

***March 5, 2025
7:30 p.m.***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Cohen Clark***

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

Prelude

**What Wonderous Love is This? – Mark Hayes
Meditation – Richard Blake**

Announcements

~The Blessing of the Ashes~

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ Be with you.
And also with you.

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the Earth; Grant that these Ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so we may remember that only your gracious gift are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our savior. Amen.

Call to Confession

As disciples of Jesus Christ , we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, study, and works of love help us to return to Gods will. I invite you to commit yourself to this journey your sins and asking God for strength through this Lenten Season.

Confession

Let Us Pray.

Holy and Merciful God, we confess to you, and to one another, and to the whole communion of Saints in Heaven and Earth, that we have sinned in thought word and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone.

We have not loved our God with all our heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved neighbors as ourselves, and we have not forgiven as we have been forgiven.

We have been deaf to your call to serve.

Have Mercy on us.

We confess that we have been unfaithful, pride full, and Impatient.

Our concerns have been for ourselves.

Anger, Frustration, and Envy fill our minds.

Our worldly needs were more important than our neighbors.

We confess to you O God.

Accept our repentance for the wrongs we have done, human needs neglected, sufferings ignored, our indifference to cruelty.

Accept our repentance O God.

For false judgements, unpure thoughts, and contempt for others.

Accept our repentance O God.

Restore us O God, and let your love be found in us.

Hear us O God, your mercy is great.

Amen

**Please Come forward to the Chancel Rail
for the Imposition of Ashes**

O God Accomplish in us the work of your salvation.

That we might show forth your glory.

By the cross and the passion of our savior,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christs Resurrection

Amen

Almighty God does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from wickedness and live. Therefore, we implore God to grant us true repentance and the Holy Spirit, that those things which we do this day may be a pleasing to God, that the rest of our lives may be lived faithfully, and that at the last we may come to Gods eternal Joy, through Jesus the Christ.

Thanks be to God!

***Hymn No. 210**

Jesus Paid It All

Scripture:

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

1 Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near,
2 a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful people;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
through the years of all generations.
12 "Yet even now," says the Lord,
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
13 and rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and repents of evil.
14 Who knows whether he will not turn and repent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a cereal offering and a drink offering
for the Lord, your God?
15 Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
16 gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the elders;
gather the children,
even nursing infants.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her chamber.
17 Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep
and say, "Spare thy people, O Lord,
and make not thy heritage a reproach,

a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,

‘Where is their God?’ ”

Epistle:

2 Corinthians 6:1-20

1 Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain.

2 For he says,

“At the acceptable time I have listened to you,
and helped you on the day of salvation.”

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

3 We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,

4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,

5 beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger;

6 by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love,

7 truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;

8 in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;

9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed;

10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel:

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

16 “And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men.

Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,

18 that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal,
20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.
21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

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.

***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.**

***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 **Every Time I Feel the Spirit Variations – Jeff Perks**

+ + + + + + +



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Mary Forespring, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly,
Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor,
Ruth Elaine Whitacre.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer,
Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,
Tammy Coughenour, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka,
Paul Gallick, Nancy Gindlesperger,
Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith,
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Marilyn Heiple, Gary Hillegas,
Cindy McCullen Janicki, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister,
Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen, Cathy Meyers,
Joyce Miller, Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, Brian Robb, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Stewart
Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,
Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley,
Rick Work, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

Please let the office know of the status of anyone you have placed on the Prayer List.

Prayer Calls:

As a reminder, the “One Call Now” test date is Thursday, March 13th. Please let us know if you do NOT receive this call so that we can investigate our database.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – Ash Wednesday Service / Holy Communion
7:30 p.m. Worship

Next Sunday – 1st Sunday in Lent
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Brunch Reception for Dave Creamer

Where You May Find. . .

The Nursery: *is on the lower level for children and their parents. A big screen TV is mounted in the room so that you may watch the service.*

At the Sanctuary Entrances. . .

