



20th Sunday after Pentecost

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 15, 2023

Guest Speaker – Rev. Jim Vander Schurr

Assisted By – Matt Miller

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes

**Sing the Mighty Power of God
More Love to Thee, O Christ
~Mark Hayes~**

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

Call To Worship

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, with our whole heart; we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

We will be glad and exult in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we pray for your blessings to rest upon us as we worship you. Fill us with your favor and grace. Bless us with a deeper revelation of your love and power. May your presence go before us and lead us throughout this time of worship. In the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

***Hymn No. 435**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, You demand total conversion from us. "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." Therefore, I cannot begin my new life in Your grace by lying or concealing what ought to be brought to light. Give me the bravery to be honest in the confessional; to hide nothing, but to **confess fully, clearly, and briefly** so that Your minister, endowed with the power to loosen the bonds of sin over me. My God, eternal Truth, let me not abandon truth in this crucial moment. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness:

The Lord hears our prayers and grants us mercy.

We rejoice that when we turn our hearts to God we are given new life through Jesus Christ.

Let us praise our God!

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.**

In joy, we now offer our gifts to God.

***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:

As a gift of worship, accept our tithes or offerings. For the growth of your kingdom, multiply what you give. Let Christ dwell in your hearts by faith, so that you, being grounded and grounded in love, can have the strength to understand the love of Christ that transcends all knowledge. May we be filled with the wholeness of God. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Isaiah 25:1-9

1 O Lord, thou art my God;
I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name;
for thou hast done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2 For thou hast made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify thee;
cities of ruthless nations will fear thee.

4 For thou hast been a stronghold to the poor,
a stronghold to the needy in his distress,
a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat;
for the blast of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall,

5 like heat in a dry place.

Thou dost subdue the noise of the aliens;
as heat by the shade of a cloud,
so the song of the ruthless is stilled.

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

8 He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken.

9 It will be said on that day, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Psalm 23

1The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

2 he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters;

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff,

they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil,

my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

for ever.

Matthew 22:1-14

- 1** And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,
- 2** “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son,
- 3** and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come.
- 4** Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.’
- 5** But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business,
- 6** while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.
- 7** The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.
- 8** Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- 9** Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.’
- 10** And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- 11** “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment;
- 12** and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless.
- 13** Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.’
- 14** For many are called, but few are chosen.”

***Hymn No. 493**

It Is Well Within My Soul

Sermon

“A Dinner Conversation with Jesus”

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jim Vander Schuur

***Hymn No. 380**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

***Benediction:**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, our savior and friend;
May the love of God, binding us together and building us up;
May the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, knitting us together as a church family;
Be with us until we meet again. Amen.

***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

Blessed Assurance – Marianne Kim

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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, Clinton Clark, Ray Coleman,
Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour,
Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, John Durst, Reon Engleka,
Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay,
Cindy McCullen-Janicki,

Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen,
Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb,
Brett Sarver, Carl Saylor, Lois Saylor, Nancy Schrock, JoAnne
Smith, Peggy Stayrook, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Adeline
Vieregge, Robin Walker, Harry Watkins, Nancy Weighley,
Gerald Zorn

Let us join together in prayer for the family, including her church family, of Fae Hetrick. The following is information on her service. Deaner funeral home. Viewing Monday, 2:00-8:00. Funeral service at Deaner's Tuesday 10:00. Lunch to be served at Trinity fellowship hall following interment.

The Saints In Action

TODAY –20th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

Tuesday – 6:30 p.m. Property Committee Meeting

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells

Next Sunday – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 10/08/23

| | Rec | Budget | Over/Under |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| General | \$2432.00 | \$3155.58 | -\$723.58 |
| Ben | \$341.00 | \$182.69 | \$158.31 |
| Maint | \$271.00 | \$163.46 | \$107.54 |
| Mem | \$580.00 | | \$0.00 |
| Total | \$3624.00 | \$3501.73 | -\$457.73 |

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, and Adopt-A-Family of \$275 and Operation Christmas Child of \$280

Worship Attendance: 71

Sunday School: 23

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: Gaye Maust (Board), Tyler Gindlesperger (Camera)

Ushers: Sheron Engleka, Alissa Wright

Acolyte: Matt and Kaitlyn Miller

The Flowers on the altar are in memory of grandparents Ruth & Pos Gindlesperger, Sarah Mills & Mary W. Miller by Renee Gindlesperger.

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.

