



***First Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion
February 26, 2023
Guest Speaker – Reverend James Vander Schuur***

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

Prelude

**What Wondrous Live is This? – Mark Hayes
Restoration – Tom Birchwood**

Welcome

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

***Call to Worship**

I will hear what the Lord has to say.

A VOICE THAT SPEAKS FOR PEACE.

Peace for all people and for all who love the Lord.

AND TO THOSE WHO TURN TO GOD IN THEIR HEARTS.

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST AND PEACE TO ALL
GOD'S PEOPLE.**

***Hymn No. 338**

At Calvary

Prayer of Confession:

God of all nations, as we assemble in this house of worship today, we are confronted by the sin in our lives. We have not always shown others the love and forgiveness that we expect them to give to us. We have fallen short of what you desire of us. We have sometimes ignored those who are in need so that we could have more for ourselves. We have judged others, shown jealousy, and allowed our pride to stand in the way of healing relationships. Forgive us again, O Lord, and give us the strength to live each day to your glory. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness:

We have offered our prayers and the Lord grants forgiveness.

We rejoice that the Lord forgives all who turn their hearts to him.

Let us praise our God!

***Hymn 66 – Verse 1**

To God Be The Glory – Verse 1

***Affirmation of Faith**

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.

***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**

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Scripture:

Genesis 2: 15-17

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Genesis 3: 1-7

1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden;

3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die.

5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate.

7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

Epistle – Romans 5:12-19

12 Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned—

13 sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law.

14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

16 And the free gift is not like the effect of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.

17 If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

18 Then as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one man's act of righteousness leads to acquittal and life for all men.

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel – Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry.

3 And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

4 But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple,

6 and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will give his angels charge of you,'
and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them;

9 and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

11 Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

***Hymn No. 385**

Near the Cross

Sermon

“Every Good Gift” Reverend James Vander Schuur

Psalm 84: 11-12

11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

12 O LORD of hosts,
blessed is the man who trusts in thee!

Sacrament of Communion

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

Communion Prayer:

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history. We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst.

We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints and all the company of heaven, we glorify you.

p *mf* *f*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are

full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho -

p

san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the

crescendo *f*

name of the Lord, Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho-san - na in the high-est!

We remember that on that night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, Jesus also took the cup,

after supper, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt, and light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup:

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life Christ gives.

Resurrection Acclamation:

Alleluia! Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. **I died, and behold I am alive for evermore. Alleluia!**

Sharing the Elements:

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

The body of Christ, the living bread.

Amen!

The blood of Christ, the saving cup.

Amen!

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we

are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*Hymn No: 183

Beneath the Cross

*Benediction

*Response – Sung with Dismissal

Now Unto Him Who Is Able

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling.
To make you stand in His presence blameless and with great
joy.

To the only God our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Be the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.
Both now and forevermore, Amen.

*Going Forth

Postlude Trumpet Tune on “All Creatures Of Our
God and King” – David Lasky

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Dates to Remember:

Maundy Thursday – April 6, 2023

Good Friday – April 7, 2023

Easter – April 9, 2023



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Lew & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Larry Custer, John Durst, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Cindy McCullen-Janicki, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Debbie Luteri (her sister & family), Larry McCullen, Bob Murphy, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Harold Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Greg Shaulis, Tracey Smith, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Audrey Twombly, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Audrey Twombly has requested additional prayers for Nancy Weighley as she enters a 30-day treatment program, that with your prayers and the grace of God, will alleviate some of her on going illness.

Prayer List Update

Once again, we are in need of your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

One Call Now Prayer List

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.

The Saints In Action

TODAY –First Sunday in Lent – Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 Sunday School Following Meeting

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bell Rehearsal

Next Sunday – Second Sunday in Lent
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 02/19/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1966.00	\$3155.58	-\$1189.58
Ben	\$181.00	\$182.69	-\$1.69
Maint	\$266.00	\$163.46	\$102.54
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2413.00	\$3501.73	-\$1088.73

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$15,

Worship Attendance: 80
Sunday School: 20

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

Hearing Amplifiers

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Pam Bush (Board), Tyler Gindlesperger (Camera)

Ushers: Tom Croner, Amanda Custer

Acolytes: Nathan Spangler

The Flowers on the altar in honor of our children, Larry W McCullen, Jr.. and Cindy L. McCullen Janicki and our two grandsons, 1st Lieutenant Jacob K. Janicki, U.S. Army and Joshua L. Janicki by Larry & Judy McCullen & Judy McCullen

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by

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:

Tom Calvert, President, 814-267-3771

Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650

Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166

Consistory Deacons:

Amy Clark, Julie Petro, Ann Slifco

Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, Tom Croner

Amanda Custer, Debbie Boyer, Gaye Maust

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

The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule:

February 19-March 26: You Make Me Crazy: Surviving Relationships God's Way:

A crazy-maker can really make life difficult. This six-week video-based study from Pastor Warren will help bring sanity to your relationships so you can do more than just coexist. Learn how to connect with the crazy-makers in your life; whether a spouse, sibling, parent, co-workers, or someone else.