Large Print Bulletins

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Lori Gindlesperger & Colton Custer & Cohen Clark

Ushers: Bob Brown, John Wisler

Acolytes: Cohen Clark

Organ: Amy Clark

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

**Please note that the office will be managed by Pastor Dave
Thursday, March 6th**

Reception for Pastor Dave Creamer

Please join us for a potluck brunch on Sunday, March 9 immediately following church. There is a sign-up sheet at the Vine Street entrance. The church will provide ham, rolls, cake, coffee and water. Let's show Pastor Dave how much we appreciate him!

Mary Forespring will be turning 96 on March 5th. This is a very special birthday, and it would bring her great joy to receive cards from her church family. Mary is at Meadowview Nursing Center, 1404 Hay St., Berlin PA 15530. Let's shower her with special wishes.

Next Hugs & Kisses Planning Meeting- March 6th, 6:30PM
March 8th- Winter Jam Christian Music Concert- Bryce Jordan Center, State College, PA. Tickets are \$15 at the door. (No pre-order) Doors open at 5PM, Concert at 6PM. We will meet at the church and carpool. H&K will pay for our youth who attend. All ages are welcome. If interested, contact Amanda Custer 814-483-4283.

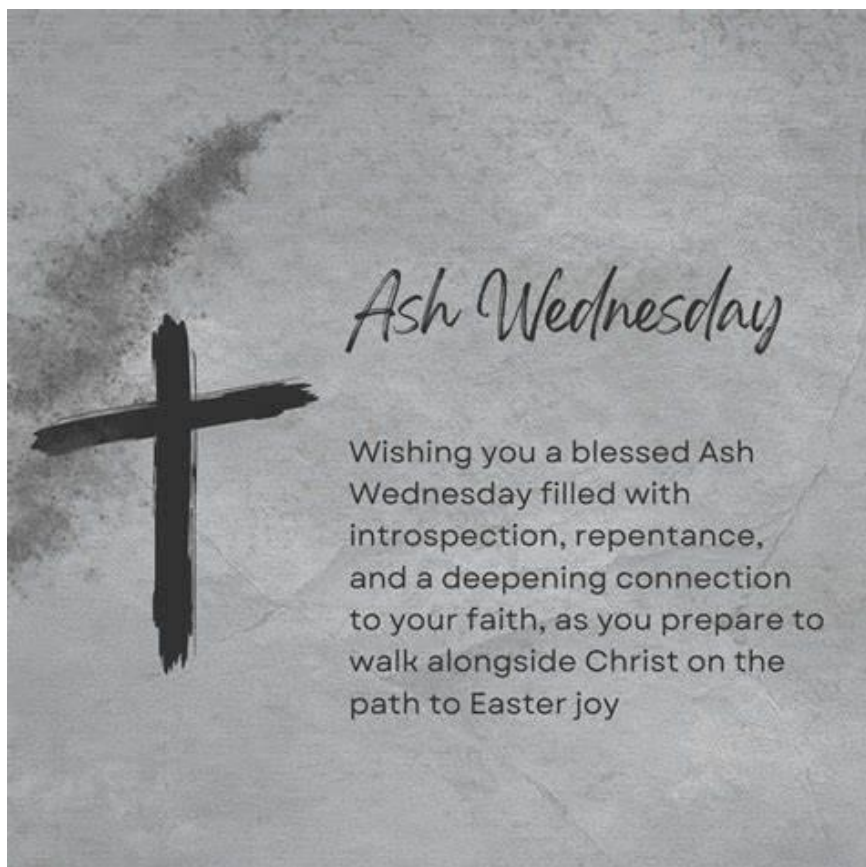
Food Pantry

Plastic bags are currently needed for the Berlin Food Pantry, so a collection bin has been placed in the Fellowship Hall. We will continually be collecting bags, as there is also a need for plastic bags for a homeless ministry. Bin is located by the organ in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not give us bags that are soiled. They are also in need of large boxes so if you can help in that area, it would be appreciated.

Parking

As a reminder, please remember that the last five spots on either side of Riverside Market (those closest to Main Street) are designated spots for us on Sundays. Additionally, the lot behind the bank (Riverside's big parking lot) is available for us as well. We appreciate Scott Etris letting us park there so we need to respect the guidelines.

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 Dave Creamer, Student Pastor for Trinity at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.



**Thank you for joining us.
Have a blessed rest of your week.**