



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Guest Speaker – Rev. Jim Vander Schuur

Assisted by Vesper & Truitt Ogburn

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

(Please silence your cell phone)

Preludes

**Sing a New Song – Mary McDonald
Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated – Jeff Parks**

Welcome

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at Trinity United Church of Christ.

Announcements

Call to Worship

Lift praises to the name of our God; bless God's name forever!

How great is our God!

From generation to generation, we will sing your praises and speak of your goodness!

Great is our God and worthy of praise!

God, you are just and kind in all your doings.

Great is our God and worthy of praise!

***Hymn No. 382**

Be Thou My Vision

Call to Confession

"Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and against our neighbor."

Prayer of Confession

God our Father, in the name of him who gave bread to the hungry,

we remember all who through our human ignorance, folly, and sin are condemned to live in want.

Show us, who have so much, what we can do to help those who have so little; and bless the efforts of those who work to overcome poverty and hunger, that sufficient food may be found for all.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness

We have the assurance of our Heavenly Father that though we are unworthy, we are valued; though we have hurt people, we are forgiven; though we have violated our own integrity, we are accepted. There is nothing we can do or say or think or feel or remember that will alienate us from God's love through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Response Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

***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.**

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

Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Scripture:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

- 15** “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brethren—him you shall heed—
16 just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’
17 And the Lord said to me, ‘They have rightly said all that they have spoken.
18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.
19 And whoever will not give heed to my words which he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.
20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’

Psalms 111

1 Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who have pleasure in them.

3 Full of honor and majesty is his work,

and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He has caused his wonderful works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

5 He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy,

8 they are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

9 He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever.

Holy and terrible is his name!

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who practice it. His praise endures for ever!

Epistle:

Hebrews 4:4-16

4 For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way, "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works."

5 And again in this place he said, "They shall never enter my rest."

6 Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience,

Gospel:

Matthew 17:1-8

1 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother and led them up a high mountain apart.

2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light.

3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

4 And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

5 He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe.

7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear."

8 And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

***Hymn No. 262**

Holy, Holy, Holy

**Sermon – "Jesus As A Brother"
Guest Speaker – Rev. Jim Vander Schuur**

***Hymn No. 435**

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

***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

Declare His Glory – Mary McDonald

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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, Melvin Baughman Family, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Kathy Blough, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Lori Carver, Clinton Clark, Ray Coleman, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz, John Foor, Nancy Gindlesperger, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Larry Hay, Cindy McCullen-Janicki, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, Larry Pritts, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Nancy Schrock, Peggy Stayrook, Betty Strasser, William Tamblyn, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Audrey Twombly, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

The Saints In Action

TODAY- 4th Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bell Rehearsal

Thursday: 6:00 p.m. Taking Down the Tree

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday after Epiphany / Holy Communion
 Scout Sunday
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 1/21/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1307.00	\$3155.58	-\$1848.58
Ben	\$50.00	\$182.69	-\$132.69
Maint	\$30.00	\$163.46	-\$133.46
Mem	\$250.00		\$250.00
Total	\$1637.00	\$3501.73	-\$2114.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$585.

Worship Attendance: 39
Sunday School: 29

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
 Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers
These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Tom Croner/Cohen Clark (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

Ushers: Russ Ogburn, Jim Walker

Acolytes: Vesper and Truitt Ogburn

Flowers on the altar in memory of Frank & Ruth Ream & Frank Jr. by Bill, Ann, and Willie Slifco

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),

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.

February 4	Bill Deal
February 11	Dave Creamer
February 14	Peter Kaltenbaugh (Ash Wednesday)
February 18	Peter Kaltenbaugh
February 25	James Vander Schurr
March 3	Jay Shaffer
March 10	Dave Creamer
March 17	Jay Shaffer
March 24	Bill Deal
March 31	Jay Shaffer (Easter)

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

Sunday School The Bible study of I today Peter will resume today, January 28th at 10:10 am. We will begin with a review class so if anyone new would like to join this class please let Sue Coughenour know so materials will be ready for you. Also, for anyone interested in Sunday School, Sue Coughenour is interested in hearing topics that you would like to discuss or know more about for future classes.

Hugs & Kisses

Friday, February 9th- Game night 6:30 in the church basement. ALL ages welcome. Please bring games and a snack/drink to share. H&K will provide pizza so a signup sheet will be placed at the entrance for a count of people attending. Come for a fun night of food and fellowship!

The Christmas Tree will be taken down, **Thursday**, February 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. **Many hands make light work!**

The Souper Bowl Competition is underway. There will be two winners again this year, so we will have to be on our game and regain our #1 spot. The four quarters of the competition will be the four Sundays in January and the **two Sundays in February** before the actual Superbowl. If making monetary donations, please mark your envelope “**Souper Bowl**” and make your check payable to Trinity UCC.

Live Streaming Options

From time to time, despite our efforts to provide you with reliable streaming services, we encounter problems. We are still investigating the reason we did have our Veterans Program live stream to Facebook. There are two other options for viewing which is our actual website at berlinucc.org or YouTube under Trinity United Church of Christ, Berlin PA.

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.

How to Pray Impactful Prayers Each Week

If starting your week with intentional prayer is new for you, here are some tips:

Set a reminder to pray each Monday or Sunday morning so it becomes a habit. Add it to your calendar or set an alarm.

Have a special prayer spot where you can be alone, away from distractions.

Use a prayer journal to write down your prayers and record how God answers them.

Pray out loud if it helps you focus. Hearing yourself pray can increase your concentration.

Go for a prayer walk and talk with God as you stroll around your neighborhood.


Listen to worship music as you pray to help you feel God's presence.

Pray with a friend via phone or video chat to motivate and encourage each other.

Read a Psalms passage or other Bible verses to frame your prayers.

Have confidence that God hears you as it says in 1 John 5:14: This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

The key is finding a way to regularly connect with God in prayer as you begin your week. Set the tone by meeting with Him first before you tackle your to-do list.



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

-2 Corinthians 13:14 (WEB)

**May God bless you and keep you in
this new week!**