April 2 & 9: **A Look at Easter** – A short Bible study to focus in on the wonder of Easter.

April 16: **No class** as Sue Coughenour will be away. We invite you to join Tom Calvert's class this week.

April 23-July 9: **Culture Shock:** A 12-part video series by Chip Ingram. Where do you stand on the issues of Truth, Abortion, The Environment, Sex, Homosexuality, Churches, and Politics? More importantly what does God say? More than ever before, believers must develop convictions based on research, reason, and biblical truth. It's equally important that believers are able (and willing) to communicate these convictions with the love and respect that reflects God's own heart. This study will help you to respond with love, even in the face of controversy. In the process, you'll discover the power of bringing light – not heat – to the core issues at the heart of society today.

This class is open to adults of **ALL AGES** and is lead by Sue Coughenour. *Come join us!*

Croner Educational Fund

Trinity United Church of Christ established the Education Fund in memory of Joseph and Erma Croner with Earl D Croner and

Richard F Croner as donors. First priority for the money from the Fund shall be to members of the church who are students for the Christian ministry. Second priority shall be for college students who are members of the church and have a financial need. Applications for the Croner Educational Fund Scholarship will be accepted from January 1 – March 31, 2023. A transcript of applicant/student grades is to be included with the application. Applications can be obtained at the church office.

Holy Trinity Lutheran will hold mid-week Lenten services 3/1 through 3/29/2023 at 7:00 PM.

We will be presenting the five-part Lenten Drama "They Followed the Master".

We welcome the community to join us.

Good Friday Combined Service

We have been invited to join the Brethren Church, Three Seasons Church, and the Lutheran Church in a combined service at the Lutheran Church, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. We will have members participating in the service and would like to have good representation of Trinity UCC. Stay tuned!

Greeter Committee

Now that Bob Brown has completed the Usher List (thank you for those willing to participate), we would like to begin a "Greeter" list once again. If you are interested in coordinating this list or participating, please let us know. You may contact any Consistory member, Bob Brown, or the church office.

Hugs and Kisses are having a meeting on March 7, 2023 at 6:30.

Attention Youth – Fun ahead! On March 26th, we would like to play Rainbow Bells during church and after church that day we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt with prizes! We will need to practice a few times which will just be during Sunday School (after church around 10:00 in the basement) on March 12th and March 19th. Please plan on joining us so that we have enough kids to play bells. Any questions – see Amanda Custer.

Profile Committee:

Dears Member & Friends of Trinity,

The Profile Committee has completed the profile and it is now in the final process of being compiled into a nice document, with photos, to be sent to Penn West Conference.

My deep appreciation to the committee members Bob Brown, Jason Clark, Sue Coughneour, Jean Ann Darr, Missy Miller and Grace Romesberg.

In faith,
Debbie Boyer
Profile Committee

Birthright of Somerset

Dear Congregation of Trinity United Church of Christ,
Thank you for participating in the 2022 Birthright Giving Tree Drive. Your kindness and generosity allows us to provide a layette of baby items to each "Birthright Baby" born throughout the year.
Sincerely, Birthright of Somerset, Inc.

Adopt A Family

On behalf of the Berlin Brothersvalley School District, I would like to thank you for your support this past Christmas. You have blessed so many of our students with your kindness and generosity. We are so grateful to have such a strong, supportive community for our students and their families.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Danielle Hay

Next Step Center

Thank you for your generosity of your donation of \$150 for the work of the Next Step Center in Somerset. Your donation helps us purchase supplies we need to keep this house running smoothly and to make our guests who stay with us safe and comfortable.

Card Shower:

Mary Forespring, a member of our church, is turning 94 Sunday, March 5, 2023. It would be great to acknowledge this milestone and brighten her day by sending a card with well wishes.

167 Grange Rd, Meyersdale, PA 15552

A **HUGE** Thank You to Diane Vander Schuur for being so gracious in providing the Hymns for the Service this morning! It's great to have **LIVE** music in the church!!

Prayer and well wishes for Pastor Art Gotjen

Pastor Art has recently undergone some surgery and will be unavailable for the next couple of months. Please join us in sending him your prayers, well wishes and cards to:
Art Gotjen, 1096 Sunset Dr., Somerset PA 15501

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, who will arrange for a pastor to provide comfort and assurance in a time of crisis. If you need **immediate** pastoral care, contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.

