

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

October 25, 2026 9:30am Worship

Reformation Sunday and Open and Affirming Presentation

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!



*We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, Ordinary Time. Our chancel area paraments are green to acknowledge this time of the church year. If this is your first time with us, or if you have come to this sacred space your entire life, it is a blessing that we are all here together. Trinity truly believes that **whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!** To enhance your worship experience, we have large print bulletins and hearing support devices available.*

Please ask an usher or greeter for assistance.

Enter worship today, but stick around to see what God is doing in this place! .

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

**All words provided on the screen*

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TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

You are welcome here!

Let us worship together in the name of the triune God,
the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRELUDE "In Christ Alone"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(A Celebration for Reformation Sunday)

Throughout the human story the Spirit of God continues to speak,

in visions and voices, in images and ideas,

and in all languages and all times,

inviting the people of God to discover new revelation.

To Abram it came as a sign in the stars

and the sand that he had been chosen by God.

To Moses it came in the sense that earth was ablaze with God's glory.

To Esther it came as courage to speak, to act, to imagine, to risk.

To Mary, it was dramatic, angelic, and unbelievable.

To the disciples, a blind man, a bleeding woman, a dying thief
and to a thousand others, it was a personal touch from Jesus, the Messiah.

To three women at the empty tomb

it was a gift in return of their faith.

The Spirit continues to speak in visions and voices,

images and ideas, in all languages and to all people.

The Spirit has spoken through people of many faiths,

from Buddha to Gandhi and to Mother Teresa,

whose lives and teachings seem to echo those of Christ.

To Luther and Calvin, Wesley and Mary Dyer,

Susan B. Anthony and Rosa Parks.

Spirit came as a reformer's fire, blazing in the heart.

And still the Spirit comes to us today
in new voices and new visions.
**In new understandings of the voices and visions
passed on to us from yesterday.**

It may burn in our hearts like fire or whisper in the silence
as a still, small voice. It may sing to us from the stars
or sneak up on us from within, or embrace
us in the touch of another child of God.
**But we are here today, because the Spirit
speaks to us and we respond.**

***HYMN #439 “A Mighty Fortress”**

***PRAYER**
Ever-calling God,
we give thanks that you have gathered us into your church
and graced us with your faithful presence.
We ponder our history, ancient and still developing,
and marvel at the many expressions of your church.
Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the church
that will bring more joy and justice to the world.
Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us,
into Jesus’ vision and dream
that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen.

***RESPONSE TO PRAYER “Sanctuary”**
Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living Sanctuary for you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
When we want to be a church ever-reforming,
yet cling to comfortable ways:
Lord, have mercy on us!

When we want to honor your “still speaking voice”,
but are fearful of insights which challenge old assumptions:

Christ, have mercy on us!

When we want to live into Jesus’ dream of oneness,
but fail to listen to voices of difference:

Lord, have mercy on us!

(Moment of Silent Reflection)

KYRIE #12

Kyrie, kyrie, kyrie eleison

Kyrie, kyrie, kyrie eleison

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Take heart, get up; Jesus is calling to us!

We trust in the one who has guided the church for two millennia.

Through Christ, God forgives us our failings,
and continues to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness. Amen.

ANTHEM

“From the Ashes”

The Senior Choir

Open and Affirming Presentation

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,

⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” ⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

SERMON

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.**

HYMN #456 **“More Love to You, O Christ”** *(Remain Seated)*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Trinity United Church of Christ, founded in 1790,
Values and welcomes a diverse congregation.
We believe that each of us is created in God’s image
and that all are loved and blessed equally by God.
Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.”**

**In keeping with Jesus' commandment, we commit ourselves to
demonstrating Christ's unconditional love in how we live
together within our congregation and our community.**

We invite into our family all people with no exception.

**In our community of faith, we affirm and embrace that all people
are encouraged to fully participate and share their talents and energy
in worship, sacraments, leadership positions, ordained ministry,
lay ministry, learning, service, mission and fellowship.**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome at Trinity United Church of Christ.**

***CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS**

Having received new life through the generosity of God
and the hope Christ brings, let us give thankfully and abundantly
that we may be called God's generous people.

