

A SERVICE OF UNITY AND THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER 25, 2021 10:00 AM



HOSTED BY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

527 WASHINGTON STREET, READING PA

WWW.TRINITYREADING.ORG (610) 374-4861

AND

COMMON GROUND RECOVERY COMMUNITY

CGRCOMMUNITY.ORG (610) 375-3512

Masks must be worn at all times. Maintain appropriate distancing between households. Use hand sanitizer. For health reasons, we ask that you not leave your worship bulletin at Trinity for recycling. Please recycle it at home.

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Common Ground Recovery Community is dedicated to supporting individuals and families recovering from addiction, abuse, mental illness, loss and the hurts and hang-ups of life. Common Ground Recovery Community offers programs that educate about addiction and recovery, small groups that provide support, Bible studies that deepen our faith, and worship experiences that inspire hope and healing.

We are a multi-location recovery ministry now meeting in three locations in the Berks County area. Worship with us at Trinity Lutheran Church, 527 Washington Street, Reading 19601 at 4:00 PM on Sundays, followed by takeaway meal distribution.

Grounded in God's promises, we are a progressive faith community that seeks healing and wholeness through worship, prayer, meditation, and mindfulness for one another. We welcome everyone regardless of race, sexual identity, social or economic background; in fact we believe that our diversity reflects the tapestry of God's creation.

We're Common Ground Recovery Community. And we'd love to spend some time with you. For more information, call 610-375-3512.

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IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in finding out more about Trinity or are considering membership, please contact the church office at (610) 374-4861 during normal business hours (9-3, Monday-Thursday).



Affirmation of Welcome: Trinity Lutheran Church is recognized by Reconciling Works as a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation which welcomes all LGBTQ+ persons into all facets of congregational life.



P Presiding Minister **A** Assisting Minister **C** Congregation

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HYMN

837 Many and Great, O God

LAC QUI PARLE

Peter Graf, recorder; Stephen Longenecker, drum

INVOCATION WITH READING

SPECIAL MUSIC - "Give Thanks"

Henry Smith

Cara Hart and Stephen Longenecker

HENRI NOUWEN READING

SPEAKER 1

Willie Miranda

PSALM 126

Refrain



God has done great things for us, filled us with
laugh-ter and mu - sic; God has done great things for
us, filled us with laugh-ter and mu - sic.

Verses

1. When our God led us back to freedom,
like dreamers we beheld the promised land again;
our mouths were filled with laughter and rejoicing.
2. We proclaimed to the nations what you had done for us;
your mighty deeds of love, restoring us to life,
you lead your people home to you rejoicing.
3. Come restore our fortune, renew us in your love,
as rivers through the sand, as springs within the desert;
those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

Text: Psalm 126:1-6; Marty Haugen
Music: Marty Haugen
© 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-33 (First Nations Bible)

“This is why I am telling you not to be troubled about getting enough to eat or drink, or what to wear. Is eating, drinking and clothing yourself all there is? Does your life not have more meaning than this?

“Look to the winged ones who soar on the wind. Do they plant seeds and gather the harvest into a storehouse? No! But your Father from above gives them plenty to eat. Do you not know he cares even more for you? Can worry add even one more step to the length of your life’s journey?

“Why do you trouble yourself with what to wear? Have you seen how the wildflowers grow in the plains and meadows? Do you think they work hard and long to clothe themselves? No! I tell you not even the chieftain Stands in Peace (Solomon), wearing his finest regalia, was dressed as well as even one of these.

“If Creator covers the wild grass in the plains with such beauty, which is here today and gathered for tomorrow’s fire, will he not take even better care of you? Why is your faith so small? There is no need to say, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ This is what the Nations *who have lost their way* have given their hearts to, but your Father from above knows you need these things.

“If you will make Creator’s good road your first aim, representing his right ways, he will make sure you have all you need for each day. So do not worry about tomorrow’s troubles. It is enough to trust Creator to give you the strength you need to face today.”

DOXOLOGY

- ☞ Praise God, from whom all blessing flow
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-33 (The Message)

"If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don't fuss about what's on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, careless in the care of God. And you count far more to him than birds. Has anyone by fussing in front of the mirror ever gotten taller by so much as an inch? All this time and money wasted on fashion—do you think it makes that much difference? Instead of looking at the fashions, walk out into the fields and look at the wildflowers. They never primp or shop, but have you ever seen color and design quite like it? The ten best-dressed men and women in the country look shabby alongside them. If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers —most of which are never even seen— don't you think he'll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met."

HYMN

887 This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

PRAYERS

A God whose giving knows no ending, you invite the whole world to your table of mercy. Hear us as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

A brief silence. Each petition concludes:

A God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

After the final petition:

P God, your welcome is wider than we can imagine. Receive our prayers for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us.

C **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray in the many languages and translations with which we have been blessed...

C **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen**

SERENITY PRAYER

☞ God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference.

SENDING HYMN

779 Amazing Grace

NEW BRITAIN

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Chorale prelude on *Nun danket alle Gott*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

✦ ✦ ✦

Invitation to Dinner Distribution

Individual portions of delicious Thanksgiving dinners have been lovingly prepared by Common Ground's chef, Mel Mitchell. They will be distributed, while supplies last, to all who would appreciate a meal. Following worship, you may turn right down the hallway from the annex stairs or the elevator. Those not receiving a meal are encouraged to use the center stairs onto the portico if possible. Happy Thanksgiving!

Leaders in Today's Liturgy

Presiding Minister: Pr. Tom Scornavacchi

Assisting Minister: Dcs. Deborah Graf and Vicar Melissa Hrdlicka

Musicians: Karen S. Eddinger, Cara Hart, Peter Graf, and Stephen Longenecker