



***December 7, 2025
Holy Communion
Pastor Dave Creamer
Assisted by Colton Custer***

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

"Please silence your cell phone"

Prelude: Ding Dong! Merrily on High – Mary McDonald
The Wexford Carol – Mark Hays

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: “Peace”

Advent is the season of waiting for and hastening the day of God.

We wait for new heavens and a new Earth.

For a land where righteousness is at home.

A place where all Gods people dwell in peace.

We hasten the day of Gods coming when we practice the promises of God.

We will welcome home the lost, tired, and lonely.

Let us wait with expectation and let us hasten to usher in God's new day. Let us worship God.

Lighting of The Peace Candle

We wait for the God of life, we wait for the Christ of love, we wait for the Spirit of truth.

Come down, come in, and dwell among us.

Come into our hearts that we may love you, come into our minds that we may know you, come into our lives that we may serve you.

Come down, come in, and dwell among us.

***Hymn No. 128**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Call to Confession:

The way to salvation is made clear. The path is before us. Let us seek forgiveness and Grace from our Savior Jesus Christ.

Confession:

Gracious God, our provider and sustainer, hear our Prayer. Help us to accept the gifts of Jesus. Help us to accept the peace that he offers. Forgive us of our sins. Bless us with your Spirit so we may carry the gift of peace out into the world.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

To truly be forgiven is to accept Jesus's forgiveness in your heart. To let yourself be free of burdens, like worry and anger. To put the weight of guilt down and feel Peace. For that we give God the Glory.

***Response 66 Verse 1**

To God Be the Glory

***The Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles 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.

“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, we humble ourselves before you. A grateful and blessed people. We pray that our offering may be a blessing to many, and that your will is done. We pray for this world. We pray that it can know peace. We pray that you strengthen us with your Spirit so we can carry that peace into the world. We pray for the care and protection of our military and first responders. They sacrifice so much for us, we ask that you watch over them. We pray for our lands, towns, and homes. We ask that your presence is near to them always and that they are filled with your Son's Blessed peace. We pray for our prayer list, for the people and places that trouble our hearts and worry our minds. We pray that your healing presence is a comfort to the people and places that need it. We are thankful most of all for Jesus Christ. His sacrifice on the cross is our greatest gift. His guidance to us a light in the darkness. We offer to you the prayer he first gave to us.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

The Hebrew Scripture:

From the Book of Isaiah Chapter 11, vs 1-10

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist,
and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
and the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

7 The cow and the bear shall feed;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

9 They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

10 In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the
peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be
glorious.

The Epistle Lesson:

From Paul's Letter to the Romans Chapter 15, vs 4-13

4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our
instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of
the scriptures we might have hope.

5 May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to
live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ
Jesus,

6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you,
for the glory of God.

8 For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to
show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to
the patriarchs,

9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As
it is written,

"Therefore I will praise thee among the Gentiles,
and sing to thy name";

10 and again it is said,
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

11 and again,
"Praise the Lord, all Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

12 and further Isaiah says,
"The root of Jesse shall come,
he who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him shall the Gentiles hope."

13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope

The Gospel of Jesus Christ: From the Book of Matthew Chapter 24, vs 36-44

36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

37 As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man.

38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,

39 and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man.

40 Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.

42 Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

43 But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into.

44 Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Message
“The Strength of Peace”
Pastor Dave Creamer

***Hymn No. 323**

Let Us Break Bread Together

Sacrament of 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 to God.

Let us give thanks to the 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.

**Holy, Holy, Holy God of Love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.
Blessed is the one who come in the name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Please be seated.

The Body

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave 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."

The Blood

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."

***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 scatter, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray.
Amen.**

***Hymn No. 133**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

***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

Joy to the World! – Mary McDonald

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

**Barb Berkley, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Debbi Luteri,
Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor**

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Brad Bowers,
Paige Boyer, Chris Brant, Rhonda Brown,
Ray Coleman, Susan Constantino, Tammy Coughenour,
Eric Custer, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Linda Gallick, Jeff Gavel,
Nancy Gindlesperger, Marlene Gotchen, Dennis Griffith,
Karen Griffith, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Kris Hay, Larry Hay, Marilyn Heiple,
Gary Hillegas, Barry Landis, Brenda Leister, Richard Lilliston,
Jim Little, Blair and Phylis Lyons, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen,
Joyce Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, Easton Pritts, Brian Robb, James Robb,
Brett Sarver, Karol Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock,
Curt Shaulis, Missy Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,
Dawn Edmiston-Strasser, Larry Tinkey, Patsy and Dave Titus,
Barbara and Peter Usher, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Echo Kincaid Yoder, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

Today- 2nd Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday – 7:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Bell Practice

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Next Sunday –3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 11/30/2025

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1860.00	\$3155.58	-\$1295.58
Ben	\$185.00	\$182.69	\$2.31
Maint	\$620.00	\$163.46	\$456.54
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2665.00	\$3501.73	-\$836.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$10 and Adopt-A-Family of \$500.

