

Ninth Sunday after
Pentecost

***August 10, 2025
9th Sunday After Pentecost
Pastor Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Cohen Clark***

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

Preludes

Speak, O Lord – Jason Payne

We would like to dedicate the 2nd prelude to Abby who greeted our congregation in the church office for years with her friendliness and wagging of her tail. May she rest in peace.

Amazing Grace(My Chains Are Gone) – Mark Hayes

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: Based on Psalm 33, The greatness and goodness of God

Rejoice in the Lord all who come before Him, His benefits are righteous and upright.

We praise the Lord with song, loud shouts of joy!

Gods' work is done in faithfulness; he fills the Earth with steadfast love.

We praise the Lord with prayer, our thoughts steady and true.

The word of God made the heavens; his breath made all their host.

We praise the Lord with deeds, our actions guided by his will.

***Hymn No. 8**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Call to Confession

We are told in the book of Hebrews that "our faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the *conviction* of things not seen." With that faith let us pray for the Grace of Jesus Christ.

Confession

Heavenly Father, hear our prayer. Forgive us for the times we sin, our thoughts words and deeds. Help us to never stop growing in faith. Help us to know we can be better Christians. We pray that within us you find a willing servant.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Assured by the same Faith that Abraham had to journey to a strange land, we seek our forgiveness. We are blessed by the same God who gave him descendants as numerous as the stars. Rejoice in Jesus name we can be forgiven.

***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, a grateful people. We have brought a share of our abundance, our offering to you. We pray that your will is done. We pray for your enduring love, that your protective arms keep our military safe. We pray for your protections that our first responders can do their jobs and return safely home. We pray for the care givers that you strengthen them with compassion and patience. We pray for the ones with hearts who know loss, fill their souls with comfort. We ask that you see our prayer list, that your healing touch brings health to bodies, minds, and souls. We pray that your shepherding presence is never far from those who wander. Bless us with your Spirit, help us all to have our lamps ready and help us to shine our light. We are grateful for Jesus Christ, our greatest gift and greatest hope, we offer you the prayer he taught to us.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Special Music

Cohn Clark

"Hallelujah"

"You Raise Me Up"

Scripture

Old Testament:

Genesis Chapter 15: 1-6

1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

5 And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

6 And he believed the Lord; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews Chapter 11: 1-3, 8-16

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2 For by it the men of old received divine approval.

3 By faith we understand that the world was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made out of things which do not appear.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

10 For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

13 These all died in faith, not having received what was promised, but having seen it and greeted it from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.

16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

**The Gospel of Jesus Christ:
Luke Chapter 12: 32-40**

32 “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell your possessions and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

35 “Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning,

36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks.

37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them.

38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants!

39 But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.

40 You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Message

**“Don’t Worry about a thing, but be ready for anything”
Pastor Dave Creamer**

***Hymn No. 380**

Just A Closer Walk With Thee

***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.**

***Going Forth**

Postlude Postlude on Invention in F Major – Gordon Young

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

**Barb Berkley, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Debbi Luteri,
Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor, Ruth Elaine Whitacre.**

Healing Concerns:

**Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Brad Bowers,
Paige Boyer, Chris Brant, Father Elijah Bremer,
Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman, Susan Constantino,
Tammy Coughenour, Renee Croushore, Eric Custer,
Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, 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, Jim Little, Blair and Phylis Lyons, Judy McCullen,
Larry McCullen, Joyce Miller, Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller,
Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, Brian Robb, James Robb,
Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis,
Missy Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy, Dawn Edmiston-Strasser,
Larry Tinkey, Patsy and Dave Titus, Robin Walker,**

Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Please keep Bobbie Coughenour and her family in your prayers due to the passing of her husband, Robert, last Thursday.

Please keep Pam Bush in your prayers due to the passing of her "Sweet Abby" this past Sunday.

It's time once again to update our prayer list. If you have any information regarding the people on this list, please contact the church office with updates, removals, or any other information.

The Saints In Action

Today- 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday – 7:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Next Sunday – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 08/03/2025

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2287.00	\$3155.58	-\$868.58
Ben	\$215.00	\$182.69	\$32.31
Maint	\$255.00	\$163.46	\$91.54
Mem			
Total	\$2757.00	\$3501.73	-\$744.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$25

Worship Attendance: 81

Sunday School: 10

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, Lori Gindlesperger

Ushers: Sheron Engleka, Alissa Wright

Acolytes: Cohen Clark

Organ: Amy Clark

Flowers on the altar are in honor of our children and grandchildren, The Trulicks, Paul, Michelle, Nick, Stew, Kristin, Aaron and Rebecca and the Englekas, Sean, Cathy, Shelby and Jayden by Reon & Sheron Engleka.

Bulletin for 8/3 was dedicated to our grandson, (Capt. Jacob K. Janicki) Alpha Distribution Company by Larry & Judy McCullen.

Bulletin for 8/10 is dedicated to the 215th Brigade Support Battalion by Larry & Judy McCullen.

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

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

Pictorial Committee

Pictorial Update: Family pictures by Amanda Dowdy have been completed. Any family that still needs a picture taken please contact Lori Gindlesperger to schedule.

The committee is going to attempt to take committee, staff and volunteer pictures after church on the following Sundays. Would the chairman of each committee please check with your members and notify Lori Gindlesperger (814-279-4709) if the members will not be available?