*** OFFERTORY RESPONSE #785 Doxology**

*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**

**God, receive us and these gifts.
Use us and them for the many works
of Christ in our world. Amen.**

***HYMN "In Christ Alone"**

***FINAL BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

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Portions of today's liturgy have been adapted from: *Taught By Love: Worship Resources for Year A.*
Lavon Bayler. Pilgrim Press. Cleveland. 2002. *Touch Holiness.* Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi.
Pilgrim Press. Cleveland. 2012. *The New Century Hymnal.* Pilgrim Press. Cleveland. 1995.

PRELUDE: *In Christ Alone*. Words/Music: Keith Getty/Stuart Townsend. Arr. by Heather Sorenson. Published: Hal Leonard. ©2017 Thankyou Music.

ANTHEM: *From the Ashes (Something Beautiful He Brings)*. Words: Pamela Stewart. Music: Lloyd Larson. © Hal Leonard-Milwin Music Corp and Hal Leonard LLC.

HYMNS: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. Text: Martin Luther. Translated: Frederick H. Hedge. Adaptations: Ruth Duck. Tune by Martin Luther. Word adaptations ©1981 Ruth C. Duck.

In Christ Alone. Words/music: Keith Getty/Stuart Townsend. CCLI Song #3350395. Copyright 2001 Thankyou Music Ltd. Used with CCLI License # 11235337.

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ALTAR FLOWERS: In loving memory of Victoria L. Timms, Scarlett L. and Thomas H. Weiant, by the Weiant Family.

USHERS NEEDED FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER – please sign up in Gathering Area.

BLESSING ROOM – Monday, October 26th – 11:00am-1:00pm. Please keep the donations coming. This is a much needed ministry in our community. Volunteers to help set up, staff, and tear down are always welcome. Please contact Jane Malone or Carl Barrick if you are interested in helping us.

SENIOR SOCIAL – Tuesday, October 27th – 1:00pm Get out of the house! Come and enjoy games, snacks, and most of all - fellowship or just come and hang out. Learn a new game or play an old one. Bring your favorite game. Bring a friend or a family member. No pressure just fun!

TRUNK OR TREAT! Saturday, October 31st from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Just park your car in the lot next to the church, bring out your candy, chair, a battery powered light (if you have one) and dress up too if you want! *This year we've added the homemade hand puppets with Trinity's name on them to hand out to the kids along with the candy.* **Candy and/or money donations to purchase candy are appreciated.**

CHANGE FOR CHRIST – “HELP KEEP THE LIGHTS ON”: Have extra change in your pockets? Tired of carrying it around? Drop it in the vase with candle located in the Gathering Area.

VETERAN RECOGNITION: Sunday November 8th: We will be recognizing our living Vets who have served our country. If you filled a form out in years past, you don't need to do another one. If you have not, please complete and return by Wednesday, Nov. 4th. Forms are in the Gathering Area.

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. **October's “info gatherer is Ruth Krietz, 717-337-1395 or ruthkrietz@gmail.com.**

ATTENDANCE 10/18/2026: 9:30am 51; On-line 129; Total 180

FINANCE REPORT 10/81/2026:

Envelope Offering **Needed WEEKLY:** \$3,707.00 Offering Rec'd: \$3,684.00

Property Fund **Needed WEEKLY:** \$385.00 Offering Rec'd: \$5.00

***** Trinity is nearing a \$20,000 budget deficit that needs to be made up by the end of this year.
Please consider increasing your weekly giving to help Trinity meet this year's budget.*

THIS WEEK

Today, 10/25: Reformation Sunday. ONA Presentation.

Monday, 10/26: 11:00am – 1:00pm Blessing Room

Tuesday, 10/27: 9:30am Nominating Committee
1:00pm Senior Social ***7:00pm Choir

Wednesday, 10/28: ***NO CHOIR

Friday, 10/30: 9:30am Flutes – *Fellowship Hall*

Saturday, 10/31: 6:00pm – 7:30pm Trunk or Treat – *Housing Authority parking lot next to church*

Next Sunday, 11/1: Daylight Savings Time Ends! All Saints Day. Communion. New Members.
12:30pm-4:30pm MDANA – *Fellowship Hall*

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young

Pastor

Sara Shank

Organist/Choir Director

Mark Luckenbaugh

Percussionist

Janet & Steve Sheely

Greeters

Carl Barrick, Joe Lysitt

Ushers

Janet Sheely

Acolyte

Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young,

Tech Team

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

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