



***Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
February 23, 2025***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Cora & Lucy Wright***

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

Prelude

**It Is Well with My Soul- Jeff Perks
Adagio and Trio- Jeff Perks**

Announcements

Call to Worship: (based on Psalm 37)

Do not be envious of the cruel and wicked, they will fade and wither in their time.

Our trust is in the Lord, He is our Redeemer.

Take delight in the Lord, he sees the desires of your heart.

Our Trust is in the Lord, He is our hope.

The meek will inherit these lands, those that are humble will have boundless skies.

Our trust is in the Lord, we take refuge in him, his salvation is for the righteous.

*Hymn No. 25

Immortal, Invisible

Call to Confession

It is only with Gods help that we can succeed. Our forgiveness is limited. Gods' is not. Let us reach out to him in prayer.

Confession

Heavenly Father hear our prayer. Help us to love our enemy. Help us not to judge one another. Help us to forgive. Let your Spirit Guide us to do your will. Forgive us of our sins.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God's love is here with us. His presence is never far. His Grace, His willingness to forgive never further than us asking to receive it. 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, our creator and sustainer, we gather here before you. We offer to you some of the things you have blessed us with, not as a bribe or payment for our sins, but as a hope that you can use these things and our talents to do your will. We pray that you bless us with your Holy Spirit. We pray that your presence is always with us, no matter where we go. We pray that our actions define us as Christians. We pray that you watch over our brothers and sisters. The ones who protect and serve, as they are watching over us. The ones that need your healing, and your care, bless them as only you can. The ones that have lost their way help us to show them your love and compassion. We are grateful most of all for your Son Jesus Christ. He is our teacher, our example, our savior. We offer to you the prayer he taught to us.

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Scripture:

Genesis 45, vs 1-11

1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him; and he cried, "Make every one go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph; is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

4 So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, I pray you." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

5 And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

6 For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God; and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

9 Make haste and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry;

10 you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have;

11 and there I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come; lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.'

Epistle:

First Corinthians 15, vs 35-38 and 42-50

35 But some one will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"

36 You foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

37 And what you sow is not the body which is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

38 But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable.

43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

44 It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

45 Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

46 But it is not the spiritual which is first but the physical, and then the spiritual.

47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

48 As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven.

49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

50 I tell you this, brethren: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

**Gospel:
Luke 6, vs 27-38**

27 “But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

29 To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

30 Give to every one who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again.

31 And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them.

32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish.

36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

37 “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;

38 give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Hymn No. 376

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Sermon

“Easy to Do, Yet Impossible

Dave Creamer

Hymn No. 202

Amazing Grace

***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 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 the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

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

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer,
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, Gary Hillegas,
Cindy McCullen Janicki, 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, Stewart
Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,
Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Rick Work, Allison Zimmerman, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

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

Prayer Calls:

In the upcoming newsletter we will be announcing a "One Call Now" test date, Thursday, March 13th. We will be sending out a one call at that specified day. Please let us know if you do NOT receive this call so that we can investigate our database.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – 7th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 Trinity Bell Practice

Next Sunday – Transfiguration Sunday & Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Please note that we will be having an Ash Wednesday Service (and Holy Communion) on March 5th at 7:30 p.m. It will include both the Ashes and Communion by intinction (act of steeping the bread in the wine to enable the communicants to receive the two conjointly). Our current grape juice and wafer will also be available.

Giving From 02/16/25

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1674.00	\$3155.58	-\$1481.58
Ben	\$205.00	\$182.69	\$22.31
Maint	\$60.00	\$163.46	-\$103.46
Mem	\$.00		\$.00
Total	\$1939.00	\$3501.73	-\$1562.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry \$10 and Donation to Bloom of Hope for Cancer Patience \$25.

Worship Attendance: 57
Sunday School: 0

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	<i>These Days</i> – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Pam Bush & Colton Custer

Ushers: Tom Croner & Amanda Custer

Acolytes: Cora & Lucy Wright

Organ: Ann Slifco

Flowers on the altar in honor of our children, Larry W. McCullen, Jr. and Cynthia L. McCullen-Janicki and our two grandsons, 1st Lieutenant Jacob K. Janicki, U.S. Army and Joshua L. Janicki by Larry & Judy McCullen

Special Flowers in loving memory & birthday remembrance of my husband Carl by Karol Saylor.

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

Trinity Ladies

Come join us for lunch on Monday, March 3 at 11:30 am at Cup of Soul in the backroom. Expect lots of fun and fellowship. This can be the beginning of a monthly event if you would like. If you have any questions, contact Jean Hart at 814-267-5667 or 814-442-2200.

