



***Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2025***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Matt Miller***

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

**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**

Recognition of Outgoing Consistory Members

Rus Ogburn
Gale Haye
Ann Slifco
Leanna Coughenour

Installation of Incoming Consistory Members

Allen Strasser
Lori Gindlesperger
Allison Zimmerman
Jeanne Hillegas

We are reminded to be a Christian is to be a servant. All ministry in the church is Christ's Ministry. In union with Christ and in partnership with each other, Christians are called to serve

according to the gifts given to them. There are different kinds of Spiritual Gifts, but the same Spirit Gives them.

There are different ways of serving, but the same God is Served.

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

All of us are Christ's body, each one is a part of it.

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with the responsibility of Elder and Deacon of the Church. Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name.

Individuals: I am

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

Individuals: I do, relying on God's grace.

The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes gods call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men and ask the Holy Spirit to confer upon them the gifts of ministry. We lay hands upon you, Lori, Allen, Allison, Jeanne for positions on consistory.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for your ministry in the church and equip you with everything good to do God's will. Receive authority to execute your office in the name of Christ.

Let us Pray. Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christs ministry, to the glory of your name. Amen

In accordance with the faith and order of this church, I extend to you the hand of Christian love,

And everybody says: Thanks be to God!

Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before you. Grateful, blessed, and loving, we offer to you a small amount of what you have given us. We pray that you use these things and our time and talents to help the people and places that need them. We pray for a chaotic world we do not understand. Be with our military and first responders, protect them as they protect us. We pray that you help and care for the people that are cold, tired, sick, and hungry. We pray for the people that don't want your help, don't think they need it. We pray for those on our prayer list. We pray that you bring them your healing presence, your comforting touch, your steadying Spirit. Help your caregivers, let us understand how to help, let your Spirit guide us, that we use it each day to know your will. Help us to know we need the Grace that Jesus brings. Help us to know we can't do this without Him. Help us mean it when we pray the prayer he taught us.

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Scripture:

Isaiah 43: 1-7

1 But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

3 For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

4 Because you are precious in my eyes,
and honored, and I love you,
I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.

5 Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

6 I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the end of the earth,

7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

Epistle:

Acts 8: 14-17

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John,

15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit;

16 for it had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Gospel:

Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

15 As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ,

16 John answered them all, “I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

Hymn No. 20

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

Sermon

"Leading From the Front"

Dave Creamer

Hymn No. 414

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

***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

Partita on "Blessed Name" – Mary McDonald

+ + + + +



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Mary Forespring, Mary Jane Harding,
Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor,
Ruth Elaine Whitacre.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer,
Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,
Tammy Coughenour, 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, Cindy McCullen Janicki,
Peter Kaltenbaugh, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry 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,
Tammie Saylor, Steward Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis,
JoAnne Smith, Phyllis Stoy, Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Robin
Walker, Nancy Weighley, Rick Work, Allison Zimmerman,
Gerald Zorn

With the passing of Helen Diest, please keep her family in your
prayers.

Prayer List Update

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

Prayer Calls:

If you are not receiving our one call prayer calls, please contact the office. The number that calls is an “877” number. This may appear to be spam. If your phone is blocking spam calls, this may be one reason why. If you prefer to receive the calls on your cell vs. landline we would like to know that as well.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – Baptism of the Lordly Communion
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday - Consistory Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Next Sunday – Second Sunday after Epiphany
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 01/05/25

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$4552.00	\$3155.58	\$1396.42
Ben	\$120.00	\$182.69	-\$62.69
Maint	\$190.00	\$163.46	\$26.54
Mem	\$100.00		\$100.00
Total	\$4962.00	\$3501.73	\$1460.27

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry/Souper Bowl of \$405.

Worship Attendance: 53
Sunday School: 20

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

Hearing Amplifiers

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Pam Bush & Tom Croner

Ushers: Amy & Jason Clark

Acolytes: Matt & Kaitlyn Miller

Organ: Ann Slifco

Flowers on the altar in memory of Richard & Helen Croner by the Richard Croner Family.

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

There will be a Congregational Meeting, TODAY, Sunday, January 12th, following the church service.

Trip to Sight and Sound

There are 11 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)

Trinity Bells

There will not be bell practice for the month of January.

Sunday School

Who is God?

A true, intimate relationship with God is not based on our own ideas about what God is like. If we really desire to know God, we must approach Him based on the knowledge of who He reveals Himself to be in His Word. Join Dr. Steven J. Lawson in this in-depth study as he articulates a biblical understanding of fifteen divine attributes and explores how a right understanding of God can affect every aspect of our lives. This 16-week adult Sunday School series will begin on December 22nd and be led by Sue Coughenour.

The Souper Bowl Competition is underway. There will be two winners again this year, so we will have to be on our game and regain our #1 spot as we lost it last year. The four quarters of the competition will be the four Sundays in January and the two Sundays in February before the actual Super Bowl. If making monetary donations, please mark your envelope "Souper Bowl" and make your check payable to Trinity UCC.

Meals on Wheels of Somerset County needs volunteers to deliver meals in Berlin and the surrounding area on Mondays. If you would be interested and want more information, contact Meals on Wheels at 814-443-2787 or Rose Shaffer, Berlin driver coordinator, at 814-267-5310.

Hugs & Kisses

TODAY, Sunday, January 12th - 6:00 p.m. Game Night. Bring your favorite family board games and a snack/drink to share. This is for ALL ages so come join in on the fun!

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.



Blessings For a Wonderful Week Ahead