



The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

***18th Sunday After Pentecost
September 27, 2026***

***Pastor Dave Creamer
Assisted By: Avery & Isla Hillegas***

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

“Please silence your cell phone”

Preludes:

**Prelude on “Kelvingrove” – Jason Payne
Friends – Michael W. Smith**

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

***Hymn No. 349**

Trust and Obey

Call to Confession

Scripture tells us that the God knows our hearts. He knows the things we need before we ask. Speaking the words helps us understand what we need, what we seek from God. Let us go to him for forgiveness.

Confession

Loving God, hear our prayer. We need your forgiveness. We need the Love and Grace of your Son Jesus. We need the guidance of your Holy Spirit. Renew us, give us energy and determination to do your Will. Bless us, humble us, forgive us.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Rejoice in Gods unending love. Take the blessings he gives to you and surround others with that joy. For that with Give God the Glory.

*** Response 66**

To God Be The Glory

To God be the glory great things He hath done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin And opened the Life gate that all may go in. Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice, Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son And give Him the glory great things He hath done.

***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

Gracious and loving God, we humble ourselves before you. We bring to you our offering, not as bribe to seek forgiveness, but with our faith, that you can take these things and make them a blessing to others. We lift up to you in prayer those in need. Those on our prayer list. The people and places in our hearts that we worry for. We pray that you restore and renew as only you can. We pray that you bring peace and comfort to those who need it. We pray that you strengthen us to be able to accept your will. No matter where it leads us. God, we are so grateful for the gifts you give to us. For a world full of wonders. Our unlimited opportunities to bring you praise, with each thing we do. With overflowing joy we give thanks for your Son Jesus. We offer to you the prayer he first gave to us.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

The Hebrew Scripture Lesson is from Ezekiel Chapter 18, vs 30-32.

30 “Therefore, I will judge you, O house of Israel, everyone according to his ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.

31 Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed against me and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

The Epistle Lesson is from Paul’s Letter to the Philippians Chapter 2, vs 1-13.

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

3 Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves.

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name, which is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

13 for God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**The Gospel Lesson is from
Matthew Chapter 21, vs 23-32.**

23 And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

24 Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.

25 The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’

26 But if we say, ‘From men,’ we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet.”

27 So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

28 “What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’

29 And he answered, ‘I will not’; but afterward he repented and went.

30 And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go.

31 Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

Special Music
“The Prayer”
Leanne Calvert

Message
“Actions Speak Louder Than Words”
Pastor Dave Creamer

***Hymn No. 344**

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

***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

“St. Denio” - Jason Payne

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

**Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly,
Debbi Luteri, Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor**

Healing Concerns:

**Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Paige Boyer,
Chris Brant, Rhonda Brown, Jeff Calvert, Debbie Chafin, Tim
Clites, Susan Constantino, LaVerne Coslic, Tammy Coughenour,
Eric Custer, Lauren Davis, Tracy Dickey,
Judy DiPasquale, Deneen Eutsey, Linda Gallick, Shirley Gary,
Dennis Griffith, Karen Griffith, John Halverson, Andrea (Shaulis)
Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris, Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay,
Marilyn Heiple, Gary Hillegas, Karen Hittie,**

Barry Landis, Wendy Leister, Richard Lilliston, Jim Little,
Nick Lorson, Blair and Phylis Lyons, Judy McCullen,
Larry McCullen, Joyce Miller, Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller,
Tom Nicholson, Carl (Edison) Paul, Easton Pritts, Brian Robb,
James Robb, Brett Sarver, Kayla Sarver, Tammie Saylor,
Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Missy Shaulis, Trig Smith,
Dawn Edmiston-Strasser, Chuck Sullivan, Larry Tinkey,
Lilly Truszka, Audrey Twombly,
Barbara and Peter Usher,
Carl & Matthew Walker, Faye Walker,
Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Echo Kincaid Yoder

Prayers to the Larry Custer family in the passing of his father,
Dale.

