



***Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Cohen Clark***

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

Prelude

**Majesty – Douglas Wagner
Gabriel's Oboe – Ennio Morricone**

Announcements

Call to Worship:

The morning has broken let us give thanks.

Thanks be to God.

For the gift of life and the world that surrounds us.

Thanks be to God.

For the Holy presence among us let us worship God together.

Thanks be to God.

***Hymn No. 416**

Come, Ye Disconsolate

Call to Confession

Surrounded by Gods Presence, in the company of our siblings in Christ, let us confess our sins.

Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, God knows and receives us as we are. Listen, give thanks, and live! Amen

**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. We are grateful people, thankful of our blessings, and we share what we are able. We ask that your will is done, and we ask that you help us accept that. We pray for your love and care. We pray that you watch over and protect the ones who protect and watch over us. We pray that you will heal and comfort those on our prayer list, heal them in body, mind, and spirit. Strengthen the resolve of the care givers, help us to know the things to do, when to speak and when to listen. Bless us with the guidance of your spirit, help us to take your presence into our lives, and give it to the world. We are grateful most of all for your Son Jesus Christ. Our savior, comforter, and guide, we offer to you the prayer he taught us to pray;

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Trinity Bells "Passionato"

Scripture:

Isaiah Chapter 55, vs 1-9

- 1** Every one who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- 2** Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Hearken diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in fatness.
- 3** Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- 4** Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5** Behold, you shall call nations that you know not,
and nations that knew you not shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.
- 6** "Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
- 7** let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- 8** For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
- 9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Epistle:
First Corinthians Chapter 10, vs 1-13

1 I want you to know, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,

2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 and all ate the same supernatural food

4 and all drank the same supernatural drink. For they drank from the supernatural Rock which followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

5 Nevertheless with most of them God was not pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things are warnings for us, not to desire evil as they did.

7 Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to dance."

8 We must not indulge in immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

9 We must not put the Lord to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents;

10 nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

11 Now these things happened to them as a warning, but they were written down for our instruction, upon whom the end of the ages has come.

12 Therefore let any one who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**Gospel:
Luke Chapter 13, vs 1-9**

- 1 There were some present at that very time who told him of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
2 And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus?
3 I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.
4 Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem?
5 I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."
6 And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.
7 And he said to the vinedresser, 'Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?'
8 And he answered him, 'Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure.
9 And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.

**Trinity Bells
"No Greater Love"**

**Sermon
"You Can Fix Anything with Manure"
Dave Creamer**

***Hymn No. 177**

What Wondrous Love is This

***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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty – John Leavitt

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the 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, Paige Boyer, Dennis
Brant, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,
Tammy Coughenour, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka,
Paul Gallick, Nancy Gindlesperger,
Louie David Gontis, Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith,
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Marilyn Heiple, Gary Hillegas,
Cindy McCullen Janicki, Barry Landis, Brenda Leister,
Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen, Cathy Meyers, Joyce
Miller, Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, Brian Robb, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Stewart
Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,

Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Rick Work, Gerald Zorn

Gary Hillegas had a “Watchman” put in which helps prevent blood clots and he is doing very well and has no restrictions. His wife would like to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns.

Prayer List Update

Please let the office know of the status of anyone you have placed on the Prayer List.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – Third Sunday in Lent & Trinity Bells

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 Trinity Bell Practice

Next Sunday – 4th Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m.

Giving From 03/16/25

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1511.00	\$3155.58	-\$1644.58
Ben	\$345.00	\$182.69	\$162.31
Maint	\$435.00	\$163.46	\$271.54
Mem	\$150.00		\$150.00
Total	\$2441.00	\$3501.73	-\$1060.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry \$110

Worship Attendance: 72

Sunday School: 25

Where You May Find. . .

The Nursery: *is on the lower level for children and their parents. 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: Jim Darr, Tom Croner

Ushers: Ann Slifco, Chris King

Acolytes: Cohen Clark, Liz Hart

Organ: Amy Clark

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

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

If you ordered daffodils, please remember to pick them up after church **TODAY!** Thank you for your support of Blooms of Hope which helps Somerset County cancer patients.

Hugs & Kisses

April 13th - Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School

Berlin Food Pantry

On behalf of the Berlin Food Pantry, thank you 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. May God continue to share these blessings.

"Berlin Veterans Home, 413 Meadow St, Berlin will be having Fish Frys on the following dates, April 4, and April 18. The menu is fried or baked fish, french fries or baked potato, hush puppies, coleslaw and a dinner roll. The cost is \$14.00 and the meal, either eat in or take out, will be available from 3 to 6 pm. Desserts will also be available.

Unity United Church of Christ

Unity's youth will be visiting Hoffman Homes on a trip at the end of April for their Mission of the Month. If you are interested in helping the youth please see the items needed and monetary donations are also welcome. Please put monetary and gift cards donations in the offering plates marked Hoffman Homes and all other items in the box at the back door entrance. *The specific items they have asked for include:*

Gift Cards in any amount (\$5, \$10, \$20, etc.) to: Dunkin, Starbucks, Domino's Pizza, Rita's Italian Ice, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, Wendy's, Taco Bell, Panera, Subway, Sheetz, Walmart, Target, Five Below, Amazon.

Other items that they go through frequently include: Sensory toys, journals/composition books (NO WIRE), gel pens, adult & youth coloring books, and drawing/construction paper.

Since it will be Spring, you could also look at outdoor activities such as frisbees, volleyballs, playground balls, outdoor games, water squirters, water balloons, sidewalk chalk.

Birthright of Somerset, Inc. is pleased to announce its Annual Birthright Award Contest. 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 and a prize of \$750.00 will be awarded to the second-place winner. If interested, please contact the church office for more information.

Hospice is currently looking for volunteers in our area. Our Mission Statement: Our Hospice services are designed to provide comfort care as well as spiritual and emotional support for people in the final phase of a terminal illness. If interested, please refer to the poster at the back door entrance for more information.

Trip to Sight and Sound

There are **2** tickets available for the show June 26th, 2025. The current price is Adults \$184 and children 12 and younger \$132. Final Price will less after a fundraiser in January. Cost includes the bus, dinner, and the show. If you are interested in attending contact Vanessa Gardner, vgard59@gmail.com, reach out on Unity UCC's Face Book, or talk to Pastor Dave (cell 814-777-2280)

Food Pantry

Plastic bags are currently needed for the Berlin Food Pantry, so a collection bin has been placed in the Fellowship Hall. We will continually be collecting bags, as there is also a need for plastic bags for a homeless ministry. A bin is located by the organ in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not give us bags that are soiled.

Parking

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.



Have a Blessed Lent!