

# Community United Church

**An Open and Affirming Congregation**

Affiliated with the United Church of Christ & the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



**Trinity Sunday**

**May 31, 2026**

**11:00 AM**

**Pastor Joy L. Johnson**

***Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!***

Centering Music

“Here I am Lord” #559 v.1

I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my love to them, whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

**Invocation**

One: God of mystery and majesty, we come to you in awe and wonder.

**All: Grant us the faith to believe that you are with us and we are with you. Remind us once more that we can come to you with all things, even as you send us out to be your presence upon the earth. We ask this through Christ, the Living Word. Amen!**

\*Opening Hymn

“This is my Father’s World” #21

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—God’s hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: Oh, let us not forget  
That though the wrong is great and strong, God is the ruler yet.  
He trusts us with his world, to keep it clean and fair—  
All earth and trees, all skies and seas, all creatures everywhere.

This is my Father's world: he shines in all that’s fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.  
This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King, let heaven ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

**\*Opening Prayer**

\*The Peace of Christ

One: The peace of Christ be with you, all!

**All: And also with you!**

One: Let us share with one another a sign of peace.



## Reflection on Trinity Sunday: Examining the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen!

### History of the Hymns

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Don Cameron

### Song of Response

“For the Beauty of the Earth” #40 Vv. 1,2,5

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies  
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise

For thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given;  
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.



**First Reading****Genesis 1: 1-4a**

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good

**Second Reading****Second Corinthians 13: 11-13**

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

**Responsorial****Psalm 8**

One: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**All: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

One: Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

**All: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Amen!**

**\*Gloria****"Glory Be to God, Creator" #145**

Glory be to God, Creator, glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, known as Three, yet God the One

As it was in the beginning, it is now and so shall be,  
In a world without an ending, glory through eternity.

Holy, holy God Almighty! Holy, holy Prince of Peace!  
Holy, holy Wind of Presence! Holy, holy, holy! Amen!

**\*Gospel****Matthew 28: 16-20**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

One: This is the Gospel of Christ for the people of God.

**All: Come Holy Spirit! Thanks be to God!**

## Children's Message

### Message

*Being Good Stewards: Caring for God's gifts*

Aimee DeYoung

### Hymn of Response

"Find us Faithful" #497

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful;  
May the fire of our devotion light their way.  
May the footprints that we leave lead them to believe,  
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.  
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful.

## Celebration of Communion

Pastor: People of God, come to the table with open hands and love in your hearts, for this is Christ's table—a place where *every person* is valued, treated with kindness, and embraced in fairness and love.

**All: This is a table of grace. There is room around it for every soul that was, and is, and is to come. We come to the table as a people who are learning the way of Christ. We confess that we are not always right. But we share this faith: that those who trust in Christ Jesus will grow in the assurance of God's eternal love.**

Pastor: And so, here at this table we take bread and cup and ask the Holy Spirit to make it for us: communion with Christ, who gave his life as the bread of heaven and as the cup of eternal life.

All: Here at this table we remember that Christ gave his entire life as an outpouring of God's love—a love that will, one day, renew all things. Amen.

Pastor: Remembering that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. People of God, come to the table!

## Communion Music

"Day by Day"

Shelly Conrad  
and Lizdel Collado-Monahan



## Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer ("Debts and Debtors")

One: The Lord be with you.

All: ***And also with you.***

One: *Let us pray:* For the prayer requests that have come to us today, whether joys or sorrows.... [*prayer requests are presented*] .... We also pray for everyone who has asked their name to be on the prayer list [*see last page of the bulletin*]. Holy and Loving God, in your wisdom, meet all of these needs in the perfect way of your grace.

