



***First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022
Guest Speaker – Reverend David Ackerman***

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

Prelude

**Here We Come A-Caroling – Douglas Wagner
The Wexford Carol – Mark Hayes**

Welcome

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

***Call to Worship**

I was glad when they said unto me:

“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

***Hymn No. 123**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Gathering Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer [using *debts* and *debtors*]

Prayer of 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 by 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 name. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness:

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn 623**

Gloria Patri

***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.

Children's Message: "Hope"

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: "The Candle of Hope"
Jim and Jean Ann Darr, and Maelyn Fouchtman

***Hymn No. 124**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

1 The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

3 and many peoples shall come, and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

Matthew 24:36-44

36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the
angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

37 As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the
Son of man.

38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating
and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day
when Noah entered the ark,

39 and they did not know until the flood came and swept
them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man.

40 Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is
left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and
one is left.

42 Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your
Lord is coming.

43 But know this, that if the householder had known in what
part of the night the thief was coming, he would have
watched and would not have let his house be broken into.

44 Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is
coming at an hour you do not expect.

Sermon

**“Jesus Is Coming”
Reverend David Ackerman**

Morning Prayer

***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**

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn No: 118**

Of the Father’s Love Begotten

***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

“Gloria” – Jayson Payne

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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, Jerry & Kay Barnard, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Carol Boyer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, John Durst, Alvin Harbaugh, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Grace Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Avis Specht, Phyllis Stoy, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

Once again, we are in need of your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

One Call Now Prayer List

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now

prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Secret Pal Reveal

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Open Forum Gathering with Rev. Ackerman

No Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bell Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Next Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent / Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 11/20/22

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1856.00	\$2434.93	-\$578.93
Ben	\$1380.00	\$213.46	\$1166.54
Maint	\$195.00	\$163.46	\$31.54
Mem	\$0.00		
Total	\$3431.00	\$2811.85	\$619.15

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Adopt a Family (Secret Santa) of \$960; Operation Christmas Child \$80

The **2023 Offering Envelopes** will be available for pickup at the Church on Sunday, November 20th – December 4th. All offering envelopes remaining after December 4th will be mailed. We are trying to cut down on the cost of postage, so any arrangements that can be made for pick up would be greatly appreciated.

Worship Attendance: 71
Sunday School: 17

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: Tom Croner (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

Acolytes: Cora Wright

The Flowers on the altar in honor of her parents and in memory of her grandparents by Michele Romesberg

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

Alan Brick, 814-267-6628

Consistory Deacons:

Amy Clark, Jean Ann Darr, Ann Slifco

Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, John Wisler

Alissa Wright, 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

Annual Congregational Meeting – The Consistory calls for the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 4th following worship to act upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, adopt the proposed 2023 Budget, and take up any other business of the congregation. The meeting will commence following the service at 10 a.m.

“Secret Pals” Program

The Secret Pal reveal, from last year, was today. Please be sure to sign up for this year’s Secret Pal program by completing the application you received in your newsletter or an application hanging on the bulletin boards.

Christmas Play

Thank you, Amy Clark, for volunteering to be our Christmas Program Coordinator! We are sure she will be looking for assistance so please contact Amy or Kathy Spangler.

The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule until the end of the year:

- Dec 04 – Congregational Meeting
Who Needs Christmas – if time allows.
- Dec 11 – *Who Needs Christmas*
- Dec 18 – *Who Needs Christmas*

This class will not be meeting on Dec 25th or Jan 1st.

This class is open to adults of **ALL** ages and is led by Sue Coughenour. *Come join us!*

Profile Committee:

We invite all of you to be part of a self-study and community learning process that will identify our church’s imagination for the future and corresponding pastoral needs. We are in the process of developing a church profile for potential candidates. There will be an open forum gathering ***TODAY*** immediately following the church service with light refreshments. David Ackerman, Conference Minister, Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ will be there to assist, as well as provide, an opportunity to answer questions. In preparing our local church profile, what

matters most is clear communication and a cohesive process to encourage maximum participation by the whole congregation.