Worship Attendance: 77

Sunday School: 0

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, Lori Gindlesperger

Ushers: Debbie Boyer, Allison Zimmerson

Acolytes: Colton Custer

Organ: Nancy Bittner

Flowers on the altar are in honor of Bob and Mike Chappie by Dave, Missy, Matthew and Kaitlyn Miller.

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by:

*Dave Creamer, Student Pastor
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:

*Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166
Jim Darr, 814-483-0957
Allison Zimmerman, 814-267-4324*

Consistory Deacons:

*Pam Bush, Tom Croner (President) 814-442-6740, Amanda
Custer, Lori Gindlesperger, Jean Hart, Jeanne Hillegas,
Bill Landis, Julie Petro, Allen Strasser*

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

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is currently doing an in-depth study on the book of Daniel. Come join us as we discover prophecy yet to be fulfilled. The class begins at 10:10 am in the Fellowship Hall and is led by Sue Coughenour.

Church Cookbook Fundraiser

Years ago, our church members put together a cookbook that many people still use today. There is nothing better than tried and true recipes. Although it is in the early stages of planning, please consider submitting your favorite recipes to add to a new book. We have a lot of GREAT cooks out there so please share. Be sure to put your name on your recipe and any hints you may have in its preparation. You can put it in the offering plate, through the office door slot, hand it to a staff member or simply leave it on the sound board desk. This should be lots of fun! Thank you to those who have submitted.....keep them coming!

Trinity Ladies

Come join us on Monday, December 8, at noon, for a Christmas party at Eat 'n Park in Somerset. Wear a Christmas top and /or if you have any Christmas pin(s). Also, if you would like, bring a \$5-10 gift to participate in a gift exchange. Let's celebrate and have some fun!

Hugs & Kisses

December 14th- Youth Christmas Play

Colton and Cora will be in charge this year. Tentative practices during Sunday School in December and dress rehearsal practice Saturday, December 13th in the afternoon, time TBD.

The Laural Highlands Chorale Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 7th at 3:30 pm and Monday, December 8th at 7:00 pm at the Somerset Church of the Brethren, Berlin Plank Road. Intermission music will feature the Berlin Brethren Church's Bell Choir under the direction of Norman Menhorn. Tickets are \$5.00 and will be available at the door, or from any chorale member.

Church World Services Disaster Kits

Is an ongoing (year-round) ministry mission. As we now make way for Operation Christmas child as our October mission, always keep the need for disaster kits in mind as disasters do not have an expiration date.

Adopt A Family

Adopt a Family will be our mission for the month of November in addition to Birthright of Somerset Giving Tree Drive. For more information, please contact Julie Petro at 814-442-5124

Congregational Meeting December 7 (TODAY)

An early reminder the annual Congregational Meeting will be held on the first Sunday of December following worship services. Tentative Agenda will be our proposed budget and selection of new incoming Consistory members and recognition of outgoing members. The proposed budget was included in the last newsletter.

Thank You for supporting The Somerset County Sheriff's Search & Rescue Team. We wouldn't be able to serve Somerset County without the generosity of community members like you.
Sincerely, The Members of SAR Team 400

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Pastor Dave Creamer at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398. If neither is available, contact Pam Bush at 541-990-0832.

Sermon Notes:

ADVENT WEEK 2: *A Prayer of Peace*

Peace from you, Jesus, is peace that surpasses all understanding. We know this world is not here to give us this peace. It can only come from you. As the storm rages around us, Lord, will you fill us with your peace. The peace you give always causes me to trust in you despite my circumstances, Lord. I am placing all my worries and fears at the foot of the cross today. Lord, help me to be a light of peace to those around me, sharing why we don't have to be afraid when the world is uncertain. Thank you for sending Jesus. Thank you for Christmas.



**Thank You for Joining Us
Have a Blessed Week Ahead**