

***Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion / Scout Sunday
February 4, 2024
Guest Speaker – Bill Deal
Assisted by Cora Wright***

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

(Please silence your cell phone)

Preludes

It Is Well With My Soul – Jeff Perks
Adagio – Jeff Perks

Announcements

“Recognition of our Scouts”
Cohen Clark – Star Scout
Carter McClain – Cub Scout Wolf
Nathan Spangler – Life Scout

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

People of God, welcome! Surely God is in this place!

We come to worship and to rest in God's presence.

Breathe deep for the goodness of God surrounds us.

The Holy One who sustains the universe is near.

When we are tired, worn down, and carrying heavy burdens, God is with us.

God strengthens us that we might help carry one another's burdens.

So, let us join together in wonder and thanksgiving for God's love that lifts us up on wings like eagles.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Hymn No. 345

Blessed Assurance

Call to Confession

Lord, today we confess that we often live as those who have never heard of you. We plan and strategize as though the outcome depended solely upon us. We worry and fret like those who have no advocate.

Forgive us Lord, for the scheming and conniving we do to make sure that we have our own way.

Forgive us Lord, for grasping at power when you are the Power, for seeking glory when all glory belongs to you, for

not leaning upon you when we feel weak, or powerless or alone.

Forgive us Lord, for relying upon ourselves and other mortals when we should turn to you.

Teach us how to live more like those who belong to you and less like those who belong to the world.

Prayer of Confession

God our Father, in the name of him who gave bread to the hungry,

we remember all who through our human ignorance, folly, and sin are condemned to live in want.

Show us, who have so much, what we can do to help those who have so little; and bless the efforts of those who work to overcome poverty and hunger, that sufficient food may be found for all.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear this good news! The prophet Isaiah says this: "Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:30-31). People of God, trust in the Lord and be strengthened! Amen.

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, Amen.

Response of Faith – Based on the Apostles Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 to the dead. 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 living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

With Joy We Now Offer Our Gifts

*** 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**

Offering Prayer

God of power and patience, we gather in worship to wait on your presence and to be filled with your power. Jesus healed with a touch and taught us that you are the source of the true healing that can make us whole. As we take time now in worship to offer our gifts to you, we pray that they might be used to bring healing: of body, of spirit, of broken relationships; healing of a planet that is groaning under our carelessness and greed; healing of a world community that is deeply divided by distrust and self-interest. We pray this in Jesus' holy name. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Scripture:

Isaiah 40:21-31

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

23 who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

25 To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hid from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary,
his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

30 Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

31 but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

1 Praise the Lord!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is seemly.

2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.
4 He determines the number of the stars,
he gives to all of them their names.
5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.
6 The Lord lifts up the downtrodden,
he casts the wicked to the ground.
7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God upon the lyre!
8 He covers the heavens with clouds,
he prepares rain for the earth,
he makes grass grow upon the hills.
9 He gives to the beasts their food,
and to the young ravens which cry.
10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the legs of a man;
11 but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.
20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances.
Praise the Lord!

Epistle:

2 Corinthians 9:16-23

16 For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.

18 What then is my reward? Just this: that in my preaching I may make the gospel free of charge, not making full use of my right in the gospel.

19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more.

20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews; to those under the law I became as one under the law—though not being myself under the law—that I might win those under the law.

21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law—not being without law toward God but under the law of Christ—that I might win those outside the law.

22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Gospel:

Mark 1:29-39

29 And immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

30 Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them.

32 That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.

33 And the whole city was gathered together about the door.

34 And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

35 And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed.

36 And Simon and those who were with him pursued him,

37 and they found him and said to him, “Every one is searching for you.”

38 And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out.”

39 And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon
Guest Speaker – Bill Deal

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.

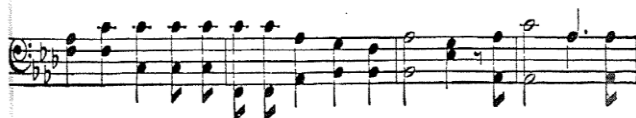
Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in 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:



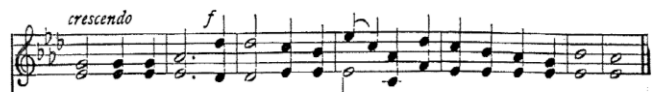
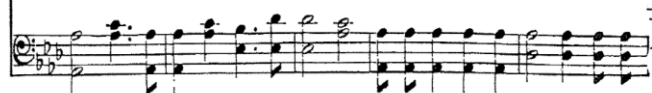
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are



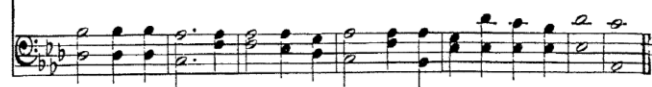
full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho -



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. 4

How Great Thou Art

*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

Going Forth

Postlude

The Lord Is My Light – Mary McDonald

+ + + + +



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, Melvin Baughman Family, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Kathy Blough, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Lori Carver, Clinton Clark, Ray Coleman, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz, John Foor, Nancy Gindlesperger, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Larry Hay, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, Larry Pritts, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Peggy Stayrook, Betty Strasser, William Tamblyn, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Audrey Twombly, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

