



***November 30, 2025
Pastor Dave Creamer
Assisted by Truitt Ogburn***

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

"Please silence your cell phone"

Prelude:

The First Noel – Mary McDonald
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – Anna Laura Page

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: "Hope"

A few days ago, we feasted at the Thanksgiving Table.

Now we come to this time and place to be feed by the word of God.

Street corners and country Roads, farmhouses and city apartments, offices and schools adorn themselves for the festivities of Christmas.

But in this Hour, we light one small candle to mark the beginning of our time of watching and waiting.

Let us put aside the distractions of our calendars and the fullness of our lives and watch together for the one who is coming among us.

Let us wait in hope and in expectation that the Christ child may be born in us. Let us worship God.

Lighting of The Advent Candle

O that you would open the heavens and come down! Answer a worlds' Prayers.

We wait in Joyful expectation for the coming of God among us. We invite God to fashion us as a potter shapes clay, that our lives may carry the thumbprints of God and give birth to Gods Hope in our world.

***Hymn No. 124**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Call to Confession:

Filled with Hope, driven by our need to be redeemed let us call out for our forgiveness.

Confession:

O Holy God, in honesty and humility we come before you, mindful that you know us better than we know ourselves. We have grown accustomed to the ways of the world. Accepted it. Stir us to change. Remind us again that we are a people made to serve. Forgive our Sins, help us to reflect your light. Guide us to do your will.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

If we are lost or stray from our path God does not abandon us, his arms always open and ready to welcome us home. Celebrate the Grace of Jesus be forgiven, healed, blessed, and made new again. 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. Blessed in many ways we bring to your table our gifts. We pray that your will is done, and that our offering can be a blessing to many. We pray for your gift of Hope. We pray that we may receive it and share it as you have commanded us. We pray with that sense of hope that you touch those on our prayer list. It is with our Faith that we lift up our concerns and fears. We pray that you heal and comfort those in need as only you can. We pray that your Spirit guides us so that we can play our part in your plan. We are thankful most of all for your son Jesus Christ. We celebrate the season of His coming. We celebrate his gift of Grace and forgiveness. We offer to you the prayer he gave to us:

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Old Testament Scripture

Reading from Isaiah Chapter 2, vs 1-5.

1 The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

3 and many peoples shall come, and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations,

and shall decide for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.

The Epistle Lesson

From Paul's Letter to the Romans Chapter 13, vs 11-14.

11 Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now
for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than
when we first believed;

12 the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the
works of darkness and put on the armor of light;

13 let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in
reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and not in quarreling
and jealousy.

14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the
flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

From the Book of Matthew Chapter 3, vs 1-12.

1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the
wilderness of Judea,

2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he
said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."

4 Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle
around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

5 Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region
about the Jordan,

6 and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing
their sins.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

8 Bear fruit that befits repentance,

9 and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Hymn No. 123

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Message
“It Comes With Hope”
Pastor Dave Creamer

***Hymn No. 125**

Joy to the World

***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**

***Going Forth**

Postlude

Now Thank We all Our God – Paul Manz

+ + + + +



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- 1st Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Bell Practice

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Next Sunday –2nd Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 11/23/2025

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2015.00	\$3155.58	-\$1140.58
Ben	\$95.00	\$182.69	-\$87.69
Maint	\$145.00	\$163.46	-\$18.46
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2255.00	\$3501.73	-\$1246.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$10, Operation Christmas Child of \$20 and Adopt-A-Family of \$300.

Worship Attendance: 82
Sunday School: 30

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, Bill Landis

Ushers: Ann Slifco, Chris King

Acolytes: Truitt and Callum Ogburn

Organ: Jean Ann Darr

Flowers on the altar are in loving memory of my parents
William E. and Martha H. Tamblyn by Judy T. McCullen

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 7th

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.

A Huge Thank You To The Pictorial Committee consisting of Julie Petro, Sharon Engleka, Lori Gindlesperger, Jean Hart, Sue Miller and Amy Saylor!

Another Huge Thank You To Our Decorating Committee consisting of Ann Slifco, Nancy Bittner, Jean Ann Darr, Carol Tataleba and Chris King. Thank you for transforming our sanctuary into a sacred piece of art!

All of our committees are truly a blessing to this church... remember that there is always an opportunity to be part of one!

Community Thanksgiving Service announced that the offering for the Food Bank was \$547. Praise the Lord!

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.

First Sunday of Advent

The Hope Candle (Prophet's Candle)

Dear Heavenly Father, as we gather in the soft glow of this first Advent candle, we embrace the hope it represents. Just as the prophets of old foretold the coming of your Son, we too await His arrival with eager hearts. May the light of this candle remind us that in the midst of darkness, your promise shines bright. Fill our hearts with hope and anticipation as we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Amen.



Thank You for Joining Us
Have a Blessed Week Ahead