All: **God hear our prayer!**

One: For all that we hold in the silence of our hearts, we come to you in the confidence of quiet, O God, and lift our petitions privately to you. (*Silent prayer*)... Almighty God, Sovereign of Heaven, shower your blessings upon all people! Move the mountains in our lives, or help to move us so that we might be fully at peace. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

All: **"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 debts as we forgive our debtors—and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever." Amen.**

## Offering

*Our offerings are first and foremost  
what we give to the world  
through justice, kindness, and mercy—  
and this we can do every day.  
Our financial contributions to the church  
are what allow us to support our ministries.  
As you can give, please do so joyfully!*

**If you are not in the sanctuary, online donations can be made at:  
[www.communityunited.church](http://www.communityunited.church)**

*If you prefer to mail in a check, that can be addressed to the church at:  
1011 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street – Erie, PA 16508*

**Offering / Ministry of Music**

"Everything is Beautiful"

Shelly and Lizdel

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

\*Congregational Response #147

***“Praise God, from whom all blessing flow!  
Praise God, all creatures high and low:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known!  
Creator, Word, and Spirit one!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”***

\*Departing Prayer

One: We bless you, O God, for you have visited your people and shown us your great love.

**All: Gather into your arms all the peoples of the world, so that in your embrace we may find blessing, peace, and the fullness of our inheritance as your children.  
Amen!**

\*Blessing

\*Closing Hymn “They’ll know we are Christians by our Love” #595

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

*Refrain*

We Will work with each other, we will work side by side;  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;  
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

*Refrain*

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son.  
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

*Refrain*

**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning at  
Community United Church!**



**Next Week:**

Sunday, June 7, 2026:

The Second Sunday of Pentecost

*Need to contact us for prayer, conversation, or to connect  
with a small group or church ministry?*

1011 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street – Erie, PA 16508

(814) – 864 – 4429

[www.communityunited.church](http://www.communityunited.church)



## Community United Church

**The altar flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by proud grandparents Ron and Penny Churley in honor of their granddaughter, Payton Churley, upon her graduation from Mercyhurst College and in honor of their granddaughter, Grace Churley, upon her graduation from Freeport High School.**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- June 3: Bible Study / Discussion Group - 6:30 PM  
June 6: CUC Flea Market 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Please come!  
June 14: ERIE PRIDE PARADE DAY: **SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM** –  
PARADE PREP TO FOLLOW  
June 16: Women's Group Luncheon

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 27th - PRIDE ON THE BAY**  
**Sign up to help get ready in advance - and to staff the table!**

***Need hearing assistance? We have four available units. Please talk to our tech crew in the back of the sanctuary.***

### **WE REMEMBER THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:**

Jackson Feiock (Army), Jacob Snyder (Army), Nick Duncan (Army), Brittany Duncan (Army), Matt Duncan (Army), Tyler Anderson (Army National Guard), Shelby Wescott (Army), Jaden O'Hara (Army), Toby Charlton (Marines), Cole Posnett (Army), Hunter Miaczynski (Army), Mathew Anderson (Army), Zachary Oliver (PA Army National Guard), Aran Maloney (Air National Guard), Connor Bille (Army), and Anthony Bille (US Marines)

### **PRAYERS FOR:**

Linda Hilbert, Anna Silvia, Dew Johnson, Ethel Davis, Celeste Eller & Family, Michele Serafin, Toni Stevenson, Sandra Ganley, Dorothy Moyer, Celeste Peck, Linda Foll Johnson, Shirley Carrier, Debra Jackman, Zoey Cathie Witmire, Laura Will, the Smith and Schmidt families, Linda Weber, Veronica, Patty Puzar, Joan Schultz, family and friends of Kim Normandy, Michelle and Melissa, Randy Koziol, Barbara Thompson, Tanisha and Jaeda, family and friends of Lois Simmers, Barbara Hickey, Lorre Rapp, Sandy Gool, and Jim Haglund

### **Your 2026 Council Members:**

Thea Hyatt, President, Ginnie Burger, Vice President, Tracy Davis, Treasurer, Juli Tonks, Secretary, Michele Vahey, Justin Graff, Angel Conrad, Chuck Becker, and Don Cameron

You may call the church office at 814-864-4429 for pastoral and administrative matters or use email: [communityunitedchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:communityunitedchurch@yahoo.com)

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**“God made the world and everything  
in it.”**

**Acts 17:24**



