

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



September 6, 2026
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Summer Biblical Character Series – **Peter**
Communion

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Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

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

**All words provided on the screen*

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TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

PRELUDE MUSIC “For the Beauty of the Earth”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

What does our worship need?
**Quiet where faith can grow,
Song that blossoms hope,
Scripture that remembers love,
Honest words to untangle a small length of knotty existence,
Gifts offering service of the heart.**

Who shall come to our worship?
**All who have prayer in the center of their lives
and all who are lonely for the touch of God.**

***HYMN #28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”**

***PRAYER**

**As we rise in the morning, Beloved One, may we don garments of your truth.
May we wear the mantle of your protective blessing, and shoes
that will guide us on your path. May our every breath be a prayer,
so that we might truly and fully proclaim the mystery of the Gospel.
It is through you and with you that we design our day. Amen.**

***SUNG RESPONSE “For the Beauty of the Earth” (v-1)**

***For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Master Has Come”

Catherine Hammons

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

²Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

⁴yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

⁸the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

⁹the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are

the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Sermon **Peter** (Foundation of the Church)

*HYMN #347 **“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #887 **The New Creed**

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God’s presence, to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,

crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

*CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS

As we celebrate what we have been given, may we remember not all of our siblings in Christ have adequate resources on which to thrive.

May we give, hoping it is shared in this light.

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE #785

We give you but your own, what-e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bless these gifts O Gracious and Loving God.

Use them and us to sustain the creation

you so graciously entrusted to our care. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

(All are welcome at the Table of Remembrance!

We use Gluten Free bread and grape juice.)

CALL TO COMMUNE

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God.

From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is praised among us.

God in us and around us,

we are not alone, you meet us right where we are.

COMMUNION PRAYER

We are a community of love. Bound in service and ministry,
living lives of connectivity, members of the body of Christ.

When one member is honored, all rejoice together

joining our hearts in celebration. God has given great honor to the body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – all are made to drink of one spirit.

May the gifts of Christ: teaching, healing, welcoming, reaching, feeding,
abound among us today and always. Together we pray what you taught us:

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Jesus, your ministry fed those around you nourishing the bodies of your friends
and followers. On hillsides and sea shores, at lavish banquets and simple

celebrations, you provided. On the last night with your friends

you took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to your disciples and said,

"This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,
**"This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood.
As often as you drink it, do it in remembrance of me."**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Bless these gifts of grain and grapes. Bless us, the many members of your body.
Send your Holy Spirit upon this meal that it may nourish us for countless days.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please come forward as the Usher directs you up the center aisle. We will form a semi-circle around the Communion Table. You will be individually served the bread first and then the cup. After we commune, the pastor will offer a benediction. Place your cups in the tray provided, return to your seat.)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God, you feed us with the living bread and fill our cup to overflowing. Thank you for your generous gifts that sustain us through uncertain times, that strengthen us as we strive to be guides for your people. Praises to you, living God, until we gather at your table once more. Amen.

*HYMN #386 "The Church's One Foundation"

*FINAL BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

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Portions of today's liturgy have been adapted from the following:

UCC Book of Worship. New York. 1986. *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion.* John Knox Press. Louisville. 2014. *Touch Holiness.* Duck and Tirabassi, Editors. Pilgrim Press. Cleveland. 2012.

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HYMNS: *For the Beauty of the Earth.* Text St.1-3 by Folliott S. Pierpoint. St 4 by Miriam Therese Winter.

Tune: Conrad Kocher. Adaptation: William H. Monk. Words stanza 4 ©1993 Medical Mission Sisters.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ. Text: Fre Kaan. Tune: Jamaican Folk song. Adaptations: Doreen Potter.

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For the Beauty of the Earth. Tune: Conrad Kohler. Arrange: Pepper Choplin. ©2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *The Master Has Come.* Tune: The Ash Grove. Arr. by Joseph Martin. Words: Sarah Dorney.

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The spaces Trinity has on the Housing Authority parking lot will be closed the week-end of September 11, 12, 13 as they are repainting and sealing the lot.

ALTAR FLOWERS: In memory of Edward Warren by his wife Ruby Warren.

THANK YOU for the beautiful *Get Well* cards you sent. I love each and everyone of them!
Bonnie Smith.

PRAYER LIST: A list is available in the Gathering Area when it is updated. Please call the office to be removed from the list.

****USHERS NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER** – please sign up in Gathering Area.

ALTAR CARE: “a few good people” are needed to Care for the Altar to prepare communion, change paraments and candles and order Altar Flowers. Please call Nancy MacMeekin 717-334-2111 for more information or if you would be interested in helping

BOOK STUDY: Thursday, September 17th from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. We will meet in the Gathering Area. The book we will be reading is “Memorial Days” by Geraldine Brooks. *A 2025 memoir by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks. It explores the sudden death of her husband, journalist and author Tony Horwitz, who passed away after collapsing on a Washington, D.C., sidewalk on Memorial Day in 2019.* **If you would like to join the group, please contact Jane Malone**

COME TO CHURCH - STAY FOR LUNCH: September 20th following 9:30am worship.
Menu: Taco Bowls, Fresh Seasonal Fruit. Sign-up in the Gathering Area to be sure enough food is prepared.