Camp Living Waters

Fall Youth Rally, December 2-4, 2022. Grades 6-12. Cost \$25. Arrival: 7 p.m. Friday, Parent Pick Up: Noon Sunday. Watch your bulletin for additional details or contact Camp Living Waters at www.livingwaterscamp.org. for more information.

Bethlehem Experience is being held Sunday, December 11, 2022, 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a drive through event and will begin at the Berlin Brethren Church parking lot. The Borough Building will host refreshments. In the event of inclement weather, it will be necessary to cancel.

Laurel Highlands Chorale Concert

“Merry Christmas from Around the World”

Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Director ~ Jan Burket

Accompanist ~Rick Kimmel

Tickets \$5 at the door or by calling

Dorene Friedline at

814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Please join us for a special candlelight service on December 24th at 11:00 p.m. Our virtual organist, Rick Kimmel, will be playing live! Conference Minister, David Ackerman, will be leading us in worship, our Trinity Bells will be ringing, and we will be singing the praises of our Lord.

Christmas Day Service

Pastor Art Gotjen will lead us in prayer and a short message.

Marlene Gotjen will be playing the piano. Together we will share in the blessings of Christmas Day and sing carols of choice as received in weeks prior to the service.

Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol?

We are asking for requests for your favorite Christmas carol to be played at the Christmas morning service. Please let us know so that we can get the music to Marlene. Let's sing our favorites!

New Year's Day Service

Please watch your bulletins for information on this service soon.

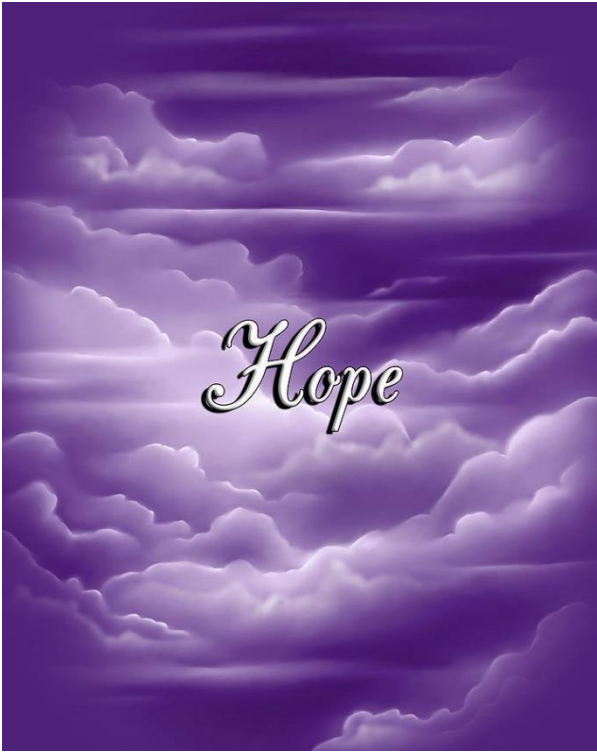
Poinsettia Order Forms:

Most of you should have received your newsletter this week. Enclosed was the Christmas flower order form. We have additional forms at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Please note that these forms must be returned no later than **November 30th**. However, the sooner, the better to ensure desired colors. If you need additional room, please use the back of the form. Place your orders in the collection plates, mail or through the mail slot at the church office. Also plan to pick up your plants after Christmas morning service or during office hours the following week.

Trinity Trumpet Special Addition

Please watch your mailbox for a special edition of Trinity Trumpet sometime in mid-November. There will be information regarding our 2023 budget and new Consistory members for 2023. Let us know if you have any questions.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, who will arrange for a pastor to provide comfort and assurance in a time of crisis. If you need **immediate** pastoral care, contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.



***May God go before You this week
& make the rough roads smooth.
May His joy be Your strength and
His peace fill Your heart.***