October 22 Peter Kaltendbaugh

October 29 Dottie Grew

November 5 Bill Deal

November 12 Jay Shaffer

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

Adult Sunday School Class

The Adult Sunday School Class has begun an in-depth Bible study of I & II Peter. Please feel free join us at any point in this study as we are enjoying good discussion and gaining new insights from Scripture. The class meets each Sunday after Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall and is taught by Sue Coughenour. Jean Hart makes sure we are well supplied with beverages and sweet treats. Come give Sunday School a try; you might be surprised at how much you enjoy our time together.

All Saints’ Sunday

Each year on the first Sunday of November – All Saints Sunday – we celebrate and give thanks for those who have completed their earthly journey since the previous All Saints Day and who now rest in God’s glorious kingdom prepared for all who believe in Jesus Christ.

All Saints’ Day is a Christian celebration that honors all the saints of the church, both known and unknown, who have attained heaven. It is a day to remember the faithfulness and example of the saints, and to ask for their intercession and guidance. This year All Saints’ will fall on November 5th. If you would like to have your “Saint” who has passed be listed, please contact the church office.

We will be joined by the Trinity Bell Choir to assist in honoring the Saints’ of the Church.

It's that time once again!

Trinity Trumpet is in publication this next week. There is a lot going on this time of year and it is imperative that we get that information to share with those that receive our newsletter. The deadline will be October 24th; however, it would be greatly appreciated if we could get the information as soon as possible. Committees, please share any information you might have. Once again, let us stress that this is your newsletter and input from anyone is welcome and encouraged.

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 12/03/23 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. **Payment must be received by October 20th.**

The Roof Garden Barbershop Chorus presents "Keep the Whole World Singing". With a special guest appearance by **Just Brass**. Sunday, October 15th, 2:00 p.m. Grace United Methodist Church, Felgar Rd., Somerset. Tickets available at the door: \$10.00 or contact L. Shober at (814) 267-4042.

TURKEY & BISCUITS!! The Berlin Brethren Bell Choir will be selling quarts of turkey/ gravy and biscuits on Sunday, October 22nd. The proceeds will **benefit their organ fund**. The cost is \$10 per quart, \$12 with biscuits. You may pre-order by calling Norman & Joan Menhorn @ 814-289-3777 or simply pick up that day from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

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.

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.

Beachdale Church

Hi! Wanted to reach out with an invitation to your congregation joining us in singing a Christmas cantata. It really is a beautiful program with a wonderful message. We practice Wednesday evenings from 7-8 and will perform on the last Sunday in November (first week of advent) at 7 pm. We would love the fellowship and could really use some help too:) Any age-men and women welcome!

Berlin Lions Club – Open House

The open house will be at Cup of Soul on Thursday, October 19th from 6-8:00 p.m. The open house will include the following: a place to drop off your old or unwanted eyeglasses, the famous Lion’s brooms for sale, snacks by Cup of Soul, \$500 raffle tickets to benefit our AED program, a kids activity that benefits local elderly and lots of Lions who love doing good in their community.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

With a deadline of November 13th, we will be having a Pizza/Packing party following on November 5th in fellowship hall following our church service. There will not be Adult Sunday School that Sunday but all of you that normally attend that class are welcome to assist with the packing! Many hands make light work. The shoeboxes will be moved to the Sanctuary following the packing and we will be praying over the boxes at the following Sunday service.

Adopt-A-Family

As a reminder, Adopt-A-Family will begin with a special collection during the month of October. We have been helping local families for over a decade by supporting them with essential gifts and food for the holiday season. Last year we helped 5 families make Christmas extra special by purchasing gifts for a total of 19 children. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Petro (814) 442-5124.

Veterans Sunday, November 12th

The entire congregation here at Trinity is encouraged to join us for a very special service on this Sunday. Sheron Engleka will be presenting her annual tribute video accompanied by the Berlin Fife and Drum Corps, Rick Kimmel will be playing live on the organ, Pastor Jay Shaffer will be preaching, and a reception honoring our Veterans will follow the church service in fellowship hall.

We want to designate time to appreciate the sacrifice of those who are serving, have served, and lost their lives in wars to defend our nation.



A Special Message to our Youth!

Want something to do during church services? Want to serve God and your church? Want to learn how to operate the sound and recording system in the sanctuary so we all can hear the message being shared with us during services? There is no age requirement for this offer, just a willingness to learn and to serve! If your answer is yes, just contact Tom Croner or Pam Bush to get the process started.

Autumn Blessing



O God of Creation, you have blessed us with
the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,
may the earlier setting of the sun
remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves
remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air
remind us that it is you who give us the
breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us
of the abundance we have been given and
bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind
us of your great promise that death is
temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever
and ever. Amen.



Have a Blessed Week!