

Trinity United Church of Christ
60 East High Street, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325
717-334-7266 www.gettysburgtrinityucc.org



March 15, 2026
8AM and 10:30AM Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

Lent is a time of intensive preparation for us all. We study the world in its reality, its temptations, its shadows, its betrayals. We fast and we pray and engage in spiritual preparation to follow Jesus faithfully to the end. We open ourselves to Jesus' love; we try to live up to it. All of Lent leads up to holy Week, the week in which Jesus enters Jerusalem and faces death. It begins with Palm Sunday, heads to the meal in the Upper Room and ends with those closest to Christ witnessing his death on the cross.

Purple is the color of Lent, but Holy Week is framed in the red and black of the Passion of Palm Sunday and Good Friday. Lent may provide a time for community and individual preparation for the following of Jesus on the most difficult of paths, the path of self-sacrificing love.

Please stand as you are able; **BOLD print - congregational response*

TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

PRELUDE – “The Lord’s My Shepherd” with “The Lord is My Shepherd”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God summons us to wake up and see. Light has come to lead us to all that is good.

Our eyes are opened to God’s goodness.

We seek to live as children of the light.

God sees beyond our outward appearance. God knows the intent of our hearts.

We are here to find out what is pleasing to God.

We want to know what is right and true.

God listens to all who worship sincerely. Praise God with openness and obedience.

We seek to know and follow God’s will.

This is the day to do the works of God.

*HYMN #252 “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

*PRAYER

Holy God, we sense your involvement in our lives.

Like a shepherd, you watch over us and provide abundantly beyond our needs.

You lead us in right paths when we are tempted to go astray.

You refresh us with living water that overflows with your generosity.

Let your light shine on us now to reveal truth we have not seen

and open our eyes to possibilities we may not have realized.

May we be receptive to learn from you and from one another. Amen.

*RESPONSE TO PRAYER #188 “Give Me a Clean Heart”

Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.

God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.

For I’m not worthy of all these blessings.

Give me a clean heart and I will follow you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of surprises, we know that we do not often perceive the world as you do.

**We look to the flashy fame, the grand gestures,
optimal achievements, and unreachable standards.**

Yet, despite our misguided reach toward perfection, you give us glimpses of your grandeur and grace. Surprise us yet again this day, O God, that in our complacency which allows us to drift towards the same old ways of faith that we may be transformed anew. **Provide us with a new cup of oil that we may be anointed by your love so that we may set out into your world to bless and anoint others. In the name of the One whose love and peace make all things new we pray. Amen.**

(Moment for Silent Prayer)

KYRIE #750

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, receive the anointing of God's tender love and forgiveness this day. For God's care and compassion for you abides in your heart today and always.

We rise and set out restored and renewed. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:00am)

"God Reign's o'er All the Earth"

Speros Marinos

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

ANTHEM (10:30am)

"Psalm 23"

Senior Choir

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent).

Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to

hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

SERMON

"Things That Remain Unseen!"

HYMN #475 "God's Eye Is on the Sparrow" (*remain seated*)

PRAYER/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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed #881

**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 again 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**

***CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS
*OGHS Video***

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #403 (v1)
*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN #479 "God Is My Shepherd"**

***FINAL BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE:**

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Portions of Today's liturgy have been adapted from:

Come Peaceably: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday in Lent were written by Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott,
Conference Minister for the Indiana Kentucky Conference of the
United Church of Christ and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

And from:

Taught By Love; Worship Resources for Year A. Lavon Baylor. The Pilgrim Press. 2002.

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PRELUDE: *The Lord's My Shepherd with The Lord Is My Shepherd.* Tune by Jessie Seymour Irvine. Arranged by Heather Sorenson. ©2019 Lorenz Publishing Co.

HYMNS: *God Is My Shepherd.* Text by Scottish Psalter. Adaptations by Lavon Bayler. Tune by James Leith Macbeth Bain. Arranged by Gordon Jacob. Word adaptations ©1992 The Pilgrim Press. Arrangement ©1934, Oxford University Press.

