



***December 24, 2025
Pastor Dave Creamer
Assisted by Cohen Clark***

***Trinity United Church of Christ
600 Main Street
Berlin, Pennsylvania***

“Please silence your cell phone”

**Prelude: God Rest You Merry Gentlemen – Diane Bish
 Away In a Manger – Diane Bish**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at Trinity United Church of Christ.

Greeting and Announcements

Call to worship, the lighting of The Christ Candle.

Tonight, the waiting is over. The prophets promised a light for those in darkness, and that promise is fulfilled in Jesus.

We light the Christ Candle, celebrating the birth of the Messiah—our Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Thanks be to God!.

Prayer: God of glory, we marvel at your coming—the Word made flesh, the Light of the World. Shine in our hearts and through our lives, so that we may carry your light into the world. Amen.

Hymn No. 132

Angels We Have Heard On High

Call to confession:

Tonight, we receive again the first gift, from the first Christmas long ago. Together let us confess.

Confession:

All loving God, on this holy night we come to you, asking again for your forgiveness. As we welcome you anew into our hearts we pray that we might always practice the love you taught. Forgive us for the many times we failed to honor and serve you. Forgive our weakness and the sins we have committed this past year. May the love we feel in our hearts

tonight always dwell within us each day of the coming year. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

That first blessing came with a Heralding of Angles. This one comes with that same promise of peace. Rejoice, and let burdens be lifted, guilt put aside, and shame forgotten. Rejoice, God is with us.

***Response 66 Verse 1**

To God Be the Glory

***The Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hades.

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

**He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

**"Presentation of the Offering – Singing of the
Doxology"**

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

Offertory Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before you. Surrounded by the light of Christ, blessed to receive his gifts, we come before you with our tithings. We pray that on this Christmas Eve that your will is done, and these gifts may be a blessing to many. We pray that

the light of Jesus Shines for those on our prayer list, our shut ins, the places we worry about, the people we worry for. Bless them with your healing presence. We pray that you keep watch over the shepherds of today, our military, first responders, those that keep us safe. Bless them with your protective care. We pray that your Spirit is here among us. That our homes are filled with the light of Christ. We pray that you help us to give gifts that shine with your Glory, so your will is done, In Jesus' name, who taught us to pray;
The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Trinity Bells

I Wonder As I Wander

**The Hebrew Scripture Lesson is
From the Profit Isaiah Chapter 9 vs 2-7**

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased its joy; they rejoice before thee as with joy at the harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, thou hast broken as on the day of Midian.

5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**The Epistle Lesson is
from the Letter to the Hebrews Chapter 1 vs 1-4**

1 In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets;

2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

3 He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ from the Book of Luke Chapter 2 vs 1-20

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled.

2 This was the first enrollment, when Quirini-us was governor of Syria.

3 And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,

5 to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

6 And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered.

7 And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

10 And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;

11 for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

16 And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child;

18 and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

19 But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Trinity Bells & Rick Kimmel

Adeste Fidelus

Message
“The First Gift”
Pastor Dave Creamer

Candlelight Ceremony

***Hymn No. 147**

Silent Night

Trinity Bells:

Repeat The Sounding Joy

Benediction

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

Surely the Presence of the Lord

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace,
I can hear the brush of angels’ wings,
I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Postlude

Joy to the World – Diane Bish

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Debbi Luteri,
Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Brad Bowers,
Paige Boyer, Chris Brant, Rhonda Brown,
Ray Coleman, Susan Constantino, Tammy Coughenour,
Eric Custer, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Linda Gallick, Jeff Gavel,
Nancy Gindlesperger, Marlene Gotchen, Dennis Griffith,
Karen Griffith, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Kris Hay, Larry Hay, Marilyn Heiple,
Gary Hillegas, Barry Landis, Brenda Leister, Richard Lilliston,
Jim Little, Blair and Phylis Lyons, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen,
Joyce Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, Easton Pritts, Brian Robb, James Robb,
Brett Sarver, Karol Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Donna Schmuker,
Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Missy Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,
Dawn Edmiston-Strasser, Ron Tamblyn, Larry Tinkey,
Patsy and Dave Titus, Barbara and Peter Usher,
Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Echo Kincaid Yoder, Gerald Zorn

Update LaVerne Coslic and Linda Gallick:

LaVerne is home after being admitted to the hospital with pneumonia. Her address is 414 3rd Ave., Berlin. Cards would certainly make her feel even better.

