



***Twenty Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
November 19, 2023***

***Guest Speaker – Steve Dinning
Assisted by Colton Custer***

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

Prelude

**Now Thank We All Our God – Paul Manz
Come, Ye Thankful People Come! – Michael Helman**

Announcements

Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence while singing!

Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

Come, let us praise the Lord, our Maker and Shepherd.

***Hymn No. 258**

We Are Gathered for Thy Blessing

Call to Confession:

We confess to you, our God, and before one another that we have sinned greatly, in thought, word, and deed. We have offended your holiness. We have failed to love our neighbor. We have followed the devices of our own hearts and have spurned the promptings of your Spirit. Through our own fault, we have deserved your judgment. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us and hear our prayer. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness:

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our inequities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the

east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

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.

Response of Faith – Based on the Apostles Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 to the dead. 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 living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

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**

Prayer of the Offering

Faithful Father, thank you for giving the gift of abundant, eternal life. Your generosity overflows to us. Everything we have is a gift from you. As we bring our offerings to you, we give back to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our God. Blessing and glory,

wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power and strength, be unto you our God forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, **Amen.**

As our Lord taught us to pray: The Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Scripture

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are thickening upon their lees,
those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'

13 Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the mighty man cries aloud there.

15 A Day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,

16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring distress on men,
so that they shall walk like the blind,
because they have sinned against the Lord;

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

18 Neither their silver nor their gold
shall be able to deliver them
on the day of the wrath of the Lord.
In the fire of his jealous wrath,
all the earth shall be consumed;
for a full, yea, sudden end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Epistle:

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 But as to the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need to have anything written to you.

2 For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

3 When people say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as travail comes upon a woman with child, and there will be no escape.

4 But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

5 For you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

7 For those who sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.

8 But, since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 who died for us so that whether we wake or sleep we might live with him.

11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

14 “For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property;

15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more.

17 So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more.

18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’

21 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’

22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’

23 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’

24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow;

25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’

26 But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed?

27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.

28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.

29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

***Hymn No. 202**

Amazing Grace

**Sermon
Steve Dinning**

***Hymn No: 262**

Holy, Holy, Holy

***Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

***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 – Fred Bock

+ + + + +



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, Reon Engleka,
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, Brian Reed, James Robb, Brett
Sarver, Nancy Schrock, JoAnne Smith, Peggy Stayrook,
Betty Strasser, Larry Tinkey, Paul Trulick, Adeline Vieregge,
Robin Walker, Harry Watkins, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Additional prayers to Jean Hart and Family in the passing of
Earl Harlan

Addition prayers to Karol Saylor and Family in the passing of Carl
Saylor

The Saints In Action

TODAY – 25th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bell Rehearsal

Next Sunday – November 26th – 26th Sunday after Pentecost
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Hanging of the greens Fellowship Hall

Giving From 11/12/2023

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2435.00	\$3155.58	-\$720.58
Ben	\$206.00	\$182.69	\$23.31
Maint	\$301.00	\$163.46	\$137.54
Mem	\$350.00		
Total	\$3292.00	\$3501.73	-\$559.73

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$15 and Adopt a Family of \$25

Worship Attendance: 121

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	<i>These Days</i> – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger (Board), Gaye Maust (Camera)

Ushers: Bob Brown, John Wisler

Acolytes: Nathan Spangler

Flowers on the altar in honor of Cora and Lucy Wright by their mother, Alissa Wright.

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

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Operation Christmas Child

A HUGE THANK YOU For all the contributions, donated boxes, volunteers packing boxes & prayers this year. With all your generosity, we were able to pack/donate 164 boxes which exceeded our goal. Thank you again for all your support! We will continue to accept donations for shipping funds through the month of December.

Combined Bell Choir Concert

Berlin Brethren Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Trinity United Church of Christ will combine the powerful sounds of their bell choirs on December 3rd at 2:00 p.m. here at Trinity!!! This collaboration of the three church bell choirs is one concert you don't want to miss!

Congregational Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held December 3rd. The agenda will include minutes from our previous meeting, budget, election of new consistory members and old/new business.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2024 will be available for pickup on Sunday, November 26th and December 3rd. Any remaining boxes will be mailed. Please help us cut postage costs by picking up your boxes or making arrangements for them to be picked up.

Christmas Flower Orders

Enclosed in your issue of Trinity Trumpet was the order form for Christmas Poinsettias. Please note that the cutoff date is November 20th. We would encourage you to order soon to ensure the colors you would like. Please feel free to use the back of the form for any additional information and include your contact number in the event there are any questions. Additional order forms are available next to the Daily Devotionals.

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

November 26 Jim Vander Schuur

December 3 Steve Dinning

December 10 DeWayne Hay

December 17 Jim Vander Schuur

December 24 Peter Kaltenbaugh (Both Services)

December 31 David Ackerman

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

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, there will be no Sunday School **Sunday November 26th**.*

For those who attend Sunday School, we will be having Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, November 26th during the class time. This will include a covered-dish brunch, with signup sheets at both entrances. We hope all the youth and children will come to help decorate the Fellowship Hall for the Christmas season. This is always a fun event as the children love seeing all the memorable decorations made and donated over the years.