Reception for Pastor Dave Creamer

Please join us for a potluck brunch on Sunday, March 9 immediately following church. There is a sign up sheet at the Vine Street entrance. The church will provide ham, rolls, cake, coffee and water. Let's show Pastor Dave how much we appreciate him!

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)

Hugs & Kisses

Next H&K Planning Meeting- March 6th, 6:30PM

March 8th- Winter Jam Christian Music Concert- Bryce Jordan Center, State College, PA. Tickets are \$15 at the door. (No pre-order) Doors open at 5PM, Concert at 6PM. We will meet at the church and carpool. H&K will pay for our youth who attend. All ages are welcome. If interested, contact Amanda Custer 814-483-4283.

Thank you, Trinity United Church of Christ, for all the ways you blessed our family!! May God richly bless you for all your kindness and help. Sincerely, The Garlitz Family

Sunday School

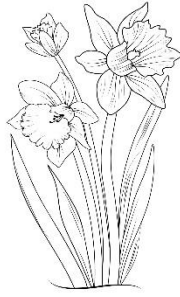
Who is God?

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 began on December 22nd and is led by Sue Coughenour.

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. Bin is located by the organ in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not give us bags that are soiled.

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.



This year we will be participating in the **Somerset County Blooms of Hope Daffodil Fundraiser**. All monies raised are used to support Somerset County cancer patients. A bunch of daffodils is \$10 and a pot of mini daffodils is \$12. A signup sheet is posted at the Vine St. entrance. Orders are due by Sunday, February 23rd. Checks payable to "Blooms of Hope". Checks can be given to Amanda Custer or turned in at the church office by this date so that orders can be placed on time. Daffodils will be available at the church on Sunday, March 23rd. Any questions contact Amanda Custer at 814-483-4283. Thank you for your participation in this worthy cause!

Berlin Community Ladies Bible Study

Beginning February 4th at Cup of Soul. Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. For more information, please contact Gail Stolfus 814-279-4089 or Jeannette Landis 814-267-3020.

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.

Advancing the Kingdom Ministries Conference

Berlin Brethren Church, Berlin, PA

No cost to attend!

Speakers: Buck and Andrea Stephens from Syracuse, NY

Saturday, March 1 Conference Sessions

3:00PM—The Emerging Last Remnant

4:30PM—Dinner

5:30PM—Overcomers Authority in Every Aspect
of Our Lives

Sunday, March 2—8:30AM & 10:30AM Worship Services

Message—"There's a Whole Lot of Shakin' Going On!"

1:30PM Conference Session—

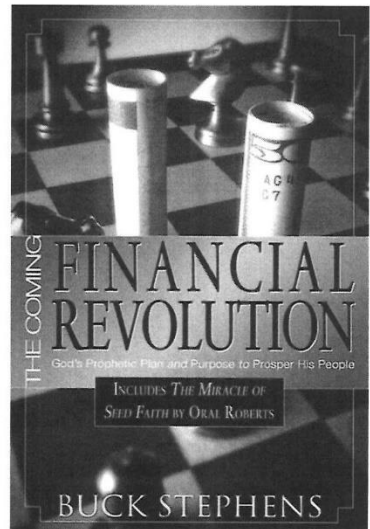
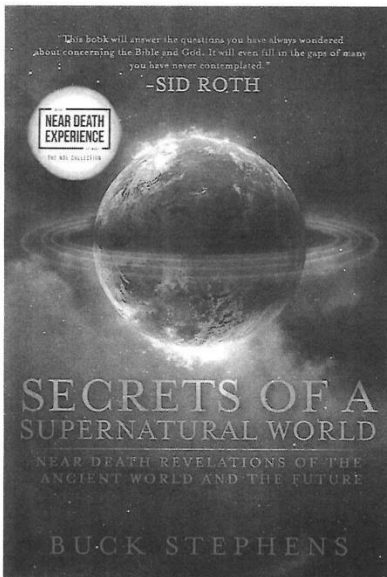
Our Finances in Uncertain Times



Buck & Andi are international evangelists and conference speakers sharing the message of the authority of the Church to impact our culture and the world with the message of Jesus Christ. They have shared this message in hundreds of churches over the years, calling them to be salt and light and walking in the “*dunamis*” power of the Holy Spirit.

Buck is the author of books, ***The Coming Financial Revolution*** and, ***Secrets of a Supernatural World***, sharing the revelations he received from a near death experience which launched Buck and Andi into ministry.

Buck is a financial advisor for over 45 years and has worked to bring the message of the Financially Faithful Church to the Body of Christ, teaching them to manage their money according to Biblical principles.





Have a Blessed Week!!