



Third Sunday
of Easter

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April 14, 2024

Guest Speaker – Dave Creamer

Assisted by: Cohen Clark

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

(Please silence your cell phone)

Preludes

**The Lord's Prayer – Albert Hay
Pavane – Gabriel Faure**

Welcome

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

Greeting and Announcements

Call To Worship

O my Righteous God Give us relief from our distress.

Be merciful to us and hear our prayer.

Let the light of your face shine upon us O lord.

You have filled our hearts with great joy!

Let our grain stores overflow and our coffers all ways be full.

We will live in peace, O Lord, forever blessed by your love and comfort.

***Hymn No. 220**

He Lives

Call to Confession

As we come together as a community of Believers we seek to strengthen our faith. Our individual relationship with God guides each of us to look for Jesus, to walk with him, and invite him into our lives. Together, let us ask for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God hears each of us as we ask for forgiveness. Be assured that as we open our hearts to God, he sees the struggles we have. He is always there, walking beside us on our journey, caring, comforting, and forgiving us.

***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.

***Affirmation of Faith**

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

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before you. A blessed and grateful people. We thank you for the time, talents, and resources you give to us. We are thankful that we can share these with you. We ask that you use our offering to bring care and comfort to those in need.

We lift up to you dear lord the concerns on our hearts. We pray for your blessings. We ask that you provide healing and comfort to those in need, those we love.

We pray for this chaotic world and the things we do not understand. Dear lord we pray that your will be done.

Bless us and strengthen us with your spirit. Let it help us be fruitful and productive people. Always giving you glory.

We are thankful for your Son, Jesus Christ. Blessed by his grace we are your children. Always grateful for the lessons Jesus shows us we offer his prayer to you.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

***Hymn No. 428**

I Need Thee Every Hour

Acts 3:12-19

12 And when Peter saw it he addressed the people, "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"

13 The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him.

14 But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

15 and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

16 And his name, by faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

17 "And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.

18 But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ should suffer, he thus fulfilled.

19 Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

1 John 3:1-7

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

2 Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

3 And every one who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

5 You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who does right is righteous, as he is righteous.

Luke 24:36b-48

36 As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them.

37 But they were startled and frightened and supposed that they saw a spirit.

38 And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questions rise in your hearts?"

39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."

40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

41 And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,

43 and he took it and ate before them.

44 Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,

46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,

47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

48 You are witnesses of these things.

Sermon
“ Walking with a Stranger”
Guest Speaker - Dave Creamer

***Hymn No. 213**

Because He Lives

***Benediction**

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

***Going Forth**

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.**

Postlude

Christ Is Alive – Jason Payne

+ + + + +



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

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, Mandy Bockes, Jessica Borosky, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz, John Foor, Nancy Gindlesperger, Cheryl Glessner, Melodi Glessner, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Larry Hay, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Joyce Miller, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Peggy Stayrook, Betty Strasser, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

TODAY- Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells

Next Sunday – Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 04/07//2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$3785.00	\$3155.58	\$629.42
Ben	\$161.00	\$182.69	-\$21.69
Maint	\$211.00	\$163.46	\$47.54
Mem	\$400.00		\$400.00
Total	\$4557.00	\$3501.73	\$655.27

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$10.

Worship Attendance: 71 + 11 Online = 82
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: Colton Custer, Russ Hillegas

Ushers: Tom Croner, Amanda Custer

Acolytes: Nathan Spangler, Cohen Clark

Flowers on the altar are given in honor of her Mother and in memory of her Father and Grandparents by Michele Romesburg

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) 814-442-6740, 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.

April 21 Roberto Ochoa

April 28 Bill Deal

May 5 Jay Shaffer

May 12 Steve Dinning

May 19 Steve Dinning

May 26 Peter Kaltenbaugh

Bolded dated indicate communion.

Congregational Meeting Results

For those of you who were unable to attend the Congregational Meeting last week, the one measure on the ballot to be approved was the update/handicap remodeling of the bathroom in the parsonage which was unanimously approved.

Sunday School

Join us, as we are currently involved, in a 10-week study on the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah. This is a video series by Ray Vander Laan that takes us into the Holy Land and brings Scripture alive as we delve into the historical and cultural lives of that day. If you think you know that story of Easter, think again! Ray has a unique way of bringing new light to stories we have long treasured. So, if you have been thinking about joining Sunday School this is a great time to begin. Each session is its own lesson, and you can begin or give it a try at any point in these sessions. Sue Coughenour will be leading the class in the fellowship hall following the morning worship service. We always have good fellowship and discussion.

Our Annual Church Picnic is in need of someone to coordinate this event, however no one has volunteered to do this. Therefore, once again Hugs & Kisses will coordinate the event scheduled for July 28th at the Grove. They will be providing a list of what needs to be done in the near future, so if you could just pick **“One”** thing

that you could possibly assume the responsibility for it would be a tremendous help. We currently have a volunteer to cook the chicken on the open pit at the grove which will be a special treat!!! Please contact Kathy Spangler if you could possibly help in any way. Let's keep the tradition going!