Hugs & Kisses

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.

Food Pantry Santa's Workshop

The Food Pantry is having their annual Santa's Workshop which involves the collection of gifts for children that are less fortunate. Trinity will be collecting children's gifts for this workshop until November 28, in the church, the office or the Brethren Church. If you would prefer to take them directly to the playground, on November 29, please do so. That is the day they will be collecting from all areas.

United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries

is on a mission to make UCC churches Accessible to All (A2A) The first step in this process was completing a church building and program accessibility audit. The audit is designed to examine the attitudes and physical structures of our church for accessibility by people with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities. The purpose is to make our faith community welcoming and inclusive of everyone into all aspects of the life of the church. The audit is a guide which helps to determine what work has already been done and what areas need to be improved. It was not an all-inclusive list and some items do not apply to our setting. This topic was brought to consistory and Amanda Custer has volunteered to head up the process along with the property committee. There are goals to be completed within the next year, 3 years, and 5 years. In future newsletters and bulletins, you may be seeing educational

materials regarding different disability categories and how we are addressing these in our church and our community as part of this process. If you have any specific questions, please see Amanda Custer.

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.

Veterans Program Disks

Each veteran or those that are serving received quilts and cards at Veterans Sunday. For those that were unable to attend and/or would like a CD of the service, please contact the office and we will see that you get a copy.

Living Waters Youth Rally

Living Waters Camp and Conference Center will be hosting the 2023 Winter Youth Rally from Friday, December 1 to Sunday December 3, 2023. The theme this year is: "Church: The Imagination Station." The youth rally is for children grades 7 to 12 and the cost is \$30 per child. We anticipate about 25 or more youth to gather together. Let's all connect in this memory-making weekend and experience the beauty of God's creation. To sign up for Youth Rally register on the camp's website <https://livingwaterscamp.org>, Camp Living Waters Facebook or complete the registration form on the Vine Street bulletin board.

The Humane Society of Somerset County

Dear Friends, we wish that you could see firsthand how we are using generous gifts like your donation of \$150 to make a difference at our shelter. Without your compassion and generosity, we would not be able to provide a second chance at life for abused, abandoned and unwanted creatures. We speak for all of us involved in this mission ~ our dedicated staff, loyal volunteers, and our beautiful animals ~ when we say that we are truly blessed to have your support. On behalf of the animals, thank you for sharing your heart.

Thank you from the Carl Clark Family

For your kindness and sympathy when times are hard to bear, we thank you for the comfort that comes from those who share. The meal for the break time of viewing was wonderful. God Bless all who provided. Ellie & Family.

Thank you from the Berlin Food Pantry

On behalf of the Berlin Food Pantry, thank you for your financial support. Your donations assist in helping those who struggle to make ends meet within the greater Berlin and Shanksville School Districts. May God continue to share these blessings.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, 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.

Rather than have a blank page we thought we would share a fun idea for a thanksgiving snack!

“Thanksgiving Blessing Mix”

Thanksgiving blessing mix

Author: Jamielyn Nye

Thanksgiving blessing mix- a sweet and salty snack mix that is perfect for gift giving or holiday snacking. printable available.

Prep Time: 5 minutes **Total Time:** 5 minutes

Servings: 20



Ingredients

- 2 cups bugles
- 2 cups mini pretzels
- 1 cup salted peanuts or cashews or sunflower seeds
- 1 cup M&M's
- 1 cup candy corn
- 1 cup raisins or raisins

Instructions

- 1 In a large bowl combine the bugles, pretzels, peanuts, m&m's, candy corn and raisins.
- 2 Store in a covered container for up to 1 month.

Notes

For caramel coating: For a fun variation you can try adding a caramel coating on top.

1. Combine bugles, pretzels, chex and peanuts in a bowl.
2. Melt 1/2 cup butter and 1/2 cup brown sugar in a microwave safe bowl. Stir in 1 Tablespoon vanilla. Pour over the chex mix.
3. Place on a baking sheet and bake at 275°F for 15-20 minutes. Once slightly cooled, mix in candy corn, m&m's and raisins.

Thanksgiving blessing mix by I Heart Naptime.

Find full recipe notes and reviews here: <https://www.iheartnaptime.net/thanksgiving-blessing-mix/>



"Dear Lord, we thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon us. We are grateful for the love of family and friends who surround us, for the food on our table, and for the shelter over our heads. We ask that you bless those who are less fortunate and provide them with the comfort and support they need. We pray that you guide us in our daily lives and help us to be kind and compassionate to others. We thank you for your love and mercy, and we ask that you continue to bless us in the coming days.

~Amen~

We are grateful for you and blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving week!