



***Ash Wednesday***  
***Evening Service – 7:00 p.m.***  
***Guest Speaker:***  
***Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh***

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

## **Prelude**

## **Meditation – Richard Blake Prelude on “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**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may  
have eternal life.

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.

O God the Father, creator of heaven and earth,

**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Son, redeemer of the world

**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate, and guide,

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,  
three persons and one God,

**Have mercy on us.**

## **\*Hymn No. 382**

## **Be Thou My Vision**

## **Prayer of Confession:**

**Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and uphold us with a willing spirit.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Silent Confession:**

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give us contrite hearts. May Christ, bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal us by his wounds. May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak words of pardon and peace.

### **Scripture:**

#### **Joel 2: 12-18**

**12** “Yet even now,” says the Lord,  
“return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
**13** and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and repents of evil.

**14** Who knows whether he will not turn and repent,  
and leave a blessing behind him,  
a cereal offering and a drink offering  
for the Lord, your God?

**15** Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
sanctify a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;

**16** gather the people.  
Sanctify the congregation;  
assemble the elders;  
gather the children,  
even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her chamber.

**17** Between the vestibule and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep  
and say, “Spare thy people, O Lord,  
and make not thy heritage a reproach,  
a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,  
‘Where is their God?’ ”

**18** Then the Lord became jealous for his land,  
and had pity on his people.

## **2 Corinthians 5: 20 6: 2**

**20** So we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

**2** For he says,

“At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.”

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

### **Gospel:**

#### **Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18**

**1** “Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

**2** “Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

**3** But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

**4** so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

**5** “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

**6** But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

**16** “And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

**17** But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,

**18** that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

**Sermon – “Just a Little Ashes”  
Guest Speaker – Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh**

**Prayer for the Imposition of Ashes**

Gracious God,  
you created us out of the dust of the earth  
and breathed into us the breath of life.  
By your hand we live and to your hands we return when all  
our days are done.  
Grant that the awareness of our mortality may lead us not to  
fear, but to faith.  
In our weakness teach us to look to you for strength,  
in our failures to turn to you and find forgiveness,  
and in our dying to await the gift of everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Imposition of Ashes**

**\*Hymn No: 92**

**Love Devine, All Loves Excelling**

**\*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**

**The Festive Trumpet – Brian Glyncannon**

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There is no formal offering this evening. You are invited to leave a gift as you feel in the offering plates at the sanctuary entrances.

The purpose of Ash Wednesday worship is threefold: to meditate on our mortality, sinfulness, and need of a savior; to renew our commitment to daily repentance in the Lenten season and in all of life; and to remember with confidence and gratitude that Christ has conquered death and sin. Ash Wednesday worship, then, is filled with gospel truth. *It is a witness to the power and beauty of our union with Christ and to the daily dying and rising with Christ that this entails.*





**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, Melvin Baughman Family, Donnie Baxter, Jim  
Benoit, Kathy Blough, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer,  
Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,  
Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks,  
Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz, John Foor,  
Nancy Gindlesperger, Cheryl Glessner, Art & Marlene Gotchen,  
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Larry Hay, Brenda &  
Larry Leister, Jim Little, Joyce Miller, Bonnie Murphy, Carl  
(Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, Larry Pritts, James Robb, Brett  
Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Peggy Stayrook, Betty  
Strasser, William Tamblyn, Larry Tinkey,  
Paul Trulick, Adeline Vieregge,  
Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

***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/Pam Bush (Board) Tyler Gindlesperger  
(Camera)

**Ushers:** Tom Croner, Amanda Custer

**Flowers on the altar** are in celebration of the December 26, 2023 engagement of 1LT Jacob K. Janicki, U.S. Army to Miss Alexandra “Hanna” Reza Gurrola from Baton Rouge, LA by Larry & Judy McCullen and Kenneth & Cindy Janicki.

### ***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),*

*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.**

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