

***Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023
Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer***

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

Prelude

**Were You There? – Mark Hayes
Pavanne – 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.

***Call to Worship**

What have you come for and why are you here?

We have come to worship our God and seek forgiveness.

Then let us turn aside from the influence of the world and center our thoughts on the love of God.

Morning Prayer

***Hymn No. 1**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Call To Confession:

Almighty God, as we progress in our Lenten practices we are often reminded of the sin in our lives. Many of our sins are unintentional as we think of ourselves instead of others. We want to achieve goals and make gains; however, we forget that what we want may hurt what others seek. We become upset when the actions of others harm us, but we ignore the fact that our actions can harm others. Forgive us Lord, for the many times we placed ourselves ahead of everyone else. Forgive us when we ask for forgiveness without forgiving others. Strengthen us each day in our faith and love for you. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness:

***Hymn 66 – Verse 1**

To God Be The Glory

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Creed Of Canada UCC

We are not alone; we live in God's World.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating;

**who has come into Jesus, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

We trust God:

**who calls us to be the church;
to love and serve others;
to seek justice and resist evil;
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and
our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be 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**

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Scripture: Genesis 12: 1-4a

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.

2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves."

4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Epistle – Romans 4:1-5,13-17

1 What then shall we say about Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh?

2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

3 For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

4 Now to one who works, his wages are not reckoned as a gift but as his due.

5 And to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness.

13 The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

14 If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

15 For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all,

17 as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Hymn No: 204

Rock of Ages

Gospel – John 3:1-17

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 Every one 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.

8 He who commits sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

9 No one born of God commits sin; for God's nature abides in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God.

10 By this it may be seen who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not do right is not of God, nor he who does not love his brother.

11 For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

12 and not be like Cain who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

13 Do not wonder, brethren, that the world hates you.

14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

15 Any one who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17 But if any one has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Sermon

“Born Again and Again”

Pastor Jay Shaffer

***Hymn No. 601**

Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

***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.**

***Going Forth**

Postlude Come, Thou Almighty King – Anna Laura Page

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Dates to Remember:

**Maundy Thursday – April 6, 2023
Good Friday – April 7, 2023
Easter – April 9, 2023**



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, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Rhonda
Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Larry Custer,

John Durst, Mary Jane Harding, Earl Harlan, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Cindy McCullen-Janicki, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Larry McCullen, Bob Murphy, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Harold Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Greg Shaulis, Tracey Smith, 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 – Second Sunday in Lent
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 Sunday School

Tuesday – 6:30 p.m. Hugs & Kisses Meeting

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

Next Sunday – Third Sunday in Lent
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 Sunday School

Giving From 02/26/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2423.00	\$3155.58	-\$732.58
Ben	\$220.00	\$182.69	\$37.31
Maint	\$195.00	\$163.46	\$31.54
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2838.00	\$3501.73	-\$663.73

Not included in Benevolence are donations to Food Pantry of \$10

Worship Attendance: 85

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

Hearing Amplifiers

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Lori Gindlesperger (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

Ushers: Debbie Boyer, Bob Brown

Acolytes: Cohen Clark / Colton Custer

The Flowers on the altar in memory of Richard and Ronald Hittie by Nancy Hitte and Family

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

The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule:

February 19-March 26: You Make Me Crazy: Surviving Relationships God's Way:

A crazy-maker can really make life difficult. This six-week video-based study from Pastor Warren will help bring sanity to your relationships so you can do more than just coexist. Learn how to connect with the crazy-makers in your life; whether a spouse, sibling, parent, co-workers, or someone else.

April 2 & 9: **A Look at Easter** – A short Bible study to focus in on the wonder of Easter.

April 16: **No class** as Sue Coughenour will be away. We invite you to join Tom Calvert's class this week.

April 23-July 9: **Culture Shock:** A 12-part video series by Chip Ingram. Where do you stand on the issues of Truth, Abortion, The Environment, Sex, Homosexuality, Churches, and Politics? More importantly what does God say? More than ever before, believers must develop convictions based on research, reason, and biblical truth. It's equally important that believers are able (and willing) to communicate these convictions with the love and respect that reflects God's own heart. This study will help you to respond with love, even in the face of controversy. In the process, you'll discover the power of bringing light – not heat – to the core issues at the heart of society today.

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

Croner Educational Fund

Trinity United Church of Christ established the Education Fund in memory of Joseph and Erma Croner with Earl D Croner and Richard F Croner as donors. First priority for the money from the Fund shall be to members of the church who are students for the Christian ministry. Second priority shall be for college students who are members of the church and have a financial need. Applications for the Croner Educational Fund Scholarship will be accepted from January 1 – March 31, 2023. A transcript of applicant/student grades is to be included with the application. Applications can be obtained at the church office.

Holy Trinity Lutheran will hold mid-week Lenten services 3/1 through 3/29/2023 at 7:00 PM.

