



Seventeenth Sunday after
Pentecost

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September 15, 2024

Guest Speaker – Dave Creamer

Assisted by Cora & Lucy Wright

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes

**Sweet Hour of Prayer – Marianne Kim
Beneath the Cross – Jason Payne**

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

2024 Fletcher Bible Presentation

This Year's Recipient Is:
"Lucy Arlene Wright"

Call To Worship Based on Psalm 19

The Heavens tell of the Glory of God!

The Earth Proclaims Gods handiwork!

Day to Day his Word Pours forth until all can declare its knowledge.

The words of the Lord go out through all the lands, to the ends of the Earth.

The word of the lord is perfect, reviving the lands, reviving the soul.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you God,

O Lord my Rock and my redeemer!

Hymn No. 8

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Call to Confession

As brothers and sisters in Christ we often lose our way. We stray to places we should not go. Let us return to the place God wants us to be.

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father we come to you seeking Grace, Forgiveness and Redemption. Our tongues say things our hearts regret. We sin against each other with thought word and deed. Forgive us. Help us to control our words, keep in check our emotions, and calm our anger. Bless us with your spirit to guide us each day.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God is our rock and redeemer! He knows our weakness.
Understands our faults. Is there to shore up our foundations. As
we reach out for grace, he forgives us.

***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.**

Please Remain Standing

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 you provide for needs, care for our wants, hear our Prayer. We offer to you small part of our selves. Use our gifts to strengthen your church and to care for our siblings in Christ. We ask that your will is done. Bless us with your healing presence, care for those on our prayer list, the people and places on our hearts, and the things we worry about in our minds. Take our fears and give us faith. Strengthen our care givers. Renew their spirit. Help them to be compassionate and patient. We pray for a world we do not understand. Please Bless the ones who protect us and keep us safe, keep them from harm. Bless us with the presence of your Holy Spirit. Help us to pray each day to be the fruitful and productive people you want us to be. Watch over our homes and families. Keep your steading hand on us as we go to work and school. We are grateful for gifts you give, the love we feel, and Grace your Son Jesus gives us all. The prayer he taught us we offer to you now;

Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Scripture

Wisdom of Solomen 7: 26 8: 1

For wisdom is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets; for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun, and excels every constellation of the stars. Compared with the light she is found to be superior, for it is succeeded by the night, but against wisdom evil does not prevail. She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

Epistle

James 3: 1- 12

1 Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, for you know that we who teach shall be judged with greater strictness.

2 For we all make many mistakes, and if any one makes no mistakes in what he says he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also.

3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses that they may obey us, we guide their whole bodies.

4 Look at the ships also; though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.

5 So the tongue is a little member and boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!

6 And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is an unrighteous world among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the cycle of nature, and set on fire by hell.

7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by humankind,

8 but no human being can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9 With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God.

10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brethren, this ought not to be so.

11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening fresh water and brackish?

12 Can a fig tree, my brethren, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Gospel

Mark 8: 27 - 38

27 And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?"

28 And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others one of the prophets."

29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

30 And he charged them to tell no one about him.

31 And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men."

34 And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

35 For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

36 For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?

37 For what can a man give in return for his life?

38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Hymn No. 372

Living for Jesus

**Sermon
"Clarity"**

Guest Speaker – Dave Creamer

Hymn No. 601

Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

***Benediction**

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

Surely the Presence of the Lord

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace,
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

***Going Forth**

Postlude

Trumpet Tune – Jason Payne

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer,
Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,
Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks,
Nancy Custer, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka,
Paul Gallick, Nancy Gindlesperger,
Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith,
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Peter Kaltenbaugh, Barry Landis,
Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Cathy Meyers, Joyce Miller,
Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy
Schrock, Curt Shaulis, JoAnne Smith, Brooke Stutzman,
Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Diane Walker, Robin Walker,
Nancy Weighley, Lucy Wright, Allison Zimmerman, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

TODAY- 17th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – Trinity Bells Practice 6:30 p.m.

Next Sunday – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 09/08/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2652.00	\$3155.58	-\$503.58
Ben	\$220.00	\$182.69	\$37.31
Maint	\$45.00	\$163.46	-\$118.46
Mem	\$0.00		\$0.00
Total	\$2917.00	\$3501.73	-\$584.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15 and Caring for Our Churches \$50

Worship Attendance: 58 + 18 Online = 76

Sunday School: 27

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: Jim Darr (Board), Russ Hillegas (Camera)

Ushers: Tom Croner, Amanda Custer

Acolytes: Cora & Lucy Wright

Organ: Jean Ann Darr

Flowers on the altar in memory of Edna Mae Chappie (Grandma Mae) & in honor of Bob Chappie (Pap) by Dave, Missy, Matthew & Kaitlyn Miller.

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.

September 22 Steve Dinning

September 29 Steve Dinning

October 6 – Combined Service With Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

October 13 – Dave Creamer

October 20 – Dave Creamer

October 27 – Dave Creamer

Bolded dates indicate communion.

Sunday School

Are you going through a difficult period of life? During these desert times, it's easy to think God has disappeared. Instead, discover that it's only when we are totally dependent on him that we find him closer than ever and can experience God's amazing grace and provision. Ray Vander Laan will take us on a trip in the desert to experience what it was like for the Israelites as they wandered in the desert to find the Promised Land. This seven-part series began August 11 and is led by Sue Coughenour. Sunday School begins at 10:10 in the Fellowship Hall, everyone is invited to join in.