**If you have any information on anyone on this list, please
contact the office with updates.**

The Saints In Action

TODAY- 18th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Next Sunday Combined Service At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church—
18th Sunday after Pentecost / Communion
10:40 Worship Service
Potluck To Follow

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: Pam Bush, Cohen Clark

Ushers: Bob Brown, John Wisler

Acolyte / Lector: Avery and Isla Hillegas

Organ: Amy Clark

Flowers on the altar are in memory of my parents Lew and Barb Berkley by Michele Romesberg

Special flowers on the altar are in memory of my wife, Betty, two years passing by Allen Strasser

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by

Dave Creamer, Pastor

Church Secretaries: Pam Bush, Jean Ann Darr

Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger

Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick

Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas

Virtual Organist: Rick Kimmel

Consistory Elders:

Sue Coughenour, 814-233-5413

Jim Darr, 814-483-0957

Allison Zimmerman, 814-267-4324

Consistory Deacons:

*Pam Bush, Lori Gindlesperger, Jean Hart, Jeanne Hillegas,
Bill Landis (President) 814-521-6800, Allen Strasser, Amy Saylor,
Carrie Croner, Shawn Hart*

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

Adult Sunday School Update:

In Revelation 2 & 3, Jesus dictated, through John, seven letters to seven pastors in Asia Minor, which is modern day Turkey. While the churches were literal, they each also represented a specific time in church history leading up to Christ' second coming. God had a specific message for each church and each period of church history.

Join the Adult Sunday school class on Sunday, September 20, 2026, as we begin a deep look into these two chapters in Revelation. Adult Sunday school begins at 10:10 am in the Fellowship Hall and all are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Coughenour.

A Message From Maria Mowry – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Hi there I'm a bit behind with things but I'm hoping we can get some of your church members together for a combined choir for Heritage Sunday. I will send you copy to print tonight for anyone interested. We will practice the next two Sundays after our 10:40 am service. So around 11:50/12. It is just an old-fashioned hymn. Nothing hard. And probably one evening practice if necessary the week of the service. If you could please let your members know I'd appreciate it so much. Thank you. Anyone my number who wants further info- 814-932-1839.

Maria Mowry

Berlin HTLC Music Director

(Copies of the music are on the sound desk)

Heritage Sunday Combined Service

October 4th, 10:40 a.m. we will be joining Holy Trinity at their church for this service. Communion will be served. Following the service is a potluck. Holy Trinity will be providing chicken tenders, rolls and drinks. A sign-up sheet is posted at the Vine Street entrance.

J B Schrock Community Park Fundraisers

Wed, Oct 7, 11am–10pm – Give Back Day at Somerset Ruby Tuesday (15% back). Flyer needed — get one on Facebook or email jbschrockplayground@gmail.com.

Ongoing – Order Rada Cutlery online, code SHIPDEAL saves \$5 shipping on \$35+ orders: <https://bit.ly/RadaCutleryFundraiser>

VBS Sunday School

The next VBS Sunday School will be on October 18th, "When life is unfair... God is Good" Come join us for a lot of fun, learning, snacks, games, crafts and more!! Mark your calendars.

Lego Sunday School

This year we will be having a Lego Sunday School lesson on the 4th Sunday of the month. We will be teaching the parables using Legos. There will be singing, games, hands-on activities and a snack. Come join us as we learn about Jesus!

Junior / Senior High Sunday School

Junior / Senior High Sunday School will meet every Sunday. We will be participating in the VBS Sunday School on the 3rd Sunday and the Leo Sunday School on the 4th Sunday of the month. On the other Sundays, we will be studying our faith in Jesus and how to defend it (talk about it to others or apologetics). Please join us as we study how history and science prove Jesus.

Hugs & Kisses

Late August/September- ongoing community service- we will be picking corn at a local farm and picking vegetables from the raised garden beds to take to the food pantry on Tuesday evenings. Watch for text messages when ready.

Today, September 27th 12 PM- meet at church for lunch and bring bikes/helmets for bike and hike on the trail afterwards. Come join us for some fresh air and exercise!

