



***Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost***

***October 29, 2023***

***Guest Speaker – Pastor Dottie Grew***

***Assisted By Colten Custer***

***Trinity United Church of Christ***

***600 Main Street***

***Berlin, Pennsylvania***

**Preludes**

**A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – Jason Payne  
As the Deer – Douglas Wagner**

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

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

**\*Call To Worship**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.  
Give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.  
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 382**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**\*Call to Confession:  
Prayer of Confession:**

**God's Word assures us: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Forgiveness:**

The Lord hears our confession and freely forgives.

**We know the love of God is beyond our imagination and we rejoice to be called his children.**

Let us praise our loving God!

**\*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.**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**The Apostle's 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.**

In joy, we now offer our gifts to God.

**\*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:**

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us— our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us— Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **Hebrew Scripture - James 3:13-17**

**13** Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good life let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

**14** But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

**15** This wisdom is not such as comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.

**16** For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

**17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity.

### **Epistle - 1 Thessalonians 1:2-8**

**1** For you yourselves know, brethren, that our visit to you was not in vain;

**2** but though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the face of great opposition.

**3** For our appeal does not spring from error or uncleanness, nor is it made with guile;

**4** but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but to please God who tests our hearts.

**5** For we never used either words of flattery, as you know, or a cloak for greed, as God is witness;

**6** nor did we seek glory from men, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

**7** But we were gentle among you, like a nurse taking care of her children.

**8** So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

**Gospel - Matthew 22: 34-46**

**34** But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together.

**35** And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him.

**36** "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"

**\*Hymn No. 87**

**May Jesus Christ Be Praised**

**Sermon**

**"Enduring Trials – Leaning on His Word"**

**Guest Speaker: Pastor Dottie Grew**

**\*Hymn No. 601**

**Lord, Dismiss Us Thy Our Blessing**

**\*Benediction:**

May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*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.**

**Amen**

**Postlude     How Firm A Foundation – James Michael Stevens**

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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 & Bonnie Baughman, Donnie Baxter, Jim  
Benoit, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer,  
Rhonda Brown, Clinton Clark, Ray Coleman,  
Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Greg Croner,  
Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, John Durst, Reon Engleka,  
Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay,  
Cindy McCullen-Janicki,

Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen,  
Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb,  
Brett Sarver, Carl Saylor, Lois Saylor, Nancy Schrock, JoAnne  
Smith, Peggy Stayrook, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Adeline  
Vieregge, Robin Walker, Harry Watkins, Nancy Weighley,  
Gerald Zorn

Let us continue to pray for the family of Carl "Leroy" Clark who  
passed away Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **The Saints In Action**

TODAY –22nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

Tuesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells

Next Sunday – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost & Holy Communion

All Saint's Sunday & Trinity Bells

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

### **Giving From 10/22/23**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$1640.00	\$3155.58	-\$1515.58
<b>Ben</b>	\$125.00	\$182.69	-\$57.69
<b>Maint</b>	\$75.00	\$163.46	-\$88.46
<b>Mem</b>	\$690.00		\$690.00
<b>Total</b>	\$2530.00	\$3501.73	-\$971.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Adopt-A-Family of \$280 and Operation Christmas Child \$120.00 and Knotty Knotters of \$50.

**Worship Attendance: 75**  
**Sunday School: 21**

***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:** Tom Croner (Board), Jim Darr (Camera)

**Ushers:** Jean Ann Darr, Gaye Maust

**Acolyte:** Maelyn Fochtman

***The Flowers on the altar are*** in honor of our family, Scott, Lauren, Andy, Melissa, Kylan and Kamden by Mark & Lori Gindlesperger.



***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:**

*Tom Calvert, President, 814-267-3771*

*Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650*

*Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166*

**Consistory Deacons:**

*Amy Clark, Julie Petro, Ann Slifco*

*Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, Tom Croner*

*Amanda Custer, Debbie Boyer, Gaye Maust*

***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](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.berlinucc.org](http://www.berlinucc.org)

**Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.**

**November 5 Bill Deal**

November 12 Jay Shaffer

November 19 Steve Dinning

November 26 Jim Vander Schuur

**Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.**

**Thank You Trinity:** The family of Fae Hetrick would like to thank the Trinity UCC church family for all the prayers, cards, and visits to her viewing. Also thank you the church ladies (and gentleman) for serving the delicious meal after her service. All of this was very much appreciated.