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!

Hugs & Kisses

Saturday, September 28th - Bike/Hike on the GAP Trail. We will meet at the church parking lot at 5 PM and plan on starting at the Deal Trailhead and bike or walk to the Big Savage Tunnel (or as little or as far as you want to go!) Bring your bike/helmet, walking shoes, water bottle/snacks.

Saturday, October 19th – Pumpkin Carving at the Lutheran Church 6 PM – Bring your own pumpkin and carving tools if you have any. They will be providing apple cider and snacks. This is ALL ages. Please let Amanda Custer know if you plan on attending so they can have an approximate count.

Bethlehem Experience

Planning is underway for the 5th biennial “Bethlehem Experience in Berlin PA. This year’s event will be held Sunday December 8th, on the Block Party Lot in Berlin. In an effort to cut down on the waiting time, we are planning to offer a “walk through” from 200-4:00 p.m. and a “drive through” from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

How can you help?

- 1) Pray that the people coming to the event experience Jesus and pray for favorable weather.
- 2) Donate funds to purchase supplies for building sets; pay for rental of sound/lighting systems.
- 3) Volunteer to help with making the sets, costumes, painting, etc.
- 4) Volunteer to serve as actors – we will need approximately 40 volunteers.
- 5) Volunteer to help with set up and tear down December 7-8

If you are able to donate, please make check payable to:

Bethlehem Experience, 500 South St., Berlin PA 15530

If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact one of the following:

Joanne Stoltzfus – 814-233-5905

Cheryl Hay – 814-267-5642

Angie Klink – 814-442-9195

Jeanette Landis – 814-267-3020

April Logue – 814-267-5072

Lorrie Shaw – 814-521-8852

Veterans Sunday Preparation

In preparation for our annual Veterans Program, please submit new or changes of information to Sheron Engleka prior to October 27. Sheron puts a lot of time and effort into this program so the sooner we get this information to her the better.

Heritage Sunday, October 6th, 2024

Both the Council of Trinity Lutheran Church and our Consistory have graciously agreed to return an old tradition called Heritage Sunday. This is based on our common heritage beginning in 1777 when both congregations built one building for both congregations to share. The date selected and approved is October 6th, 2024. There will be no church or Sunday School at our church that Sunday. Church Service will be at 10:40am that Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Berlin. Sunday School will be there also at 9:30am. The following year we, Trinity UCC, will then host Trinity Lutheran at our church. Please join in this celebration of our Common Heritage on Sunday, October 6th, 2024.

Hospice Volunteers Needed

Hospice volunteers come from all ages and walks of life, with an extraordinary love and compassionate concern for others. They contribute to the overall well-being of our patients, families, and UPMC Volunteers help Family Hospice and those we serve in many ways.

- Patient/family companionship
- Bereavement support
- Pet assisted visits
- Clerical
- Share musical talents
- Barber and hair stylist

All volunteers receive free training and orientation. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Family Hospice, call Daun, volunteer & bereavement coordinator at 814-515-6056.

Thank you for your generous donation to our community VBS. We had great week sharing Jesus!
Thanks again, Angel Klink, Coordinator

Berlin Ministerium

There will be an open house, Monday, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m., at the Berlin Grove for Trail Life (for boys) and American Heritage Girls. The Berlin Brethren church is the charter for these troops and we have youth and leaders from about 18 different churches involved from around the area. The Goal—make disciples for Jesus Christ by learning to be godly men and women.

Caring for Churches, Caring for Clergy

We are excited about the progress that is being made in the Caring for Churches, Caring for Clergy campaign of the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ! We hope to raise \$500,000.00, with \$450,000.00 being directed toward our Mission Grants program and \$50,000.00 being directed toward the Pension Boards (United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance) Generations of Service Campaign. The Generations of Service campaign helps with financial assistance to current and future retirees, development of leadership programs, and improvements toward the financial wellness of those in ministry. The Penn West Conference Mission Grants program provides grants to local churches for operational expenses, programs that reach out to help meet community needs, and initiatives that strengthen churches. We anticipate and expect that this program will also help with new church starts and church growth initiatives in our Conference's life. So far, we are excited to share that we have raised \$423,163.83 in pledges and gifts toward the campaign!


At our last Consistory meeting we discussed the above request and approved making it our mission effort for September. Please consider contributing to CFC this month, and hopefully we can help Penn West reach their goal of \$500,000 before they conclude the effort in December.

Care Committee conversations are continuing as Jay Shaffer has shared with us a manual for setting up and organizing a committee. Thanks to those who have reached out with thoughts, shared interest, and ideas of how God is calling us to serving our members and those in need. If you would like to learn more, please reach out to Tom Croner or call the office.

Thank you from the Berlin Food Pantry

On behalf of the Berlin Food Pantry, thank you for your financial support of \$60.00. This donation will assist in helping those who struggle to make ends meet within the greater Berlin and Shanksville School Districts.

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.



*Prayer for the
New Week!*

Dear God, the new week has begun and we already feel the rush. Your Word says those who wait on you will run and not grow weary. As we run in the positions that you have placed us in, give us strength, peace, rest and the ability to see things as you do. In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Have a Blessed Week!