August 10th- Consistory, Financial Review, Property, Pictorial, Pastor & Personnel, Outreach, Office Secretaries, Sextons and Ushers.

August 17th- Fellowship & Funeral, Hugs & Kisses Coordinators, Music, Endowment, Christmas Decoration, Paraments, Acolytes, and Lectors.

Thank you to all who have helped with this project.

We are pleased to include a special section in the upcoming church pictorial honoring our Veterans. If you would like to have a photo included, please submit it to the church office or to Lori Gindlesperger no later than **August 15, 2025**. All submitted photos will be returned.

Additionally, we are collecting high-quality candid photographs from church events and activities that took place during **2024–2025**.

Sunday School

Beginning September 21st, Sue Coughenour will begin a new in-depth study of the book of Daniel. Using Dr. Alan B. Stringfellow's method of studying Daniel, we will bring clarity and understanding to one of the most misunderstood books in Scripture. By embarking on this journey, believers will discover the influence that the book of Daniel had on the life and literature of the Jewish people throughout the biblical period and all the way to the writers of the New Testament, including Jesus Christ Himself, who often quoted from it. But nowhere is that influence seen as thoroughly as in the writings of the apostle John and parallels that exist with the book of Revelation. As in John's prophetic work, the book of Daniel describes in beautiful and marvelous language the glorious coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Like John, Daniel was sure and certain about the final triumph of the kingdom of God.

Everyone is invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall following the morning worship service. Come give Sunday School a try - we are never too old, nor can we say we know enough about scripture to say it isn't for you.

Hugs & Kisses

TODAY: Sunday, August 10th – Altoona Curve Game 1 PM.

UPMC Family Hospice will be offering free Grief Support Groups beginning in late September. The groups will run for six (6) weeks. If interested, please see the church office for more information.

The Pius Springs Woman's Club

Don't Shop Back to School- SWAP Back to School! Thank you to all members that donated items for this community event sponsored by the Pius Spring Woman's Club. The Back-to-School Swap, open to the public, will be held in the Cup of Soul Café Garage Annex on Sunday, August 10th, from 1:00-6:00 p.m. Clothing, shoes and backpacks, available in various sizes, were donated by our Community for our Community. Monetary donations will be accepted but are not required. All money collected will be donated to the school "Backpack Program".

Desserts and Ice Cream-Sunday, August 10th, 1:00-6:00 p.m. at the Ice Cream Station, Berlin. Join us for delicious homemade desserts by the Pius Spring Woman's Club. Add your favorite ice cream from the Ice Cream Station. There's something for everyone to enjoy!

Help Support JB Schrock Community Park!

We're grateful for the community's support of our local playground again this summer! Our supervised program ends August 15, but the park remains open for all to enjoy. This summer, we've welcomed over 1,500 children, hosted daycares, and offered daily crafts and activities led by our amazing staff. The free summer lunch program was a huge success, and we were blessed with three teen employees through CareerLink/Tableland. Please see the poster at the Vine Street entrance for additional information of upcoming events.

Church World Services Hygiene Kits

Remember we still have bags at the entrances of the sanctuary with a list of things for the hygiene kits. Thank you to those who have already participated but remember to pick yours up if you haven't already done so. These are extremely important items to assist with shelters in disaster areas.

Mailboxes At Church

The mailboxes in the hallway between the kitchen and entrance have been relabeled. Please remember to pick up your mail if you have a mailbox and if you would like to leave communication for any of these groups, please utilize their mailbox. If the church is locked, absolutely feel free to leave information in the church office door slot. If you would like to see additional boxes, please let the office know.

Pastor Dave
Church Office
Financial Secretary
Consistory
Sextons
Christian Ed

Hugs & Kisses
Bell Choir
Sunday School
Trinity Ladies
Organist

Trinity Trumpet

As we head into August, it's already time to start thinking about our newsletter which will be published at the end of the month. As fall approaches the church gets very busy as you all know. Those of you who contribute regularly, we appreciate your ongoing support. We would really like to stress the fact that we'd love to hear from any and all members of our congregation.

Thank you on behalf of the Berlin Food Pantry for your financial support. This donation will assist in helping those who struggle to make ends meet within the greater Berlin and Shanksville School Districts.

Thank you from the Humane Society of Somerset County

Dear friends at Trinity United Church of Christ, we wish you could see firsthand how we are using your generous gift to make a difference at our shelter. Without your compassion and generosity, we would not be able to provide a second chance at life for abused, abandoned and unwanted animals. Our dedicated staff, loyal volunteers and our beautiful animals are truly blessed to have your support. On behalf of the animals, thank you for sharing your heart!

Parking

Our tenant is officially in the parsonage living quarters. Please remember that her access to the garage and back door needs to be clear. Please adhere to the no parking signs in front of the garage doors in the parking lot.

As a reminder, please remember that the last five spots on either side of Riverside Market (those closest to Main Street) are designated spots for us on Sundays. Additionally, the lot behind the bank (Riverside's big parking lot) is available for us as well. We appreciate Scott Etris letting us park there so we need to respect the guidelines.

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 Dave Creamer, Student Pastor for Trinity at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.

Sermon Notes



Heavenly Father, as this new week begins we come before you seeking your divine guidance. Please light our path and grant us the wisdom to make the right choices. Help us to trust in your plans, knowing that they are for our good. May we find strength in your presence and peace in your promises. Amen.

**Thank You for Joining Us
Have a Blessed Week Ahead**