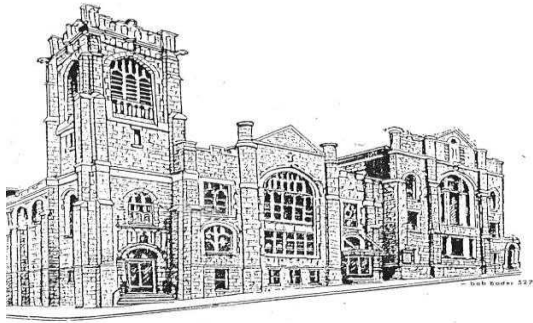


Trinity Lutheran Church
300 West Arch St. Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone (570) 622-9910 Fax (570) 622-7451
Email tlccares@trinitypottsville.org



19th Week of Pentecost

October 3-4, 2026

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

www.trinitypottsville.com

Or we invite you to listen on Sunday mornings at 11:00am

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: Most merciful God,

Congregation: 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: Aria Semplice Sigfrid Karg-Elert
 Entrance Hymn: #858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

PRAISE, THANKSGIVING

858

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign-ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a-dore him!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal-va-tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea-gle, up-lift-ing, sus-tain-ing
 sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy shall dai-ly at-tend you;
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais-es be-fore him!

Let all who hear now to his tem-ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need-ful has been
 Pon-der a-new what the Al-might-y can do
 Let the a-men sound from his peo-ple a-gain.

Join-ing in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
 sent by his gra-cious or-dain-ing?
 if with his love he be-friend you,
 Glad-ly for-ev-er a-dore him!

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.

Congregation: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia,

alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7 Celebrate Insert
Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15 Celebrate Insert
Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14 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 21st Chapter
Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46 Celebrate Insert

Pastor/LLM: The gospel of our Lord.
Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Chris

Hymn of the Day: You are the Seed Insert

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 are made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Offering

Anthem: Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

Gilbert M. Martin Senior Choir (9:30am)

Offertory Response: #182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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: #522 As We Gather at Your Table

(Next Page)

As We Gather at Your Table



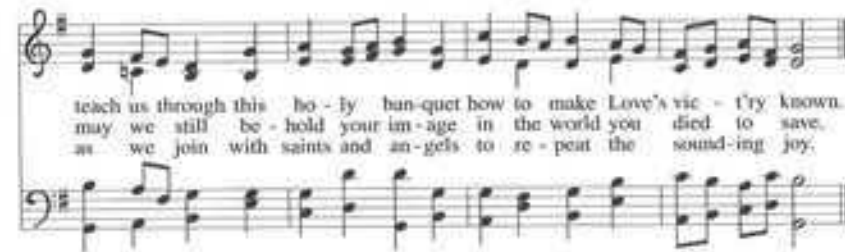
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife,
 where tri-umphant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save,
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy,

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: #632 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

632



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

*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

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

Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of our family's September birthdays, our daughter, Sharon McCarthy 9/29 and our grandchildren, Jake Wishousky on 9/7, Lauren McCarthy on 9/19, by Pat Wishousky.

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

MEMORIALS

Elevator Fund

In memory of our mother, Margaret Reed on her birthday, October 11th by daughter, Peggy, son, Gerry & family.

Memorial Fund

In loving memory of my husband of 56 years, Donald Burns, who passed away 8/27/2019 by wife, Mary Ann.

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, Barbara Miller, Donna Rohrbaugh, Owen Rossachaj, 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, Nancy Fellows, Sharon Fessler, Margaret Gretskey, Jeff Holley, Diane O'Leary-Hughes, Ruth Ann Juranis, Ruth Ann Kerrick, Jodi Klein, Kathy Kritak, Sandy Lewars, Christina Linder, Betsey Lord, Dennis Lord, Andrea Madara, William Manness, Missy White Marshall, 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, Richard 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,
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, Caitlin Sheehan Gaffney, Jeff Gates, Jamie Johnson,
Connie Hale, Patricia Hallman, Maureen Hill, Shalee Hindes-Ball, Melinda
Hinnershitz, Tim Holden, 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, Joy Paterson, Aimee Penny, Pastor
Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Sue Petresky, Joe Piazza, Ava Potts, Evelyn Potts, Alice
Powers, Cheryl Powis, Kathy Pritchard, Daniel Prutzman, James Pryce, Jr.,
Stacy Reed, Elaine Riotto, Tina Robinson, Derek Roland, Nancy Roshannon, Don
Roth, Pastor Stephanie Roth, Andrew Rothermel, Kay Russell, Angel Saez,
Michael Scharadin, William Schuettler, Linda Schweigert, Sandy Schlemmer,
Anne Schock, Donna Schumacher Katei Schumacker-Cawley, Cameron Schuster,
Julia Shemanski, Pastor Jim Seifert, Ethan Selfridge, John Smolock, John
Sullivan, Patti Travisano, Faye Tom, Steven Tom, Tammy Uhrin, Gloria Uzick,
Charlie Wagner, Karen Ward, Carol Weiss, Jean Wenger, Eilene Witmier, Kelly &
Jason Yondura, Donna Zermeno,
Emily Zick

**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, October 3, 2026: 6:00pm Worship

Pastor Chris preaching.

