

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

eBlast

May 27, 2021



Trinity Sunday

The Sunday after Pentecost is always “Trinity Sunday,” a Sunday’s whose focus is on the Trinity. As a metaphor, the Trinity is a concept meant to explain Christian understanding of the Divine. Almost all further explanations lead us to one heresy or another. The icon pictured at left, by Andrei Reblev, is a very famous depiction of the Trinity. An icon is meant to speak to you and to assist you in your prayers. Notice a sense of movement in the picture (look at the heads and the direction they face) and notice the position of their hands. Notice also

the small box on the unoccupied place at the table. Art historians conjecture that originally the box contained a mirror. If so, then you and I are invited, not only to the table, we are also invited into the relationship between and among the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. We are included! We were always meant to be included. If thinking about the meaning of the Trinity gives you a headache and you really would like to know more, you may wish to read *The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation* by Richard Rohr with Mike Morrell.

In observance of Memorial Day on Monday May 31st, our office will be closed. We will reopen on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m.



GUEST PREACHER

This week we welcome Betsy Sentigar as our guest preacher. You may recall that Betsy is a seminarian at the Stevenson School for Ministry and is on track to be ordained to the (to the diaconate this summer. Betsy has been assigned to Melinda+ at here at the Church of the Redeemer as part of her clergy formation. This weekend Betsy will be preaching at all three services (Saturday and Sunday here, and at 9:00 a.m. at St. John.) Betsy is also serving at Christ Church, Towanda. Melinda+ is delighted to share the role of preacher with Betsy and through the summer months Betsy may be our preacher once a month. Betsy resides with her husband in Elmira.

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

It may be the unofficial start of Summer this weekend, however, Mother Nature has not been informed. Predicted temperatures for Sunday include a low of 43 and a high 59. Plus, rain is in the forecast. Please bundle up for our outdoor worship on Sunday! Worship WILL be outdoors on Sunday and we hope for a good connection to livestream ONLY on Saturday.

COVID UPDATE

Bradford County had a significant drop in its 7 day average of COVID cases making us below the Diocesan standard of 25 cases per 100,000 people.. As of today, our 7 day average is 14.4 cases per 100,000. By next Thursday, we hope and pray our 14 day average remains below 25 cases. Our Vestry and Rector are in agreement that we should reopen for worship as soon as we can. We hope this means that we will have IN PERSON WORSHIP ON JUNE 5TH and 6TH. Please check next week's eBlast, our web page (www.redeemersayre.org) or our Facebook page for confirmation. For both services we will be able to recite our prayers and say aloud our responses. On Sunday we can sing together. We must still mask and remain distant from folks not in our household. By degrees, inch by inch, we are approaching the familiar! We note that neighboring Susquehanna County has had a significant increase so please urge your unvaccinated friends and neighbors to get the shot!

YOUTH GROUP

We had a terrific group of kids gather at Pastor Melinda's home for a bar-be-que, can jam, and croquet last Sunday. We plan to gather again at Redeemer NEXT Sunday. We're hoping we can borrow a volleyball or badminton net/set. Do you have either one or both that we can borrow for the afternoon? Please let the parish office know. Thanks!

Reflection questions for the lessons appointed this weekend: Jesus invites us to be born from above to receive new and abundant life. Salvation, or abundant life, is understood as a present reality in the Gospel of John. If the gift of God's love made known to us in Christ through the Spirit is stirred up by gratitude, what daily practice could increase your sense of gratitude? How could a simple practice of thanking God at any given moment in the day enliven your experience of salvation?



Happy Anniversary!

Donald & Dawn McCutcheon 5/27

James & Alice Bennett 5/29

Tracy & Tricia Schamel 6/2

John Hinsman 5/27

Julian Shay 5/30

Jillian Shay 5/30

Denise Macafee 6/3

Courtney Wayman 6/3



In observance of Memorial Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, May 31 and will reopen on Tuesday June 1 at 12:30 p.m.

A day to honor and remember.



This year, Memorial Day falls close to the original date set apart to remember those who gave their lives for their country: May 30. Since 1968, our nation has celebrated Memorial Day on the last Monday in May. Waterloo, NY is credited with the idea behind Memorial Day—shortly after the Civil War ended Waterloo called on its citizens to decorate the graves of the war dead. The original name of Memorial Day was “Decoration Day” and May 30th was chosen as the date because no particular battle was fought on that day. Just prior to World War I all the Union States were celebrating Decoration Day. After World War I, the Southern States also set apart May 30th as a day to remember ALL the war dead and to be grateful for their sacrifice. Since World War I the entire country celebrates Memorial Day and all citizens are invited to observe a moment of silence at 3 PM local time.



Jesus and Nicodemus
John 3



In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

John 3:3

Born Again!

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3 (NIV)

Based on John 3:1-17 (NIV)

*New Life in
Christ*



U J O W H I D P E K A V N D Z
G K U T D L O V E D S N I T D
E N R R I B V A T C A A C E Z
T I F F N S A G R A H Y O A G
B D T L K H D A U B T L D C M
V H J G E I D I T V V W E H H
N K Q Y D S N N H Y G P M E M
B V N L H F H G B D S N U R H
B O R N O Q M R D R J L S S R
M O F S O N A Q C O A P I A A
W A T E R P N H H N M W J M B
F X S L I F E I R G E H C O B
J P H A R I S E E J S T I M I
M J E S U S T N I G H T I W B
F A I C Y E S P I R I T K P G

BIRTH

PHARISEE

BORN

JESUS

TRUTH

AGAIN

WORLD

LOVED

SPIRIT

ETERNAL

KINGDOM

TEACHER

NIGHT

MAN

NICODEMUS

LIFE

JEWISH

RABBI

FLESH

WATER