



***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

***September 22, 2024***

***Guest Speaker – Steve Dinning***

***Assisted by Cohen Clark***

***Trinity United Church of Christ***

***600 Main Street***

***Berlin, Pennsylvania***

**Preludes**         **Come Christians, Join to Sing – Mary McDonald**  
                          **Trusting Jesus – Mary McDonald**

**Welcome**

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**

In this time set apart for worship,  
the Holy Spirit invites us:

**Draw near to God,**

who is steady and sure.

**Draw near to God,**

who welcomes those often overlooked.

**Draw near to God,**

who draws us together,

threads woven in a shared fabric of faith.

**Let us worship the Lord!**

**Hymn No. 20**

**All People That on Earth Do Dwell**

**Call to Confession**

Saints, it is time to 'fess up. As good as we have tried to be, all of us have messed up this week and need God's forgiveness once again. Commandments have been broken right and left. We've lied. We've allowed jobs, money and people to exist as gods in place of God. The list could go on. Together, let us confess our sins before our loving God.

### **Prayer of Confession**

God, we confess that although we knew better, we have sinned. We have not loved you or our neighbors the way we should. We have not always honored you with our time. We've coveted other people's stuff. And sometimes we have called you out of your name. Lord, forgive us. We apologize for the pain we've caused you. Forgive us of our sins and help us to live in ways that give you joy – in Jesus' name, amen.

### **Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Brothers and sisters, there is good news today! God is faithful and just and has forgiven each of us for all of our mess. The things you were embarrassed about – God has forgiven you. The thing no one else knows about – God has forgiven it! You have been given the graceful gift of another chance. Hallelujah! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thank you God!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Glory to God! Thank you Jesus! Amen.**

### **\*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.**

**Please Remain Standing**

With Joy We Now Offer Our Gifts

**\* 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**

**Offering Prayer**

Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, knowing how many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Yet you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

**Scripture**

**Proverbs 31: 10-31**

- 10** A good wife who can find?  
She is far more precious than jewels.
- 11** The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.
- 12** She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.
- 13** She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.
- 14** She is like the ships of the merchant,  
she brings her food from afar.
- 15** She rises while it is yet night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her maidens.
- 16** She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

**17** She girds her loins with strength  
and makes her arms strong.  
**18** She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.  
**19** She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.  
**20** She opens her hand to the poor,  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.  
**21** She is not afraid of snow for her household,  
for all her household are clothed in scarlet.  
**22** She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.  
**23** Her husband is known in the gates,  
when he sits among the elders of the land.  
**24** She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she delivers girdles to the merchant.  
**25** Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.  
**26** She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.  
**27** She looks well to the ways of her household,  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.  
**28** Her children rise up and call her blessed;  
her husband also, and he praises her:  
**29** "Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all."  
**30** Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.  
**31** Give her of the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the gates.

## **Psalm 1**

**1** Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
**2** but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.  
**3** He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water,

that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.

**4** The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff which the wind drives away.

**5** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**6** for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

## **Epistle**

**James 3: 13, 4: 3, 7-8**

**13** Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good life  
let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

**3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend  
it on your passions.

**7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will  
flee from you.

**8** Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your  
hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you men of double  
mind.

## **Gospel**

**Mark 9: 30 - 37**

**30** They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he  
would not have any one know it;

**31** for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of  
man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him;  
and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

**32** But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to  
ask him.

**33** And they came to Caperna-um; and when he was in the house  
he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?"

**34** But they were silent; for on the way they had discussed with  
one another who was the greatest.

**35** And he sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them, "If  
any one would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

**36** And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and  
taking him in his arms, he said to them,

**37** “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

**Hymn No. 94                      How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds**

**Sermon  
Guest Speaker –Steve Dinning**

**Hymn No. 600                      If You Will Only Let God Guide You**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Response – Sung with Dismissal**

**Go Now in Peace  
Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of ev’ry day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

**\*Going Forth**

**Postlude We Have Heard the Joyful Sound – Mary McDonald**

**+ + + + +**



### **Those Remembered in prayer:**

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

### **Shut Ins:**

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor, Ruth Elaine Whitacre.