Sunday, October 4, 2026: 9:30 am Worship

Pastor Chris, preaching Minister Bob. Zach Jefferson, Worship Assistant,
Pat Wishousky, Lector

10:30 am Sunday School, First Communion, & Confirmation

Monday, October 5, 2026: 6:00pm Adult Volleyball

Tuesday, October 6, 2026: 10:00am Exercise Club

5:30pm Staff & Records Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2026: 9:00am Kitchen Kettle Trip

Friday, October 9, 2026: 10:00am Exercise Club

"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, 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

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*

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



Celebrate

Sunday, October 4, 2026
19th Sunday after Pentecost

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his
vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my
vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

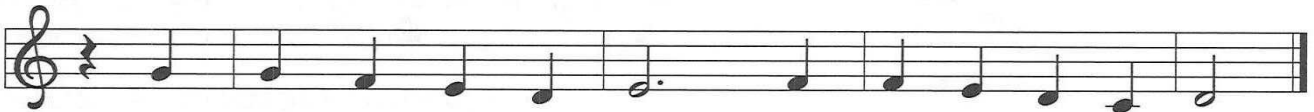
⁶I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers
and thorns;

I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Psalm

Psalm 80:7-15; refrain, Ps. 80:14, 15



Look down from heav'n, O God; be - hold and tend this vine.

Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁸**You have brought a vine ¹ out of Egypt;**

you cast out the nations and ¹ planted it.

⁹You cleared the ¹ ground for it;

it took root and ¹ filled the land.

¹⁰**The mountains were covered ¹ by its shadow**

and the towering cedar trees ¹ by its boughs. R

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils ¹ to the sea

and its branches ¹ to the river.

¹²**Why have you broken ¹ down its wall,**

so that all who pass by pluck ¹ off its grapes?

¹³The wild boar of the forest has ¹ ravaged it,

and the beasts of the field have ¹ grazed upon it.

¹⁴**Turn now, O ¹ God of hosts,**

look ¹ down from heaven;

¹⁵behold and ¹ tend this vine;

preserve what your right ¹ hand has planted. **R**

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one

that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a

miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?'

⁴³"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

TLC September 26—October 2, 2026

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Altar Flowers: 10/4, 10/25

Bulletins: 10/25

Radio Ministry: 10/4, 10/18, 10/25

Digital Ministry: 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25

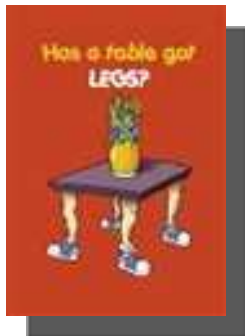
If you would like to sponsor any of the dates above, please call

Melissa

at 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.

National First Responders Day

We will once again be collecting prepackaged snacks for the first responders. They provide such an incredible service for us, they deserve to be recognized. We will be collecting from now until mid October. We will be delivering the snacks on 10/28/2026.

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.

**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!!

SENIOR/FAMILY MINISTRY

October 8th we will be heading to Kitchen Kettle to do some shopping. It is a great way to do some Christmas shopping!

October 15th come out to lunch with us at Roman Delight on Rt. 61 in Orwigsburg. **October 21st** join us in the St. Clair Halloween Parade. We need people to walk and pass out candy and some to ride on the bus. Sign up in the Church Office. **October 27th** we also will be once again participating in the Merchants Trick or Treat in down town from 4-6. Then we will be in Pottsville's Halloween Parade the same night. If you would like to join us for any of these activities, please sign up in the office or call (570) 622-9910.

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.

November 7th we are looking to do a kids Santa themed breakfast. We will be looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please call the church office or see Mike Vigoda

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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.

You Are the Seed
Sois la semilla

1 You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a star that will
 2 You are the flame that will light - en the dark, so re - splen - dent with
 3 You are the life that will nur - ture the plant; you're the waves in a

shine in the night;
hope, faith and love;
tur-bu-lent sea;

you are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a
you are the shep-herds to lead the whole world to
yes-ter-day's yeast is be-gin-nig to rise, a

bea-con to glow in the dark. You are the dawn that will
 wa- ters and pas- tures of peace. "You are the friends that I
 new loaf of bread it will yield. There is no place for a

Handwritten musical score for the hymn "The Wheat and the Tares". The score is written on two staves, Treble and Bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the bass line is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are written below the Treble staff. The score includes a final double bar line and a repeat sign.

Lyrics:

bring a new day; you're the wheat that will bear gold-en grain;
 chose for my-self, you're the word that I want to pro-claim.
 cit-y to hide, there's no moun-tain can cov-er its might;

You Are the Seed

Text: Casareo Gabarain

Tune: Casareo Gabarain

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WITNESS

you are a sting and a soft, gen-tle touch, to wit-ness where-
You are the new reign of God built on rock, where jus-tice and
let your light shine so that your lov-ing works give hon-or and

G A⁷ D Refrain A D
 ev - er you go, Go, my friends, go to the world, pro -
 truth are at home." Be, my friends, a loy - al wit - ness,
 glo - ry to God. Id, a - mi - gos, por el mun - do,
 Sed, a - mi - gos, mis ter - ti - gos

claim the great love of God;
 from the dead Christ a - rose;
 a - nun-cian-do el a - mor,
 de mí re - su - rec - ción.

mes - sen - gers to tell the way of life,
 "Lo, I'll be with you for - ev - er - more,
 men - sa - je - ros de la vi - da,
 Id lle - van - do mi pre - sen - cia;

peace and par - don for all, till the end of the world."
 de la paz y el per - dón, con vo - so - tros es - toy.

Text: Cesário Gabarain, 1936-1993; tr. Raquel Guédez-Achón, b. 1923 and Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1944-1992, alt.
Music: Cesário Gabarain, 1936-1993; arr. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1944-1992

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