Community Room Painting Fun!

On October 6th we will be painting decorative fall and winter wooden door signs. The cost is \$25 per sign, including paints, brushes and glue. There are several designs to choose from. If you are interested, please contact Jean Hart at 814-267-5667 or 814-442-2200.

Trinity Ladies

We will be participating in the "Echoes of our Town" event on October 18th from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. by selling ham, green beans and potatoes. We will need help to make the soup. Please watch the bulletin for the time and date.

Our next meeting is October 5th at 11:30 a.m. at Cup of Soul.
Come join us!

Gingerbread House Contest 🍪 🏠

The Pius Spring Women's Club invites you to join our Gingerbread House Contest on November 21st! Individuals, families, friends, businesses, organizations, and groups are welcome to enter. Entry fee is \$25, and entry forms are due November 1st. Prizes will be awarded.

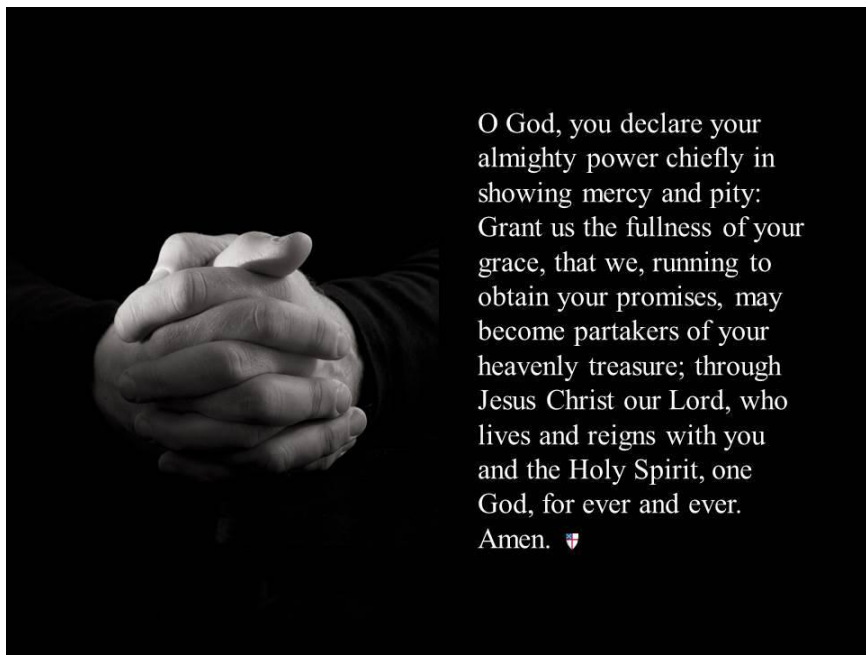
Build it. Decorate it. Enter it. Let the community decide! ❤️ ❤️

Contact Lori Gindlesperger for application, gind1990@verizon.net

Good Will Donation Drive

Berlin Marching Band is having a fundraiser to purchase color guard uniforms and new banner for the marching band. Saturday, October 3rd from 8 am to 12 pm. Drop off location – Berlin VFW. Donate gently used items – clothing, shoes, household goods, small electronics, toys, books and more.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Dave Creamer at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Tom Croner at 814-442-6740. If neither is available, contact Pam Bush at 541-990-0832.



O God, you declare your
almighty power chiefly in
showing mercy and pity:
Grant us the fullness of your
grace, that we, running to
obtain your promises, may
become partakers of your
heavenly treasure; through
Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever.
Amen. 🇩🇪

Source of all creation, all love, all true joy,
accept our prayer of sincere thankfulness.
Bless us as we go forth to minister to a dying world;
and keep each of us ever thankful
for all the blessings of joy;
teach us to be content in all situations,
even amidst challenges that come our way;
through him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus
Christ our Lord and Savior.

**Thank You For Joining Us
& Have A Blessed Week Ahead
God Bless You All**