### **Healing Concerns:**

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer,  
Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,  
Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks,  
Nancy Custer, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka,  
Paul Gallick, Nancy Gindlesperger,  
Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith,  
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,  
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Peter Kaltenbaugh, Barry Landis,  
Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Cathy Meyers, Joyce Miller,  
Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,  
Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy  
Schrock, Curt Shaulis, JoAnne Smith, Brooke Stutzman,  
Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,  
Lucy Wright, Allison Zimmerman, Gerald Zorn

### **The Saints In Action**

TODAY- 18th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – Trinity Bells Practice 6:30 p.m.

Next Sunday – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School



## Giving From 09/15/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$2166.00	\$3155.58	-\$989.58.
<b>Ben</b>	\$80.00	\$182.69	-\$102.69
<b>Maint</b>	\$195.00	\$163.46	\$31.54
<b>Mem</b>	\$0.00		\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	\$2441.00	\$3501.73	-\$1060.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$25 and Caring for Our Churches \$25, Ministerium \$25 and Bethlehem Experience \$25.

**Worship Attendance: 62 + 9 Online = 71**  
**Sunday School: 16**

### ***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:** Colton Custer (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

**Ushers:** Sheron Engleka, Alissa Wright

**Acolytes:** Cohen Clark

**Organ:** *Amanda Custer*

**Flowers on the altar** in appreciation from the office staff for the support from the entire congregation to make every effort to keep things running as smoothly as possible when faced with many challenges. We appreciate you more than you will ever know.

**Bulletin** in loving memory of my brother, Billy Tamblyn by 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:**

*Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650*

*Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166*

*Jim Darr, 814-267-5260*

**Consistory Deacons:**

*Pam Bush, Leanna Coughenour, Tom Croner (President) 814-*

*442-6740, Amanda Custer, Jean Hart, Gale Hay, Bill Landis,*

*Julie Petro, Ann Slifco*

**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](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.berlinucc.org](http://www.berlinucc.org)

**Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.**

September 29 Steve Dinning

**October 6** – Combined Service with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

October 13 – Dave Creamer

October 20 – Dave Creamer

October 27 – Dave Creamer

**Bolded dates indicate communion.**

## **Sunday School**

Are you going through a difficult period of life? During these desert times, it's easy to think God has disappeared. Instead, discover that it's only when we are totally dependent on him that we find him closer than ever and can experience God's amazing grace and provision. Ray Vander Laan will take us on a trip in the desert to experience what it was like for the Israelites as they wandered in the desert to find the Promised Land. This seven-part series began August 11 and is led by Sue Coughenour. Sunday School begins at 10:10 in the Fellowship Hall, everyone is invited to join in.

**Sunday School Teachers** would like to make a Lego Room out of the part of the Nursery that has carpeting. There are Parables and other Bible Lessons that can be taught using Legos. If anyone has any Legos or a Lego table or Lego storage options that they would like to donate to this project- please bring them and put them in the nursery downstairs. Thank you!

## **Hugs & Kisses**

**Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> - Bike/Hike on the GAP Trail.** We will meet at the church parking lot at 5 PM and plan on starting at the Deal Trailhead and bike or walk to the Big Savage Tunnel (or as little or as far as you want to go!) Bring your bike/helmet, walking shoes, water bottle/snacks.

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> – Pumpkin Carving at the Lutheran Church 6 PM** – Bring your own pumpkin and carving tools if you have any. They will be providing apple cider and snacks. This is ALL ages. Please let Amanda Custer know if you plan on attending so they can have an approximate count.

## **Bethlehem Experience**

Planning is underway for the 5<sup>th</sup> biennial “Bethlehem Experience in Berlin PA. This year’s event will be held Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>, on the Block Party Lot in Berlin. In an effort to cut down on the waiting time, we are planning to offer a “walk through” from 200-4:00 p.m. and a “drive through” from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

How can you help?