Linda Gallick moved to Richland Nursing & Rehabilitation Center on Wednesday. Paul reports that she's doing better but progressing slowly. The address is 349 Votech Dr., Johnstown PA 15904. She's been enjoying the cards she's received so keep them coming!

The Saints In Action

Today – Christmas Eve Service 11:00 p.m.

Sunday – 1st Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 12/21/2025

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$4811.00	\$3155.58	\$1655.42
Ben	\$130.00	\$182.69	-\$52.69
Maint	\$175.00	\$163.46	\$11.54
Mem	\$985.00		
Total	\$6101.00	\$3501.73	\$1614.27

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$40.

Memorials include: \$100 to the Music Memorial Fund; \$200 Food Pantry Memorial and \$685 to the Memorial Fund

Worship Attendance: 85

Sunday School: 22

Where You May Find. . .

The Nursery: is on the lower level for children and their parent. A big screen TV is mounted in the room so that you may watch the service.

At the Sanctuary Entrances. . .

Large Print Bulletins

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Tom Croner, Pam Bush

Ushers: Lori Gindlesper, Jeanne Hillegas

Acolytes: Cohen Clark

Organ: Rick Kimmel

Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by:

Dave Creamer, Student Pastor

Church Secretary: Pam Bush, Jean Ann Darr

Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger

Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick

Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas

Virtual Organist: Rick Kimmel

Consistory Elders:

Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166

Jim Darr, 814-483-0957

Allison Zimmerman, 814-267-4324

Consistory Deacons:

Pam Bush, Tom Croner (President) 814-442-6740, Amanda

Custer, Lori Gindlesperger, Jean Hart, Jeanne Hillegas,

Bill Landis, Julie Petro, Allen Strasser

Your newly elected elder and deacons for 2026 are Elder Sue Coughenour and Deacons Carrie Croner, Shawn Hart, and Amy Saylor

Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Mailing Address: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Sunday School

Sunday, January 4th, the Adult Sunday School will begin a new in-depth study on the Book of Romans. Romans is known as the Apostle Paul's most powerful letter with the blueprint of the Christian faith. It explains God's message of grace, justification, salvation, and transformation through Christ. If reading Scripture is hard for you to understand, this is a good class to attend. A clear, chapter-by-chapter journey through Romans made easy to understand. Come join us at 10:10 am in the church Fellowship Hall. Class led by Sue Coughenour.

Church Cookbook Fundraiser

Years ago, our church members put together a cookbook that many people still use today. There is nothing better than tried and true recipes. Although it is in the early stages of planning, please consider submitting your favorite recipes to add to a new book. We have a lot of GREAT cooks out there so please share. Be sure to put your name on your recipe and any hints you may have in its preparation. You can put it in the offering plate, through the office door slot, hand it to a staff member or simply leave it on the sound board desk. This should be lots of fun! Thank you to those who have submitted.....keep them coming!

Trinity Ladies

Our next meeting will be Monday, January 5th at 11:30 a.m. at Cup of Soul. Please remember if school is cancelled, (snow day or virtual day), we will not meet. Have a joyous Christmas. Hope to see you in January!

Blood Drive

Monday, January 5th from 12:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Berlin Community Veterans Home Social Hall, 419 Meadow St., Berlin. Sponsored by the Berlin Lions Club and Berlin Veterans Home.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Dave Creamer at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Tom Croner at 814-442-6740. If neither is available, contact Pam Bush at 541-990-0832.

Christmas Messages

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. Matthew 2:10

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29

I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. John 12:46

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:11

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:13-14

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. Luke 2:6-7

And there were shepherds out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them. Luke 2:8-9

May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope, and the peace of His love at Christmas and always.

May your heart be lifted in praise this Christmas for the wonderful gift of Jesus and the joy He brings to our lives. Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

May God fill your life with love, joy, and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Sharing with you the glory, the wonder, the miracle of this holy season. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

The magic of Christmas is not in the presents but in His presence. May you have the gift of faith this Christmas and many blessings throughout the New Year.

Merry Christmas! May God bless you richly throughout this holiday season.

A silent night, a star above, a blessed gift of hope and love. A blessed Christmas to you!

May Joy be your gift at Christmas and may Faith, Hope, and Love be your treasures in the New Year.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may His light illuminate your path and His peace fill your heart. Wishing you a Christmas filled with heavenly blessings.

