



# TRINITY REFORMED

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

450 West Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554

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**August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Reverend Patty Dodds, Pastor  
Dan Molkenthin, Director of Music  
Christine Macready, Lay Reader

### COMMUNITY GATHERS IN SPIRIT BEFORE GOD

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### GATHERING MUSIC & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather in the name of the one who is love.

**ALL: We come to worship Jesus who showed the way of love.**

One: Let us not be a loud clanging noise, trying to get attention.

**ALL: Let our lives of loving action draw attention to God.**

One: Our knowledge is incomplete the truth is unclear.

**ALL: We come in faith before the one who will guide us to understanding.**

One: We are people called to hope, faith and love.

**ALL: Let us worship God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN The Gift of Love (insert from The Methodist Hymnal)**

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SANCTIFYING AND PERFECTING GRACE

408

## The Gift of Love

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,  
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,  
3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,  
and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,  
our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,  
but not be given by love with - in,  
Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.  
the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.  
by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

WORDS: Hal Hopson, 1972 (1 Cor. 13:1-3)  
MUSIC: Trad. English melody; adapt. by Hal Hopson, 1972  
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GIFT OF LOVE  
LM

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL:** Merciful God, we confess that 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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVING GRACE**

One: While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

One: May the God of mercy, who forgives all our sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. Amen

## **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

## **THE COMMUNITY LISTENS FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

### **PRAYER**

One: Our Lord and our God, now as we hear your Word, fill us with your Spirit. Soften our hearts that we may delight in your presence. Sharpen our minds that we may discern your truth. Shape our wills that we may desire your ways. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE READING    First Corinthians 13**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we

prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

One: God is still speaking

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **MESSAGE**

**The Greatest Of These Is Love**

**Reverend Patty Dodds**

## **THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD**

### **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **PRAYERS**

**ALL: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Response to the prayers

One: Christ in your Mercy,

**ALL: Hear our Prayer.**

#### **PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR**

**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.**

#### **THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES**

One: God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, and in the never ending gift of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** God has abundantly blessed us and calls us to be a community that honors each other, to be servants to others with joy, to share our love and material possessions.

One: Let us honor God from thankful hearts and joyful spirits.

**ALL:** God of extravagant mercy, we come to dedicate all our offerings to you. We are disciples of Jesus Christ, commissioned to share the Good news. May all that we dedicate -- our abilities, the fleeting moments of our days, the resources entrusted to our management -- announce your reign and the nearness of your kingdom. We give with joy, thanking you for the opportunity to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Amen

### THE COMMUNITY DEPARTS FOR MINISTRY

**\*CLOSING HYMN Thank Our God For Sisters, Brothers #397**

Thank our God for sisters, brothers, one by grace, in harmony,  
Joining heart to heart with others, making strong community.  
With the cross of Christ our standard, let us sing as with one voice,  
Glory, glory, yours the promise: we who are the church rejoice.

Praise to God for congregations, keeping faith with Christ as guide;  
Many tongues of many nations, song and service unified.  
Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol, when our song is raised as one.  
Glory, glory, yours the power, as in heaven your will be done.

Holy is your name forever! Heal divisions that remain;  
Bless the church's new endeavors; make our witness one again.  
One in Christ and in Christ's gospel, make us one we now implore.  
Glory, Glory, yours the glory, then and now and evermore.

### **\*COMMISSION**

Pastor: As we prepare to leave this place, let us proclaim the ministry to which God has called us:

**People:** We will go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; and with God's help, let us be of good courage, holding fast to that which is good; With Christ as our model, we will render to no one evil for evil; we will strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak; help the afflicted and honor all people. Let us rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **\*BENEDICTION**

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

Worship materials adapted from:

Ann B Day, Touch Holiness ©Copyright 1990 Pilgrim Press

St John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople 4<sup>th</sup> century

The Worship Sourcebook ©Copyright 2004

**Announcements:**

**Masks are no longer required in our building.** Members and friends should determine based on their personal health and vaccination status if they wish to continue wearing one. Also please be sensitive to one another's need for continued social distancing.

**This Sunday's Flowers donated by:** Marilyn Shertzer "For the birds, the bees, the trees, and thee"

**Next Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, Scripture: Philippians 4: 1-13**

**THE GUILD KICK OFF MEETING-** Please join us in planning Guild fundraisers and special events at Trinity. We need and welcome your help.

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall

**WHEN:** Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (Always the first Tuesday of month.)

**TIME:** 7:00 pm.

**Our next Arts & Crafts Night will be September 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm.** Bring your own craft or come to chat.

**Mark your calendar for September 12<sup>th</sup>** – We will have a special service to celebrate being together again. We will have an opportunity to recognize the grief and loss we experienced during these months and will recommit ourselves to the ministry of our church. Worship will be followed by a meal of baked potatoes with all the toppings. **THERE WILL BE CAKE!**

**We have posted a wish list in the Narthex-** Can you help with an item or more? We will gather all of the items at our September 12<sup>th</sup> celebration.

**Please consider helping with our worship. Ushers, Lay Readers, Sound/Video Volunteers are needed. Please sign up in the Narthex.**  
**Mark your Calendars for our next Chicken Barbeque and Rummage Sale on September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please contact Pastor Patty** if you have any concerns or needs, or if you just need to talk. Phone: 570-506-0677, email: [Pastor@MountvilletrinityUCC.org](mailto:Pastor@MountvilletrinityUCC.org)

**Thank You for your continued support of our ministry.** Checks may be mailed to the church: 450 West Main St Mountville, PA 17554, or click on the Donate button on our website

**Serving This Week:**

**Greeter: Eileen Himpsl**

**Media: Mark Cote**