HERITAGE FESTIVAL: Sunday, September 20th 12:00pm – 4:00pm at the Gettysburg Rec Park. This annual celebration showcases the many cultures that enrich Adams County through music, food, art, and community traditions. Guided by the festival’s motto, “*Sharing and appreciating the cultures of Adams County through music, food, and art... A celebration of unity in our community,*” the event brings together residents and visitors for an afternoon of cultural discovery and connection. **Trinity will have a booth there and will need help setting up, staffing the booth and tearing down. Please contact George Steckert if you can help.**

POLISH POTTERY BINGO! October 10th. Tickets are \$25.00. Doors open at 5:00pm. Games begin at 6:00pm. Call the church office or the store to reserve your tickets. They go fast! We are asking the congregation to donate some desserts. They can be brought in Friday morning or Saturday morning.

HYMNALS! They are more than just songbooks. Stop by the History Cabinet to see what else our hymnals provide for our faith journey. **Trinity’s History Task Force.**

NEWS FLASH! In an effort to inform congregation members and/or the wider community of what is happening in our church, the Communication Committee is seeking information to pass on. If your committee is doing something you would like to share, please let the Communications Committee know. **The month of September’s “info gatherer” is Janet Sheely, jlsheely13@gmail.com or 717-357-1789.**

SUMMER OUTREACH: The growing season is in full swing! Please bring in your excess garden goodies. Those of us with not-so-green thumbs can then share in your harvest by placing money in the jar as “payment” for the fresh produce. **Proceeds will go to the Independent Living Program of Adams County Children and Youth.** More information on this program is

available on the Summer Outreach table. Kathy Clark will be speaking on the Independent Living Program on Sunday, September 27th.

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ATTENDANCE 8/30, 2026: 9:30am 44; On-line 141; Dinner Church 15; Total 200

FINANCE REPORT 8/30/2026:

Envelope Offering Need: *\$129,920.00*

Envelope Offering Rec'd: *\$109,816.50*

Property Fund Need: *\$13,475.00*

Property Offering Rec'd: *\$11,637.50*

THIS WEEK

Today, 9/6: Communion

Monday, 9/7: Labor Day. Church/Office Closed.

Wednesday, 9/8: 7:00pm Choir - *Sanctuary*

Thursday, 9/10: CONSISTORY REPORTS DUE

Friday, 9/11: 9:30am Flutes – *Fellowship*

Next Sunday 9/13: 12:30pm – 4:30pm MDANA – *Fellowship Hall*

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Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Pastor

Jane Malone

Liturgist

Sara Shank

Organist/Choir Director

Mark Luckenbaugh

Percussionist

Terry Krietz, Steve Sheely

Greeters

Buck Harvey, Terry Krietz

Ushers

Jen Mickelson

Acolyte

Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young,

Tech Team

George Steckert, Garrison Redding, Suhua Dong, Nina Redding, Cindy Kidd,

Terry Krietz, Bette Bunce, Chris Swinn

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1–3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.

St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1. For the beau-ty of the earth,
for the splen-dor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
o-ver and a-round us lies,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
2. For the won-der of each hour
of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
3. For the joy of hu-man love,
broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends a-bove,
for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
4. For the good that love in-spires,
for a world where none ex-clude,
For a faith that nev-er tires,
and for ev-ery heart re-newed,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

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Fred Kaan, 1975; alt.

1. Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy,
reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
bread is bro-ken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spo-ken and seen and heard.
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
2. Christ is a-ble to make us one,
at his ta-ble he set the tone,
teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless,
love in word and in deed ex-press.
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
3. Je-sus calls us in, sends us out
bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Im-man-u-el) ev-ery-where!
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!
Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain,
pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

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Luke 10:1-9

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Samuel J. Stone, 1866; alt.

Samuel J. Stone, 1866; alt.

1. The church's one foun-da-tion
is Je-sus Christ our Lord;
we are Christ's new cre-a-tion
by wa-ter and the word;
From heaven Christ came and sought us
in love to set us free;
with pre-cious blood Christ bought us
for all e-ter-ni-ty.
2. E-lect from ev-ery na-tion,
yet one o'er all the earth,
one char-ter of sal-va-tion,
one God, one faith, one birth,
One name to-geth-er bless-ing,
one ho-ly food we share,
to one hope we are press-ing,
at one in work and prayer.
3. 'Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion,
and tu-mult of our war,
we wait the con-sum-ma-tion
of peace for-ev-er-more;
Till with the vi-sion glo-rious,
our long-ing eyes are blessed,
and the great church vic-to-rious
shall be the church at rest.
4. Yet we on earth have un-ion
with God, the Three-in-One,
and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion
with those whose rest is won.
O hap-py ones and ho-ly!
God, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and low-ly,
may live e-ter-nal-ly.