- 1) Pray that the people coming to the event experience Jesus and pray for favorable weather.
- 2) Donate funds to purchase supplies for building sets; pay for rental of sound/lighting systems.
- 3) Volunteer to help with making the sets, costumes, painting, etc.
- 4) Volunteer to serve as actors – we will need approximately 40 volunteers.
- 5) Volunteer to help with set up and tear down December 7-8

If you are able to donate, please make check payable to:

Bethlehem Experience, 500 South St., Berlin PA 15530

If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact one of the following:

Joanne Stoltzfus – 814-233-5905

Cheryl Hay – 814-267-5642

Angie Klink – 814-442-9195

Jeanette Landis – 814-267-3020

April Logue – 814-267-5072

Lorrie Shaw – 814-521-8852

### **Veterans Sunday Preparation**

In preparation for our annual Veterans Program, please submit new or changes of information to Sheron Engleka prior to October 27. Sheron puts a lot of time and effort into this program so the sooner we get this information to her the better.

### **Heritage Sunday, October 6th, 2024**

Both the Council of Trinity Lutheran Church and our Consistory have graciously agreed to return an old tradition called Heritage Sunday. This is based on our common heritage beginning in 1777 when both congregations built one building for both congregations to share. The date selected and approved is October 6th, 2024. There will be no church or Sunday School at our church that Sunday. Church Service will be at 10:40am that Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Berlin. Sunday School will be there also at 9:30am. The following year we, Trinity UCC, will then host Trinity Lutheran at our church. Please join in this celebration of our Common Heritage on Sunday, October 6th, 2024.

## **Hospice Volunteers Needed**

Hospice volunteers come from all ages and walks of life, with an extraordinary love and compassionate concern for others. They contribute to the overall well-being of our patients, families, and UPMC Volunteers help Family Hospice and those we serve in many ways.

- Patient/family companionship
- Bereavement support
- Pet assisted visits
- Clerical
- Share musical talents
- Barber and hair stylist

All volunteers receive free training and orientation. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Family Hospice, call Daun, volunteer & bereavement coordinator at 814-515-6056.

## **Berlin Ministerium**

There will be an open house, Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., at the Berlin Grove for Trail Life (for boys) and American Heritage Girls. The Berlin Brethren church is the charter for these troops, and we have youth and leaders from about 18 different churches involved from around the area. The Goal—make disciples for Jesus Christ by learning to be godly men and women.

## **Caring for Churches, Caring for Clergy**

We are excited about the progress that is being made in the Caring for Churches, Caring for Clergy campaign of the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ! We hope to raise \$500,000.00, with \$450,000.00 being directed toward our Mission Grants program and \$50,000.00 being directed toward the Pension Boards (United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance) Generations of Service Campaign. The Generations of Service campaign helps with financial assistance to current and future retirees, development of leadership programs, and improvements toward the financial wellness of those in ministry. The Penn West Conference Mission Grants program provides grants to local churches for operational expenses, programs that reach out to help meet community needs, and initiatives that strengthen

churches. We anticipate and expect that this program will also help with new church starts and church growth initiatives in our Conference's life. So far, we are excited to share that we have raised \$423,163.83 in pledges and gifts toward the campaign!

At our last Consistory meeting we discussed the above request and approved making it our mission effort for September. Please consider contributing to CFC this month, and hopefully we can help Penn West reach their goal of \$500,000 before they conclude the effort in December.

**Congregational meeting called for September 29<sup>th</sup>** following worship service. We want to have the Congregation determine what they would prefer regarding our projector (which has to be replaced due to the lightning damage) and screen capabilities. We can either use the screen with the projector with higher resolution or convert to a large TV screen measuring 88 x 51.

**Care Committee** conversations are continuing as Jay Shaffer has shared with us a manual for setting up and organizing a committee. Thanks to those who have reached out with thoughts, shared interest, and ideas of how God is calling us to serving our members and those in need. If you would like to learn more, please reach out to Tom Croner or call the office.

**Pastoral Care:** For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Croner, President of Consistory at 814-442-6740, 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.





**Almighty God**, as I stand at the beginning of this new week, I humbly come before Your presence. I thank You for the gift of life and the opportunity to start afresh. I seek Your guidance and strength for the days that lie ahead. Lord, I ask that You would lead and direct my steps in this week.

**Have a Blessed Week!**