ANTHEM: *Psalm 23.* Arranged by Valerie J. Crescenzo. © 1999 Hinshaw Music.

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**For an updated prayer list, please check the front table of the Gathering Area.
Please call the office to be removed.**

Our sincere condolences to Andrew Hoffman, and Deb & Jim Hoffman in the death of John Harrison Hoffman, son and grandson, who died Friday, March 6th. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, March 14th at 11:00am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1170 Kohler Mill Road, New Oxford, PA

ALTAR FLOWERS: In loving memory of my mother, Joyce Rothermel by Becky Hughes

March 15th (TODAY) is the last day to complete the Worship Service Survey. Forms are in the Gathering Area. Please complete and drop in the box next to the forms.

March 15th ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS) – Rebuilding lives with love. When you give to OGHS, you are sharing your love offering to the world-through disaster relief, economic development, or essentials like food, water, and shelter. Your love is shared in practical, life sustaining, and transformative ways. Flyers and giving envelopes in the pews and Gathering Area.

CARES DINNER – March 17th at 6:00pm. Helpers (7-8) are needed and should arrive at the Trinity kitchen at 4 pm to help prepare salad and other items. The meal will be served at the CARES location at 6 pm. Main course food will be ordered for pick up.

MISSION TRIP PLANNING MEETING – Thursday, March 19th 6pm.

YOUTH BIBLE AND BREW – Sunday March 22nd 6:00pm-8:00pm at Waldo's & Company. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate. We will enjoy each other's company, have some caffeine, and stimulating conversation. Bring at least 1 friend. Sign-up in Gathering Area.

PALM SUNDAY DINNER – March 29, 2026 following the 10:30am service. Sign-up sheet is located in the Gathering Area. Menu: Baked Haddock, Macaroni & Cheese and Dutch Lettuce Salad. Please bring a dessert to share.

FROM THE HISTORY TASK FORCE: New Pictures have been placed in the History Cabinet depicting more recent confirmation classes of Pastor Fox. Can you find anyone you know?

5th SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: RESULTS:

March – Adams Rescue Mission

May – Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen

August – Adams County Library System

November – South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP)

A total of 2,058 diapers and 1088 wipes were recently delivered to Tender Care. There is a need for sizes 5 – 6 diapers. Thank you for your support and please continue to donate diapers for this much needed community mission.

ATTENDANCE 3/8: 8:00am 21 10:30am 40 On-line 121 TOTAL 182

FINANCE REPORT 3/8:

Envelope Offering Need: \$37,120.00

Property Fund Need: \$3,850.00

Envelope Offering Rec'd: \$34,267.50

Property Offering Rec'd: \$1,682.50

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, 3/17: 12:30pm Personnel - *Library*
1:15pm – Spiritual Council - *Library*
2:00pm Consistory – *Fellowship Hall*
6:00pm C.A.R.E.S Dinner

Wednesday, 3/18: NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

6:00pm Worship - *Library*

7:00pm Choir - *Sanctuary*

Thursday, 3/19: 1:30pm Housing Summit – *Christ Lutheran Church*

6:00pm Mission Trip planning meeting

Friday, 3/20: 9:30am Flutes – *Fellowship Hall*

11:30am Lunch w/Friends – *Heartland*

Next Sunday, 3/22: 6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Bible & Brew – *Waldo's*

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Jen Mickelson 8:00am

Sara Shank

Mark Luckenbaugh

Suhua Dong, Neil Hollabaugh

Sonny Coble 8:00am

Bonnie Smith

Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Russell Bailey,

Suhua Dong, Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Ruth Krietz, Terry Krietz, Garrison Redding,
Nina Redding, Cindy Kidd, Bette Bunce, Chris Swinn.

Lenore O'Rourke 10:30am

10:30am

Buck Harvey 10:30am

Pastor

Liturgists

Organist/Choir Director

Percussionist

Greeters

Usher

Acolyte

Tech Team