Hugs and Kisses

As usual, this amazing group has been busy planning! Here are a couple of upcoming ideas they have shared.

Sunday School Teachers would like to make a Lego Room out of the part of the Nursery that has carpeting. There are Parables and other Bible Lessons that can be taught using Legos. If anyone has any Legos or a Lego table or Lego storage options that they would like to donate to this project- please bring them and put them in the nursery downstairs. Thank you!

Our youth are looking for a few houses of church members who could use some help with small outdoor spring cleanup projects like picking up sticks, leaves, weeding etc. If you have someone in mind, please contact Amy Clark. (Youth parents- be on the lookout for group texts as these volunteer service projects are going to be planned as they come up and weather permitting so we need anyone who can show up on a certain date/time/address to please show up to help if you can!)

In addition to this, they have plans for a "2nd annual Cornhole tournament, VBS with the Beachdale church, Faith Night for the Johnstown Mill Rats baseball team, Berlin Community Day, and a mission/service project of produce from fields to donate to the Food Pantry!

Your group is truly a blessing to so many.

When it comes to volunteering, passion and positivity are the only requirements.

Too often, as with many organizations, it is the same people who consistently volunteer. Each and every one of you has the knowledge, skills, and abilities to offer something to our church community. We are currently working on a project behind the scenes to update our membership listing and our one call now

telephone list. Those of you who have been members of Trinity UCC for many years have knowledge of things from the past....the who, what, when, and where. Once we have narrowed it down to a manageable list, we are looking for people to provide information to narrow it down to those that we might reach out to.

This may involve a courtesy phone call, letter, card, or some form of communication to let these people know that they are missed. Trinity UCC of Berlin is vibrant, alive, and well despite our current situation without a Pastor. We have an amazing group of Pastors and lay people who provide an array of preaching styles and sermons, Trinity bells continue to ring loudly, our music committee has and continues to provide a variety of worship music, Hugs & Kisses focuses on events that benefit the entire congregation, and we are blessed with a kind, caring, and loving church "Family".

We ask that you just think about how **"YOU"** can contribute by volunteering in any area of need.

Random Acts of Kindness

As you recall, last week Pastor Pete Kaltenbaugh discussed random acts of kindness. It was both interesting and inspiring to hear the variety of those "little" random acts that can make someone's day. We think it reminded us of those things that we have done or could do to make a difference. There are blank sheets of paper on the sound board, so if you could, please share some of your random acts of kindness or ideas to inspire us all. It is not necessary to put your name (unless you would like to) but share your ideas/experiences and leave them in the offering plate. We can ALL make a difference.

Birthright of Somerset, Inc. is pleased to announce its Annual Birthright Award Contests. The Essay Award will be given to the 12th grade student who can best convey their response to the essay scenario as presented in the Award Criteria. The eligible student who wins the 1st place award will receive \$1000.00. A prize of \$750.00 will be awarded to the second-place winner. There is also a Design A T-Shirt contest open to 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th grades with a prize of \$1000.00 going to the winner and \$750.00 for the second -place winner. Completed applications for

both contests are due by Friday, April 15th. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

UPMC Family Hospice, formerly In Touch Hospice, will be holding a spring Grief Support Group beginning March 20 at our Somerset location, 314 S. Kimberly Avenue (Back Entrance of Hillman). The group is free and will run for 6 weeks. Please join us to share your feelings with others, who are grieving a loved one's death.

The Berlin Brethren Church will present a Recital, "A Kaleidoscope of Hymns", Sunday, April 21st, at 4:00 p.m. This event will include the Bell Choir and the Senior Choir and various musical talents.

Also, at the Brethren Church

The Mission Team is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner at the Berlin Brethren Church this Thursday, April 18th from 3 PM - 7 PM in the church basement. Suggested Donation of \$10 per meal. EAT IN or TAKE OUT!! All proceeds go to Somerset County Victim Services.

Live Streaming

We have been notified by our live streaming company, that Facebook is continually making changes to its platform consequently impacting streaming users. Please remember that our live stream is also located on our website @berlinucc.org and YouTube.

Trinity Trumpet Newsletter

This next week we will begin gathering information for "our" newsletter. We encourage you to submit information, articles, comments, prayers, praise, and any other information you would like to share with our entire congregation. We will also be including a form to update your information with regard to phone numbers, one call now information, family members' birthdays, anniversaries, births, and any other information you would like to provide.

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.

Service Notes:



Did You Ever Wonder What the Bell In The Bell Tower Looks Like?

Thank you, Tom Croner, for providing these very interesting pictures.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



**Creator of the universe,
you made the world in beauty,
and restore all things in glory
through the victory of Jesus Christ.**

**We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured
by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed,
the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love,
and peace,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the light of your love shines on,
illuminating the places where you are present.
As the bewildered disciples pondered the stories of your
appearance,
you penetrated the darkness of their fear and doubt with your
word of peace.**

**May this prayer bring you closer to the joy and hope of
Easter. 🌸**

**Blessings To You All For
“A Wonderful Week Ahead”**