Welcome to Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Congregation

450 West Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554

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July 31, 2016



GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

PRELUDE/GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENT

*INVOCATION "Listen, Lord—A Prayer" (excerpt) by James Weldon Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN "Ancient Words" <u>Blue Songbook</u> p. 18

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND EVERYONE "People of the Book"

INVITATION TO RECONCILIATION

One: The Trappist monk Thomas Merton wrote, "The most important, the most real, and lasting work of the Christian is accomplished in the depths of [her] own soul. It cannot be seen by anyone, even by [herself]. It is known only to God." Yet many of our choices, actions, and even our thoughts prevent us from living into our work for the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us confess our sins, that we may reconcile with the truth that God quietly speaks to each of us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Perhaps I am stronger than I think. Perhaps I am even afraid of my strength, and turn it against myself, thus making myself weak. Making myself secure. Making myself guilty. Perhaps I am most afraid of the strength of God in me. Perhaps I would rather be guilty and weak in myself, than strong in Him whom I cannot understand.

--Thomas Merton

[silent confession]

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVING PARDON

One: The mercy and love of God are endless; God's wrath is slow, and the love of God is eternal. Through the Holy Spirit we are restored and in Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (remain seated)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

BRIEF REFLECTION: "Children's Letters to God"

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lay Reader, Tom Duke

We know that you are with us, God. Yet we still await you coming. In our expectation we pray that you will show yourself to us through your Holy word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Lay Reader, Tom Duke

Hebrew scripture **Exodus 3:1-15** (p.47)

New Testament reading 1Corinthians 12:1-11 (p.999)
Gospel lesson Matthew 14:22-36 (p.849)

One: God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON HYMN "Dear God, Embracing Humankind" New Century Hymnal #502

REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURES

"Still Speaking: a Challenge" Pastor Don

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us)

PRAYER RESPONSE

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! (repeat)

CALL TO OFFERING: Lay Reader, Tom Duke

One: The God who has blessed our lives calls us to store our riches with God. In thanksgiving and in faithfulness, let us share our gifts and offerings.

OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Loving and merciful God, we offer these gifts in gratitude for all the ways in which you have blessed our lives. We offer these gifts to remember that you are the source of our hope and our peace. With these gifts we commit ourselves to serve you and to work for peace in this world. Bless these gifts that they might be used in ministries of restoration and reconciliation. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "God, Speak to Me That I May Speak" NCH #531

*BENEDICTION

Go now into the world, renewed in hope and dedication to serve God with all your heart and strength. Discover the voice that God has given you; work constantly to bring about reconciliation among all of God's peoples until the whole human family can live in peace and safety. **Amen.**

*SUNG BENEDICTION (inside back cover of New Century Hymnal)

*GO TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND ALL PEOPLE

*POSTLUDE

*indicates an invitation to stand either in body or in spirit

If you use social media we invite and encourage you to check in online as you attend today's service.

Except where noted, portions of this week's service were excerpted and adapted from Ringing in Peace: Service Prayers for the 11th Sunday after Pentecost, by the Rev. Christopher Ney

WELCOME TO TRINITY

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here to explore your faith, to meet new people, and to strengthen your personal relationship with God. If you are a guest here today, please sign our guest book. If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please fill out the Welcome Card in the pews and put it in the offering plate.

Sunday Bulletins - Trinity offers a Children's Bulletin and a Large Print Bulletin along with the Regular Sunday Bulletin. We also have adjustable audio devices for better hearing. Each can be found in the narthex.

Prayer - Trinity believes in prayer. If you have a prayer request, we ask that you share it with us and put it in writing. Prayer Request Forms are in our red prayer bowl located outside the sanctuary. Once completed, place it back into the prayer bowl. Those written prayer requests will be added to our Prayer List, which is updated weekly. You will find a copy of the current list near the red bowl.

Columbia Food Bank – Please place all monetary donations in the marked bucket in the Narthex. Donations can be made in cash or by check. Checks should be made out to the Columbia Food Bank. All food donations can be placed in the baskets. Thanks!

Congregational Business Meeting to follow today's service.

Little Free Library for anyone who doesn't know, it's a "take a book, return a book" gathering place where friends can share their favorite books. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share.



Pastor Don found a doll house and with the help of George Himpsl it will be turned into a Little Library. If you would like to donate a book or two to get this started please place donations in the mark bin in the narthex. All types of books are welcomed. For questions contact Eileen Littell at 285-5593 or email trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org.

Volunteers needed— About 4-7 volunteers are needed on August 28th for the Community Picnic. Free food, games and family fun. Face painting and balloons for kids! Mountville Community Park North Lemon Street Mountville. See Lori Leaman to help!

Wine/Beverage and Cheese Night - Saturday, August 20th 6:30 to 9:30 PM. The Dukes and the Henrys would like to invite members and guests of Trinity UCC to a beverage and snack party at the Dukes. Children are also invited to attend. With a little luck and the pastor praying for a rain-free day, the garden trains should be running.

Each family is requested to bring any beverage they wish to consume and share with other guests. This includes wine, beer, soda or water – their choice. Snacks - chips, cheese, hors d'oeuvres, pretzels, etc. You are requested to take home the leftovers. Feel free to invite a friend or family member.

Mountville Community Yard Sale—Saturday September 17th 8:00 am. TRUCC will be renting parking spaces at \$10.00 for 2 spaces to anyone that would like set up a table. There are only limited spaces available. In case of inclement weather spots will be available inside fellowship hall. If interested call Eileen Littell at 717-285-5593 or email trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org.

"The current moment in America is like Rubik's Cube, but many people, even people of God, are approaching it like dominoes. Whoever has ears to hear, let Them hear."

Today is Sunday, July 31, 2016

10:00 am Trinity Café 10:30 am Worship

Congregational Meeting to follow service

Monday, August 1

9:00 am Columbia Ministerium

8:00 pm AA

Eileen Littell TRUCC Admin vacation day

Tuesday, August 2

8:00 pm AA

Eileen Littell TRUCC Admin vacation day

Wednesday, August 3 No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, August 4

1:00 pm Lions Club sub-makers

Friday, August 5 No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, August 6 No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, August 7

9:45 am Deacon Meeting

10:00 am Trinity Café 10:30 am Worship

> Attendance July 26, 2015......67 July 24, 2016......59

Sunday, August 7 volunteers.

Trinity Café:

Jean Haines & Shirley St. Clair

Greeters: Bridgette Hancock &

Diane Fiebert

Head Usher: Andy Sheaffer

Lay Reader: Bridgette Hancock

Children's Christian Education

Teacher – Nancy Henry

Helper -

Nursery:

Counter:

Altar Flowers:

George & Eileen Himpsl

Sunday mornings couldn't happen without the many disciples here at TRUCC. Volunteers are appreciated and needed. If you're interested in serving please see the volunteer sign-up sheets outside the church office.

Worship Leadership

Preacher: Don Fenestre-Marek Lay Reader: Tom Duke

Ministry of Music

Music Director, Chancel Choir Shannon Edwards

Bell Choir Director: Daniel Molkenthin

Sound Technician

Mark Cote and Charlie Miller

Ministry of Service

Trinity Café: Bonnie Crone

Greeters: Bobbie Poteau & Peg Harper Head Usher: Chuck Romberger

Children's Christian Education

Teacher – Nancy Henry Helper –

Counter: Nursery:

July Greeting Cards: Bonnie Crone

Floral Arrangement donated by: Ann Groff for the Glory of God

Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ exists to render loving service toward humanity with Jesus as our example. We preach love, teach compassion and social justice, and welcome all into the full life and ministry of the church.