TODAY- 5th Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Communion,
Scout Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday: 7:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting

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

Thursday: 6:30 p.m. Christian Ed – Parsonage conference room

Sunday: Transfiguration

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 1/28/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2917.00	\$3155.58	-\$238.58
Ben	\$236.00	\$182.69	\$53.31
Maint	\$111.00	\$163.46	-\$52.46
Mem	\$685.00		\$685.00
Total	\$3949.00	\$3501.73	-\$237.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry /Souper Bowl of \$615

Worship Attendance: 81

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: Chris King (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

Ushers: Ken Miller, Leonard Gary

Acolytes: Cora and Lucy Wright

Flowers on the altar in memory of Caroln McGinn by Mike Fogel

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:

Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650

Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166

Jim Darr, 814-267-5260

Consistory Deacons:

Pam Bush, Leanna Coughenour, Tom Croner (President),

Amanda Custer, Jean Hart, Gale Hay, Bill Landis,

Julie Petro, Ann Slifco

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.

February 11	Dave Creamer
February 14	Peter Kaltenbaugh (Ash Wednesday)
February 18	Peter Kaltenbaugh
February 25	James Vander Schurr
March 3	Jay Shaffer
March 10	Dave Creamer
March 17	Jay Shaffer
March 24	Bill Deal
March 31	Jay Shaffer (Easter)

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

Sunday School

The Bible study of Peter continues today. Also, for anyone interested in Sunday School, Sue Coughenour is interested in hearing topics that you would like to discuss or know more about for future classes.

Hugs & Kisses

Friday, February 9th- Game night 6:30 in the church basement. ALL ages welcome. Please bring games and a snack/drink to share. H&K will provide pizza so a sign up sheet will be placed at the entrance for the number of people attending. Come for a fun night of food and fellowship!

Christian Ed

Will be meeting in the parsonage conference office on February 8th at 6:30 p.m.

The Souper Bowl Competition is underway. Next to the last week to participate!!!! There will be two winners again this year, so we will have to be on our game and regain our #1 spot. Please

mark your envelope “**Souper Bowl**” and make your check payable to Trinity UCC.

Live Streaming Options

From time to time, despite our efforts to provide you with reliable streaming services, we encounter problems. We are still investigating the reason we did have our Veterans Program live stream to Facebook. There are two other options for viewing which is our actual website at berlinucc.org or YouTube under Trinity United Church of Christ, Berlin PA.

Community Life

Will be hosting an event for caregivers, where you can take a tour of their center, speak to the staff, and learn more about how Community Life can help you care for your loved one at home. Tuesday, February 13th from 3:00-5:00. Community Life Center, 118 Shaeli Dr., Somerset PA 15501. Please RSVP to Laura by February 8th at 412-229-5505 or visit www.commlife.org for more information.

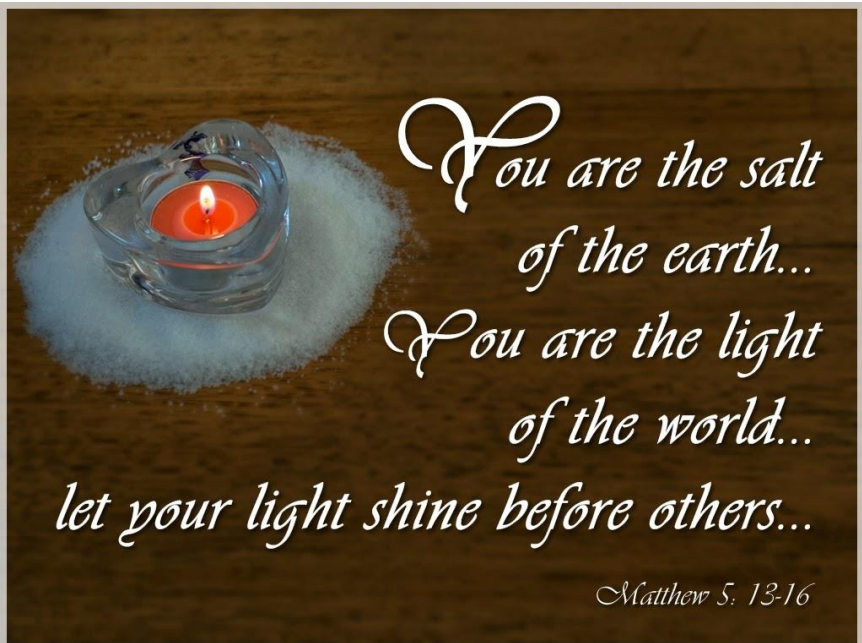
A HUGE THANK YOU

As sad as it was to see it going, we are incredibly grateful to all that provided us with a festive church atmosphere for the Christmas season. And as a result of the Community Bell Choir Concert, so many people outside of our church were blessed with the opportunity to reap the rewards of all of your hard work both setting up and taking down. There is no doubt that our church (and its congregation) provided the warmth, comfort, and true spiritual meaning of Christmas. Again, thank you, and bless you all.

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 Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.



**Thank you, Hugs & Kisses,
for planning this fun adventure to the Tomahawks Game!!!!**



**May God bless you and keep you in
this new week!**