

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 24, 2023
Guest Speaker – Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh
Assisted By – Truitt Ogburn

Trinity United Church of Christ 600 Main Street Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes Hark – I Hear the Harps Eternal – Gilbert Martin Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove – Gilbert Martin

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 (based On Isaiah 55:6-9)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found.

Call upon God while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them return to the Lord that he may have mercy, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon them.

The thoughts of God are not like human thoughts, nor are the ways of God like the ways of mortals.

As the heavens are higher than the earth so the ways of God are higher than our ways and the thoughts of God than our thoughts.

Opening Prayer

Our Father in heaven, you are the only true God. Thank you for all the grace and wonderful deeds you continue to give us. We ask for your blessing and guidance in celebrating this worship in your name. Make us one with your army of angels through this worship service. And we ask that you would be in our midst today and forevermore.

*Hymn No. 382

Be Thou My Vision

Prayer of Confession:

Great Oh Lord is your mercy and love. You take upon yourself our burdens, you forgive our sin, you help us day by

day when we call upon you. Oh Lord, as we draw near to you in this hour lift from us those things that weigh us down. Hear our confessions and forgive us. Help us to hear your word and to know your thoughts and to render you the praise and glory you deserve. Grant that in our worship your Spirit may transform the imaginings of our minds and make them more like those of Christ Jesus. Indeed strengthen us to live as he has shown us so that we may bring honor to you and hope to all those around us who have lost their way. Guide us, O Lord, by your living presence. And in our silent time fill us with a peace as we let go of our sins. We ask it in Jesus' name.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Hear these comforting words:

If you repent and believe in God's redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God's promises and begin anew your life with God and all people, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, 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.

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

Heavenly Father, grant that the gifts we have placed on your altar this morning may be an accurate expression of the deep appreciation we feel toward our only Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Special Music - Danny Conner

Exodus 16:2-15,

- **2** And the whole congregation of the people of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness,
- **3** and said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."
- **4** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law or not.
- **5** On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily."
- **6** So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
- **7** and in the morning, you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your murmurings against the Lord. For what are we, that you murmur against us?"
- **8** And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you in the evening flesh to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your murmurings which you murmur against him—what are we? Your murmurings are not against us but against the Lord."
- **9** And Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your murmurings.' "
- **10** And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

- 11 And the Lord said to Moses,
- **12** "I have heard the murmurings of the people of Israel; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat flesh, and in the morning, you shall be filled with bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.' "
- **13** In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning dew lay round about the camp.
- **14** And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as hoarfrost on the ground.
- **15** When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

Philippians 1:21-30

- 21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
- **22** If it is to be life in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.
- **23** I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.
- 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.
- **25** Convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith,
- **26** so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.
- 27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,
- **28** and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear omen to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.
- **29** For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,
- **30** engaged in the same conflict which you saw and now hear to be mine.

Matthew 20:1-16

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

- **2** After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- **3** And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place;
- **4** and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So, they went.
- **5** Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same.
- **6** And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?'
- **7** They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.'
- **8** And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.'
- **9** And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.
- **10** Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.
- 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder,
- **12** saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'
- **13** But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?
- **14** Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you.
- **15** Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?'
- 16 So the last will be first, and the first last."

*Hymn No. 381

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Sermon "Our Daily Bread" Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh

*Hymn No. 602

God Be with You

*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.

Postlude

Be Thou My Vision - Hal Hopson

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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, Ray Coleman, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, John Durst, Reon Engleka, Sheron Engleka, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Fae Hetrick, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Lois Saylor, Nancy Schrock, JoAnne Smith, Mark Stahl, Peggy Stayrook, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Harry Watkins, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

TODAY –17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:10 Sunday School – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells

Next Sunday – 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Sunday School (Fellowship Hall Only)

Giving From 09/10/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2160.00	\$3155.58	-\$995.58
Ben	\$250.00	\$182.69	\$67.31
Maint	\$80.00	\$163.46	-\$83.46
Mem	\$55.00		\$0.00
Total	\$2545.00	\$3501.73	-\$1011.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$20, and Knotty Knotter of \$100, and Keystone Family Alliance of \$250

Giving From 09/17/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$707.00	\$3155.58	-\$2448.58
Ben	\$45.00	\$182.69	-\$137.69
Maint	\$50.00	\$163.46	-\$113.46
Mem			\$0.00
Total	\$802.00	\$3501.73	-\$2699.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$10 and Keystone Family Alliance of \$110

Worship Attendance: 52

Sunday School: 19

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)

Ushers: Jim Walker, Ken Miller

Acolyte: Truitt Ogburn

The Flowers on the altar are in memory of Jim McKenzie and in honor of this wonderful church family by Pam Bush.

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: <u>berlinucc@yahoo.com</u> Website: <u>www.berlinucc.org</u>

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

October 1 Steve Dinning
October 8 Dwayne Hay

October 15 James Vander Schuur October 22 Peter Kaltendbaugh

October 29 Dottie Grew

Bolded dates indicate "Communion" Sundays.

UPDATE: All adult Sunday School Classes will now be meeting as one in the Fellowship Hall. Sue Coughenour will be starting an in-depth study of I & II Peter. This study will give you a look at how to get the most out of your Bible reading. The apostle Peter wrote two short letters that are packed with so much that we need to hear in our culture today. Join us as we dig in and find many hidden treasures that you might miss in general reading. Please bring your Bible, a pen, and be ready to dive in. Hope to see you there!

Keystone Family Alliance

On July 16th Lydia Shaffer presented information about their successes working with Foster Parents. Consistory has designated **September** as a special offering to assist in the need of orphans and vulnerable children. Their focus is to bridge the gap between the desperate need in the child welfare system and Pennsylvania churches. If you choose to donate to this cause, please mark your offering envelopes "Keystone Alliance".

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.

Community Life (Living Independence for the Elderly) Is hosting an afternoon of Patsy Cline and Polka Music at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (1845 N Center St., Somerset). October 13th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Patsy Cline songs from Cathi Rhodes as well as Polka music from the Button Box Club Polka Band. Light refreshments, no cost to attend. Please RSVP to 412-229-5505 by October 10th to reserve your seat.

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.

The 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.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

With a deadline of November 13^{th,} we will be gearing up for our shoebox collection in September and October. We have boxes available if you would like to start or possibly start collecting now. Renee Gindlesperger will be doing a presentation on October 1st (as she is on a much-needed vacation now) but most of you know what we do. If you need further information, please contact the church office. We will have boxes available across from Fellowship Hall.

Adopt-A-Family

As a reminder, Adopt-A-Family will begin with a special collection during the month of October as well. 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.

Thank you from Lillian Potter for the thoughts, prayers, and cards as she continues to recover from hip surgery.

Update on Harry Watkins

Jane has informed us that Harry continues to have setbacks, most recently a possible reaction to medication that left him incoherent for a few days. He continues to have some breathing issues and will be undergoing another cat scan on his head. Please continue to keep Harry (and Jane) in your prayers as they continue to work toward healing. Remember their address is 218 Indigo Ln, Somerset PA 15530. Knowing that we are all thinking about them with a card would be welcomed.

Welcome to a brand new week, a brand new day. May angels walk with you every step of the way, bring you happiness and love, and keep you from harm's way.