We will be presenting the five-part Lenten Drama "They Followed the Master".

We welcome the community to join us.

Good Friday Combined Service

We have been invited to join the Brethren Church, Three Seasons Church, and the Lutheran Church in a combined service at the Lutheran Church, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. We will have members participating in the service and would like to have good representation of Trinity UCC. Stay tuned!

Greeter Committee

Now that Bob Brown has completed the Usher List (thank you for those willing to participate), we would like to begin a “Greeter” list once again. If you are interested in coordinating this list or participating, please let us know. You may contact any Consistory member, Bob Brown, or the church office.

Hugs and Kisses are having a meeting on March 7, 2023 at 6:30.

Attention Youth – Fun ahead! On March 26th, we would like to play Rainbow Bells during church and after church that day we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt with prizes! We will need to practice a few times which will just be during Sunday School (after church around 10:00 in the basement) on March 12th and March 19th. Please plan on joining us so that we have enough kids to play bells. Any questions – see Amanda Custer.

Card Shower:

Mary Forespring, a member of our church, is turning 94 Sunday, March 5, 2023. It would be great to acknowledge this milestone and brighten her day by sending a card with well wishes.
167 Grange Rd, Meyersdale, PA 15552

Nancy Weighley

Entered the hospital this past Sunday to begin her 30-day treatment program. We are certain that prayers, cards and well wishes would be helpful. If you would like to send a card the address is c/o Jason Weighley, 4637 Wilburke Ave., Whitehall PA 15236.

Prayer and well wishes for Pastor Art Gotjen

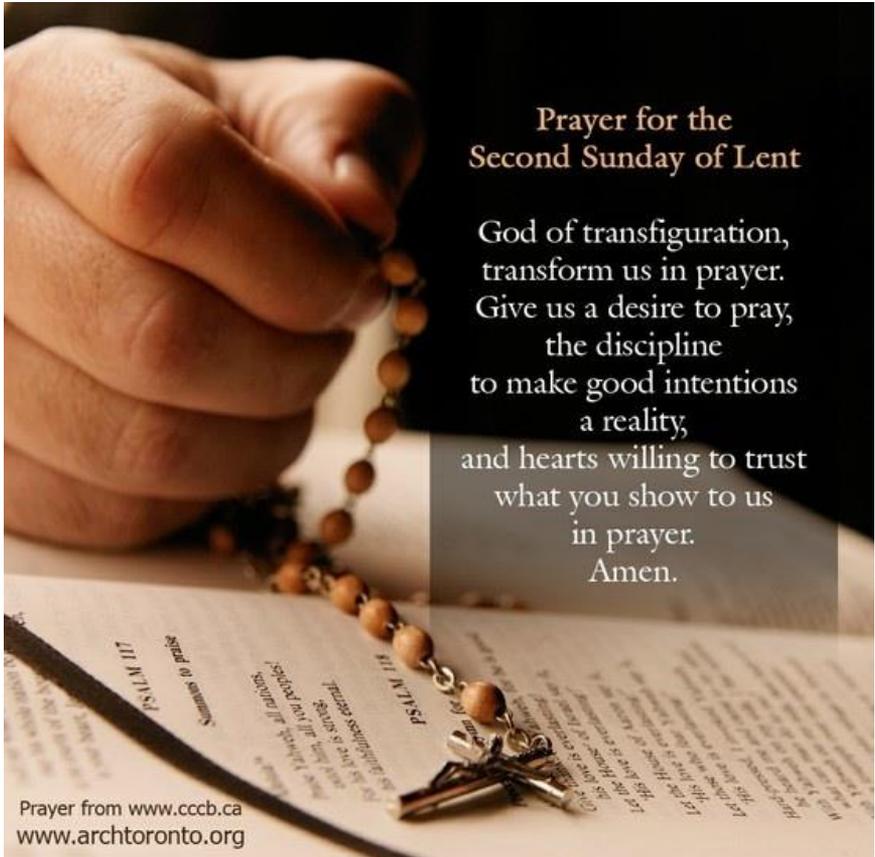
Pastor Art has recently undergone some surgery and will be unavailable for the next couple of months. Please join us in sending him your prayers, well wishes and cards to:
Art Gotjen, 1096 Sunset Dr., Somerset PA 15501

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

In the newsletter we provided a list of our upcoming leaders in worship. These are subject to change so we will let you know of any changes as they occur through the weekly bulletin.

March 12 Jay Shaffer
March 19 Steve Dinning
March 26 Josh Spangler
April 2 Jay Shaffer
April 9 Bill Deal
April 16 Jay Shaffer (Possibly Steve Dinning)
April 23 Josh Spangler

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.



Prayer for the
Second Sunday of Lent

God of transfiguration,
transform us in prayer.
Give us a desire to pray,
the discipline
to make good intentions
a reality,
and hearts willing to trust
what you show to us
in prayer.
Amen.

Prayer from www.cccb.ca
www.archtoronto.org