



**THE 14TH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

***Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Communion
September 3, 2023
Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer
Assisted By – Cohen Clark***

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

Preludes

Voluntary on “Slane” – Jason Payne
Prelude on “Kelvingrove” – Jason Payne

Announcements

Welcome

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here at Trinity United Church of Christ

Prayer

Hymn No 4

How Great Thou Art

Call to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us humbly offer our prayers.

Prayer of Confession:

Dear God, you tell us to overcome evil with good. We confess that we get tired of always forgiving and trying to love and help others. We want someone to forgive and take care of us for a change. Yes, Lord, we know that you are the one who loves and cares for us. However, we often feel that you demand too much of us. Forgive our weakness and complaining. Give us the strength we need to keep on serving you by being a reflection of your love in the world today. Send your Holy Spirit to be our guide. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Response – Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen.**

***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)

Hebrew Scripture – Exodus 3: 1-15

1 After this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come.

2 And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

3 Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

4 Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road.

5 Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’

6 And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you.

7 And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house.

8 Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you;

9 heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say,

11 ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’

12 I tell you, it shall be more tolerable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

13 “Woe to you, Chorazin! woe to you, Beth-saida! for if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

14 But it shall be more tolerable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you.

15 And you, Caperna-um, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.

Epistle – Romans 12: 9-21

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

- 10** love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.
- 11** Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord.
- 12** Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
- 13** Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.
- 14** Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
- 15** Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
- 16** Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited.
- 17** Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.
- 18** If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all.
- 19** Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."
- 20** No, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head."
- 21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Gospel – Matthew 16: 21-28

- 21** From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
- 22** And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you."
- 23** But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men."
- 24** Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
- 25** For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
- 26** For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?
- 27** For the Son of man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every man for what he has done.

28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”

Hymn No 379

Take My Life and Let It Be

Sermon

Crosses Can Be Heavy

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

Communion Prayer:

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history. We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints and all the company of heaven, we glorify you:

p *mf* *f*
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are
 full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the
crescendo *f*
 name of the Lord, Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high-est!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into five systems, each with a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. Dynamics include piano (*p*), mezzo-forte (*mf*), forte (*f*), and crescendo. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord, Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high-est!"

We remember that on that night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt, and light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup:

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life Christ gives.

Resurrection Acclamation:

Alleluia! Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one.
I died, and behold I am alive for evermore. Alleluia!

Sharing the Elements:

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

The body of Christ, the living bread.

Amen!

The blood of Christ, the saving cup.

Amen!

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we

are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*Hymn No. 376

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

*Benediction

*Response – Sung with Dismissal

Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen

Postlude **Allegro Maestoso with Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – Jeff Perks**

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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, Bill Arandt, Melvin & Bonnie Baughman, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, John Durst, Reon Engleka, Sheron Engleka, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Faye Hetrick, Kerry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Lois Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Owen Shaulis, Mark Stahl, Peggy Stayrook, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Harry Watkins, Gerald Zorn

Lew & Barb Berkley have been having a rough time. Lew fell and broke his hip, had surgery and is now in the Meyersdale Hospital Swing Unit, Room 106. He would love to have calls or drop-ins. Barb was admitted to Somerset hospital as Lew was being transferred to Meyersdale. She had also fallen and was suffering from AFib and other issues. She is now home, and their daughters said get well cards for both would be welcome. Their address is 1430 Salco Rd., Berlin PA 15530.

Lillian Potter is home recovering from a hip replacement, so prayers for healing would be appreciated as well as cards. Her address is 54 Broadview Lane, Berlin PA 15530.

Additional prayers for **Harry Watkins** as he recovers from surgery followed by a fall and pneumonia. Harry is home now and recovering, but it will be a while before he will regain his strength. If you can, please take the time to send a card to Harry (and Jane) at 218 Indigo Ln, Somerset, PA 15501

Prayers to the Kay Barnard Family in Kay's passing on August 27th, Karol Saylor's twin sister.

The Saints In Action

TODAY –14th Sunday after Pentecost and Communion
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 Sunday School (Fellowship Hall Only)

The Flowers on the altar are in celebration of our parent's 59th Wedding Anniversary by Larry W. McCullen, Jr. and Cynthia L. McCullen – Janicki.

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

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

September 3 Jay Shaffer

September 10 Dwayne Hay

September 17 James Vander Schuur

September 24 Peter Kaltendbaugh

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

Benefits of Sunday School

Sunday school is a great way to get involved and learn about God. It provides many benefits, such as developing a closer relationship with God, learning new Bible stories, and building character. It also helps us build friendships within the church.

Spiritual growth

There are many reasons why Sunday school is important to many people. One of the most important reasons is that it helps people grow spiritually. Sunday school can help people learn about their faith and how to be better Christians. It can also help people learn about the Bible and the history of Christianity.

