



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

Guest Speaker – Josh Spangler assisted by Cora Wright

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes

Satisfied- Carolyn Hamlin

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – Anna

Laura Page

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**

Breath of Life, you animate us.

We come before you are seeking revival from within.

Holy One, when you speak, great things happen.

Empower us to make great things happen.

Matchless One, you bring good things to life.

We desire to bring good things to life too.

***Hymn No. 349**

Trust and Obey

***Call To Confession:**

Mender of Hearts, we confess that sometimes in our brokenness, we cause brokenness in others. Sometimes in our woundedness, we wound others. In these despairing moments, we need healing and restoration. We give thanks that we are never beyond your reach or grace. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Words of Pardon:

God's mercy makes wholeness possible and our wholeness is rooted in becoming who we are meant to be—living sanctuaries. Amen.

Rainbow Bells

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

In The Garden

Scripture:
Ezekiel 37: 1-14

1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; it was full of bones.

2 And he led me round among them; and behold, there were very many upon the valley; and lo, they were very dry.

3 And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, thou knowest."

4 Again he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

5 Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 And as I looked, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.

9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great host.

11 Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.'

12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you home into the land of Israel.

13 And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people.

14 And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken, and I have done it, says the LORD."

Psalter 130:

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

² **Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

³ If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

⁴ **But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

⁵ I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

⁶ **my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸ **It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

Gospel:

John 11: 1-45

1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill.

3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means of it."

5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

6 So when he heard that he was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."

8 The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were but now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"

9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any one walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

10 But if any one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

11 Thus he spoke, and then he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awake him out of sleep."

12 The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."

13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.

14 Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead;

15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

16 Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,

19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.

20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary sat in the house.

21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

22 And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

26 and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying quietly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.

30 Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.

31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

32 Then Mary, when she came where Jesus was and saw him, fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled;

34 and he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."

35 Jesus wept.

36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb; it was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

42 I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me."

43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with bandages, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him;

***Hymn No. 505**

Love Lifted Me

Sermon

Josh Spangler

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's 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**

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

***Hymn No. 293**

Rise Up, Oh Church of God

***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 The Awakening – Edward Broughton

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Dates to Remember:

**Holy Trinity will have a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday April 6, 2023**
**Holy Trinity will host Community Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.
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, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Bob Murphy, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Harold Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Greg Shaulis, Tracey Smith, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

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 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

Rainbow Bells

Easter Egg Hunt & Party

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

Next Sunday – Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

Giving From 03/19/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2267.00	\$3155.58	-\$888.58
Ben	\$380.00	\$182.69	\$197.31
Maint	\$215.00	\$163.46	\$51.54
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2862.00	\$3501.73	-\$639.67

Not included in Benevolence are donations to Food Pantry of \$10

Worship Attendance: 86

Sunday School: 27

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: Tyler Gindlesperger (Board), Tom Croner (Camera)

Ushers: Tom Calvert, Amy Clark

Acolytes: Nathan Spangler

The Flowers on the altar in memory of their daughter, Melissa Jean, by Leonard & Shirley Gary.

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: You Make Me Crazy: Surviving Relationships God's Way: We will be finishing this study.

April 9: No Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

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. **Because there is a lot of interest in this class, we will be joining Tom Calvert's class in the Fellowship Hall and holding class there.**

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

Hugs & Kisses

April 21st – Candy Bar Bingo – This is for ALL ages – Hugs & Kisses will provide pizza for dinner and the candy bars for the prizes. Please sign up at the entrance so that we have a count for pizza and feel free to bring a snack, drink, or dessert to share. Come and join us for the fun!

May 7th – Brunch after Church – We would like to try something new after Church. Since it's not lunch time, we would like to invite everyone to stay after Church for brunch and fellowship. There will be no Sunday School on this date. Everyone can bring food to share and Hugs & Kisses will set things up, heat up casseroles, etc, but we need **everyone's help** to make this a success. There will be a sign-up sheet at the entrance. Please come, eat, and fellowship with us!

Next Hugs & Kisses Planning Meeting – Tuesday, May 2nd, 6:30 p.m.

Birthright of Somerset:

We are pleased to announce our Annual Birthright Award Contests. The Essay Award will be given to the 12th grade student who can best convey their response to the essay scenario as presented in the Award Criteria. The eligible student who wins the first-place award will receive \$1000.00. A prize of \$750.00 will be awarded to the 2nd place winner.

The second contest is the Design A T-Shirt Contest. A prize of \$1000.00 will be awarded to the student with the winning design and second-place will receive an award of \$750.00. The deadline for the applications is March 31st, 2023. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office for applications.

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.

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

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

In the newsletter we provided a list of our upcoming leaders in worship. These are subject to change so we will let you know of any changes as they occur through the weekly bulletin.

April 2	Jay Shaffer
April 9	Bill Deal
April 16	Steve Dinning
April 23	Josh Spangler

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.



Have a Blessed Week!