This Christmas, may you find comfort and joy in the message of hope and salvation that the Christ Child brings. Have a blessed holiday season.

These Christmas greetings evoke feelings of peace, love, faith, and hope, with nods to God, Jesus, and the original Christmas story. They're a wonderful way to send your friends and family heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous year to come.

May the timeless message of Christmas fill your heart and home with joy today and throughout the coming year. Blessed Christmas greetings to you and your family.

Rejoicing in the miracle of Christ's birth, may your home be filled with love, your heart with faith, and your life with God's endless blessings. Merry Christmas!

Faith makes all things possible,
Hope makes all things work,
Love makes all things beautiful,
May you have all three this Christmas.

A little child,
A shining star,
A stable rude,
The door ajar.
Yet in that place,
So crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all
The world was born.



Poinsettias On The Altar

In honor of daughter Jill and husband Glen Wagner, and daughters Joyce Custer and Jane Countryman by Nancy Custer (1 Pink Small)

In memory of Frank and Ruth Ream and Frank Jr., John and Dorothy Slifco by Bill, Ann & Willie Slifco (1 White Small & 1 Red Small)

In memory of my Father Walter Miller by Renee Gindlesperger (1 Small Jingle Bell)

In honor of my Dad Ellis Kimmel and Uncle Bob Chappie and in memory of my grandparents Harold and Hilda Kimmel and Aunt Edna Mae Chappie by Rick Kimmel.

In memory of Taylor M. Landis and Ed and Etta Landis by Bill & Barb Landis (2 Medium Jingle Bell)

In honor of our family, Andy, Melissa, Ky, Kam, Scott, Lauren and soon to be twins by Mark & Lori Gindlesperger (1 Medium Jingle Bell)

In Memory of Carl Saylor and Kay Barnard by Karol Saylor (2 Large Red)

In memory of my husband Tom and my faithful companion Abby by Pam Bush (1 Medium Red)

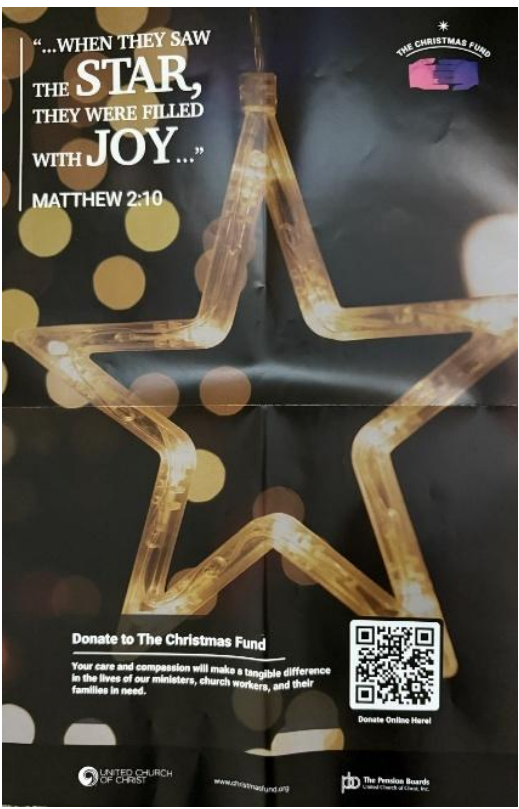
To the Glory of God by Robert & Carol Brown (1 Small Red)

In memory of Carl Bittner, Charles and Mary Ester Smith, Phillip Henry, Mary Bittner and Frank Ream Jr., by Nancy Bittner & Family (2 Small Red, 2 Small Jingle Bell, 2 Small Marble)

This year on Christmas Eve we will have a special offering supporting the UCC Christmas Fund. In 2024 alone, The Christmas Fund offered more than \$1.7 million in support, touching the lives of 766 individuals across the UCC. This generosity made hope tangible. It meant.....

- A couple could hear each other again with the gift of hearing aids.
- A family found safety through a plane ticket out of a war-torn land.
- Mounting medical bills were eased during a time of deep crisis.

Each gift represented more than financial relief – they were a remind of God’s presence and the Church’s love. This year, please join us in The Christmas Fund Community of Compassion on Christmas Eve.





“Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. As we celebrate His birth, fill our hearts with gratitude for His presence in our lives.”

**Thank You for Joining Us
“Merry Christmas”
Have a Blessed Week Ahead**