Socialization

There are many reasons why Sunday school is important in a child's development. Socialization is one of the most important aspects of a child's life (and adults). Sunday school helps children learn how to interact with others and develop relationships. It also teaches them about the Bible and religious beliefs.

Education

Sunday school is a tradition that has been around for centuries. Today, Sunday school is still a popular tradition, and many people enjoy participating in it. There are many reasons why Sunday school is important, and one of the most important reasons is that it helps children learn about God.

Please join us September 10th for Rally Sunday and make Sunday School a part of your week. See more on Rally Sunday in bulletin/newsletter.

September 10th is Sunday School Rally Sunday, and it also happens to be Grandparents Day. So, kids grab your grandparents or someone special, and grandparents grab your grandchildren for a covered dish brunch after worship service that Sunday. Of course, parents are welcome too! There will be a brief program, crafts for the kids and lots of good fellowship and food. Please mark your calendars and plan to come to this special meal on September 10th at approximately 10:05 a.m.

There will be sign-up sheets at both entrances to let us know if you plan to attend so we can plan accordingly.

UPDATE: All adult Sunday School Classes will now be meeting as one in the Fellowship Hall. Sue Coughenour will be starting an in-depth study of I & II Peter on Sunday, September 17th at 10:10 a.m. This study will give you a look at how to get the most out of your Bible reading. The apostle Peter wrote two short letters that are packed with so much that we need to hear in our culture today. Join us as we dig in and find many hidden treasures

that you might miss in general reading. Please bring your Bible, a pen, and be ready to dive in. Hope to see you there!

TODAY - St Gregory's Annual Festival – MacDonalton, PA – Sunday, September 3, 2023 – Family Style – ham and turkey dinners with noodles and stuffing – served 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. – adults \$12.00 – children under 12 \$6.00 – games, bake sale, themed baskets, refreshments – fun for all ages – come and enjoy reminiscing with family and friends in our air-conditioned hall.

Operation Christmas Child

September 7th, 2023, Berlin Brethren Church, 6:30-8:00

Come learn about Operation Christmas Child and meet Olesea Makarets who, at the age of 5, was a recipient of an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift. To hear about God's love in her life, please join us for a special time of Olesea sharing her testimony.

Keystone Family Alliance

On July 16th Lydia Shaffer presented information about their successes working with Foster Parents. Consistory has designated **September** as a special offering to assist in the need of orphans and vulnerable children. Their focus is to bridge the gap between the desperate need in the child welfare system and Pennsylvania churches. If you choose to donate to this cause, please mark your offering envelopes "Keystone Alliance".

Hugs & Kisses

October 22nd 7:00 PM – Mac Powell and Friends Christian Concert at Word of Life Church in Greensburg. We need a group of 10 or more to get a group rate of \$18 per person. H&K will pay for any of our youth attending. Adults will self-pay. **Please RSVP to Amy Clark by August 15th so that we can order tickets as a group.**

Christmas Program

We are looking for a program director to head up the Christmas Program scheduled for 12/10/23. We can do adult/youth combined play this year with practice on 10/03/23 during Sunday School.

A message from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Sight and Sound

We have purchased the tickets and reserved the bus for the show, "The Miracle of Christmas" on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, in Lancaster, PA for the 3:00 PM show.

The cost is \$110 per adult and \$90 for child ages 3-12. This includes your admission and the cost for the bus.

If you would like to reserve a spot, please call the church office at 814-267-5014. Please note that payment will be due to reserve your ticket and seat on the bus.

It will be non-refundable unless you can find someone to attend in your place.

A Special Tribute for our active military and all living veterans has been given to us from the **Knotty Knotters**, Lutheran Church, Berlin. The Knotters will make throws for all of our active military and Veterans as a special ***"thank you for your service"*** to be given on Veterans Sunday. Any active military or veterans that have not given their names to Sheron, please contact Sheron Engleka at 814-267-4166.

The Berlin Brethren Church is planning to present a Christmas cantata at their church on Sunday, December 24th at the 10:30 service. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Norman or Joan Menhorn at (814) 289-3777 for more information.

Happy Cookers

Fundraisers have been done to provide a new stove for our kitchen, however we are still short of funds. If you would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

Hugs & Kisses

Pictured on the last page of your bulletin is the group from Hugs & Kisses that enjoyed a Back-to-School Campfire/Picnic, last Sunday, hosted by the Custers. **Have a great school year!!**



MAY THE BLESSINGS OF THIS DAY
RADIATE THROUGH YOUR SMILE, BE
HELPFUL THROUGH YOUR HANDS, AND
SHINE THROUGH YOUR HEART.

Have a Blessed Week!!