



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer

Assisted by Vesper & Truitt Ogburn

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes **Crown Him with Many Crowns – Jason Payne**
Come, Join the Dance of Trinity – Anna Laura Page

Welcome

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

Prayer

Hymn No. 345

“Blessed Assurance”

A Call to Confession

Merciful Creator, you have given us life and have called us to worship you. Yet, we turn from you and seek to follow our own wills and desires. We confess that our daily pursuits take the energy from us and leave us dry in spirit. The worries of this world takes our focus away from you. We can only be renewed when we turn our hearts to your Son, Jesus Christ. Forgive our errant ways, O Lord, and send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might feel the embrace of your love anew. Teach us to walk with our Savior each day that we might live in joy and peace. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness

The Lord rejoices when we turn our hearts to Him in confession.
We rejoice that our God forgives us when we turn to Him.
Let us joyfully praise our 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, 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.**

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Hayden Ryann Albright
Child of Ryan and Cassandra
Sister of Hayleigh & Harper
Granddaughter of Larry & Gale Hale and
Walter & Colleen Albright

Welcome

They are bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them;
and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus
was indignant, and said to them.

**Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such
belongs the realm of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does
not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.**

And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Jesus said: Unless we are born anew, we cannot see the reign of God; unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter God's new order. Paul the apostle said: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ's death. We were buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us, but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

Questions:

All who are able, please stand.

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love and support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

We promise our love, support, and care.

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe on God?

I believe in God.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of Baptism:

Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the water of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land. In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb. Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by water and the Holy Spirit.

Bless by your Holy Spirit gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that she may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Act of Baptism:

By what name will your child be called?

Hayden, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Holy Spirit be upon you, Hayden Ryann Albright, child of God, disciple of Christ, member of the church.

Prayer for the Baptized

Let us pray for the one baptized today. Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy by giving us the gift of Jesus. Bless this newly baptized child. May she never be ashamed to confess a personal faith in you. Bless the parents of this child. May they always show their gratitude for the life you have given by loving and caring for Hayden. Bless these your faithful people. Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Benediction

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Hebrew Scripture:
Jeremiah 31: 31-34

31 “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, **32** not like the covenant which I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant which they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.

33 But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

34 And no longer shall each man teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Epistle:
Hebrews 5: 5-10

5 So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee”;

6 as he says also in another place, “Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard for his godly fear.

8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;

9 and being made perfect he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

10 being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

**Gospel:
John 12: 20-33**

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.

21 So these came to Philip, who was from Beth-saida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

22 Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus.

23 And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified.

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

25 He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

26 If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him.

27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour.

28 Father, glorify thy name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

29 The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

30 Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

31 Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out;

32 and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."

33 He said this to show by what death he was to die.

***Hymn No. 385**

"Near the Cross"

Sermon – Guest Speaker Pastor Jay Shaffer

"You did not answer the question."

***Hymn No. 184**

"In The Cross of Christ I Glory"

***Benediction**

***Response – Sung with Dismissal
*Going Forth**

Surely the Presence of the Lord

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace,
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Postlude Crown Him with Many Crowns – Jason Payne



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

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, Jessica Borosky Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz, John Foor, Nancy Gindlesperger, Cheryl Glessner, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Larry Hay, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Joyce Miller, Bonnie Murphy, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Peggy Stayrook, Betty Strasser, William Tamblyn, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Lewis Berkley’s Funeral Service will be at Trinity United Church of Christ, Saturday, March 30th. The family will receive friends from 3-5 with the service following. There will be a dinner in the Social Hall following the service.

The Saints In Action

TODAY- 5th Sunday in Lent & Baptism
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 Trinity Bell Practice

Next Sunday – 6th Sunday in Lent (Plam Sunday)
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 03/10/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1813.00	\$3155.58	-\$1342.58
Ben	\$195.00	\$182.69	\$12.31
Maint	\$72.00	\$163.46	-\$91.46
Mem	\$530.00		\$530.00
Total	\$2610.00	\$3501.73	-\$891.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15.

Worship Attendance: 46
Sunday School: 17

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: Cohen Clark (Board), Gaye Maust (Camera)

Ushers: Amy & Jason Clark

Acolytes: Vesper & Truitt Ogburn

Flowers on the altar in memory of Virgil Vaughan, Jr. by Michelle Vaughan and Nicole Parish.

The Bulletin is in honor of my father, James R. McCullen by Larry McCullen.

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) 814-

442-6740, 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.

March 24 Bill Deal

March 31 Jay Shaffer (Easter)

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday

Sunday School

Join us, as we are currently involved, in a 10-week study on the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah. This is a video series by Ray Vander Laan that takes us into the Holy Land and brings Scripture alive as we delve into the historical and cultural lives of that day. If you think you know that story of Easter, think again! Ray has a unique way of bringing new light to stories we have long treasured. So, if you have been thinking about joining Sunday School this is a great time to begin. Each session is its own lesson, and you can begin or give it a try at any point in these sessions. Sue Coughenour will be leading the class in the fellowship hall following the morning worship service. We always have good fellowship and discussion.

Our Annual Church Picnic is in need of someone to coordinate this event. If you would like to see this tradition continue, please consider stepping up to be in charge of making the arrangements. Our Hugs and Kisses are already doing a lot for our church, so perhaps we can find a more "senior" person to handle this. Please contact Kathy Spangler if you have questions or are interested.

Holy Trinity will present a Lenten drama "The Power of Lent" beginning Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 7:00 PM and continuing through March 20, 2024. Maundy Thursday service will be on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

THE RESULTS ARE IN!!

The winners of the 2024 Souper Bowl for the Berlin Area Food Pantry are:

Unity United Church of Christ – 12,710 points

Joyful Church – 11,218 points

Trinity United Church of Christ – 10,461 points

Looks like we have some work to do for next year!!

Birthright of Somerset, Inc. is pleased to announce its Annual Birthright Award Contests. The Essay Award will be given to the 12th grade student who can best convey their response to the essay scenario as presented in the Award Criteria. The eligible student who wins the 1st place award will receive \$1000.00. A prize of \$750.00 will be awarded to the second-place winner. There is also a Design A T-Shirt contest open to 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th grades with a prize of \$1000.00 going to the winner and \$750.00 for the second -place winner. Completed applications for both contests are due by Friday, April 15th. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Indoor Yard Sale & Vendor Sale

Saturday, April 13th

8AM to 4PM at Unity United Church of Christ

Contact the church office if you are interested in setting up as a Vendor or wanting to provide personal yard sale items.

UPMC Family Hospice, formerly In Touch Hospice, will be holding a spring Grief Support Group beginning March 20 at our Somerset location, 314 S. Kimberly Avenue (Back Entrance of Hillman). The group is free and will run for 6 weeks. Please join us to share your feelings with others, who are grieving a loved one's death.

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

Baby Grand Piano

Betty Strausser is looking for a baby grand piano. If you or anyone you know has one for sale, please contact Betty at 814-267-2598.

Blood Drive

Berlin Community Veteran’s Home, Monday March 18th, 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.



Good Friday Community “Cross” Walk

March 29th 6:00 p.m.

Beginning at the Berlin Community Building Lot and Ending at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Participants are invited to take a turn carrying the cross. Be sure to dress appropriately for walking and the weather.

There are several stops scheduled followed by a Community Good Friday Service at Trinity Lutheran Church. You may join at any point in the walk. It is suggested that you park at the Brethren Church parking lot as the community building may be full due to the fish fry at the Veteran’s Home. A flyer is posted at the Vine Street entrance with complete information. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

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.



Our Blessings for A Wonderful Week Ahead