## Adult Sunday School Class

The Adult Sunday School Class has begun an in-depth Bible study of I & II Peter. Please feel free to join us at any point in this study as we are enjoying good discussion and gaining new insights from Scripture. The class meets each Sunday after Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall and is taught by Sue Coughenour. Jean Hart makes sure we are well supplied with beverages and sweet treats. Come give Sunday School a try; you might be surprised at how much you enjoy our time together. *Please note that due to conflicts with other things happening in fellowship hall, Sunday school will not be held November 5<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>, November 24<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

## Hugs & Kisses

**Sunday, November 12th-** Veteran's Day Program in church (Fife and Drum Corps playing and Knotty Knotters handing out quilts to our veterans) There will be a light meal following the service (there will be no Sunday School this day). Ham salad, chicken salad, and egg salad sandwiches and veggie trays provided by Hugs and Kisses. **There will be a sign up at the entrance for donations of loaves of bread, chips/pretzels etc, and desserts.**

**Sunday, December 17th-** Church Christmas Play - **any youth interested in participating, please contact Amanda Custer at 814-483-4283 or Kathy Spangler at 814-279-2336 ASAP. We need you!** Even if just a small part or to play rainbow bells. We are planning on practicing during Sunday School (10-11AM) December 3rd and 10th with a dress rehearsal Saturday December 16th- time TBD.

**Living Waters** is having a workday on Saturday, November 4 starting at 9:00am. Youth groups are invited to spend the weekend, starting Friday night, at no charge. Lunch is provided on Saturday. Please contact Pastor Jay Shaffer if you have any questions at 814-483-0398.

**Keystone Family Alliance** invites you to join churches and individuals in Somerset County for Stand Sunday on November 12 at 6:30pm. at Kaufman Church (916 Miller Picking Rd., Davidsville). This hands-on event for the entire family will open your eyes to the needs in the child welfare system, the challenges and joys of fostering, and give you insight into how you can come alongside and make a difference, even if it is not through fostering or adopting yourself. Questions? Reach out to Lydia Shaffer [lydia@keyfam.org](mailto:lydia@keyfam.org).

### **All Saints' Sunday**

Each year on the first Sunday of November – All Saints Sunday – we celebrate and give thanks for those who have completed their earthly journey since the previous All Saints Day and who now rest in God's glorious kingdom prepared for all who believe in Jesus Christ.

All Saints' Day is a Christian celebration that honors all the saints of the church, both known and unknown, who have attained heaven. It is a day to remember the faithfulness and example of the saints, and to ask for their intercession and guidance. This year All Saints' will fall on November 5<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to have your "Saint" who has passed be listed,

We will be joined by the Trinity Bell Choir to assist in honoring the Saints' of the Church.

**The Somerset Association Fall Meeting** will be held at Unity UCC, November 12, 2:30 – 5:00. They will be electing committee positions and there will be a one-hour presentation by Penn West Conference officers on the possible merger of the four Pa Conferences. Anyone with interests or concerns are encouraged to attend & participate in the discussion.

### **Christmas Program**

We are looking for a program director to head up the Christmas Program scheduled for 12/10/23. We can do adult/youth combined play this year with practice on 12/03/23 during Sunday School.

**A Special Tribute** for our active military and all living veterans has been given to us from the **Knotty Knotters**, Lutheran Church, Berlin. The Knotters will make throws for all of our active military and Veterans as a special ***“thank you for your service”*** to be given on Veterans Sunday. Any active military or veterans that have not given their names to Sheron, please contact Sheron Engleka at 814-267-4166.

**Berlin Brethren Church** is planning to present a Christmas cantata at their church on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Norman or Joan Menhorn at (814) 289-3777 for more information.

## **Beachdale Church**

Hi! Wanted to reach out with an invitation to your congregation joining us in singing a Christmas cantata. It really is a beautiful program with a wonderful message. We practice Wednesday evenings from 7-8 and will perform on the last Sunday in November (first week of advent) at 7 pm. We would love the fellowship and could really use some help too:) Any age-men and women welcome!

## **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

With a deadline of November 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a Pizza/Packing party following on November 5th in fellowship hall following our church service. There will not be Adult Sunday School that Sunday but all of you that normally attend that class are welcome to assist with the packing! Many hands make light work. The shoeboxes will be moved to the Sanctuary following the packing and we will be praying over the boxes at the following Sunday service.

## **Adopt-A-Family**

As a reminder, Adopt-A-Family will begin with a special collection during the month of October. We have been helping local families for over a decade by supporting them with essential gifts and food for the holiday season. Last year we helped 5 families make Christmas extra special by purchasing gifts for a total of 19 children. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Petro (814) 442-5124.

## **Veterans Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**

The entire congregation here at Trinity, as well as family and friends, are encouraged to join us for a very special service on this Sunday. Sheron Engleka will be presenting her annual tribute video accompanied by the Berlin Fife and Drum Corps, Rick Kimmel will be playing live on the organ, Pastor Jay Shaffer will be preaching, and a reception honoring our Veterans will follow the church service in fellowship hall.

We want to designate time to appreciate the sacrifice of those who are serving, have served, and lost their lives in wars to defend our nation.



## **A Special Message to our Youth!**

Want something to do during church services? Want to serve God and your church? Want to learn how to operate the sound and recording system in the sanctuary so we all can hear the message being shared with us during services? There is no age requirement for this offer, just a willingness to learn and to serve! If your answer is yes, just contact Tom Croner or Pam Bush to get the process started.





**Berlin Community Veteran's Home Association of Berlin** is holding a Blood Drive Monday, November 6, 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall , 419 Meadow Street, Berlin.



**Have a Blessed Week!**