

***6th Sunday in Lent
"Palm Sunday"
April 13, 2025***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by – Colton Custer***

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

Prelude

**Crown Him with Many Crowns – Jason Payne
The Palms – Jean Baptiste Faure**

Announcements

Call to Worship:

Lift your heads and behold Emmanuel, God is with us!

Behold our God who comes riding on a donkey, the ruler who dares to be last rather than first.

Christ is with us!

Christ is in our midst.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather at your house of prayer, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that united with Christ and all the faithful we may one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the Heavens, where with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in Glory forever. Amen

Scripture

Luke Chapter 19:29-40

29 When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples,

30 saying, "Go into the village opposite, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here.

31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this, 'The Lord has need of it.'

32 So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them.

33 And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

34 And they said, "The Lord has need of it."

35 And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it.

36 And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road.
37 As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen,
38 saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
39 And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples."
40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

Blessing of the palms:

God be with you!

And also with you!

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Let us Pray:

O God, who in Jesus Christ triumphantly entered Jerusalem, heralding a week of pain and sorrow, be with us now as we follow the way of the cross. In these events of defeat and victory, you have sealed the closeness of death and resurrection, of humiliation and exaltation. We thank you for these branches that promise to become for us symbols of martyrdom and majesty. Bless them and us that their use this day may announce in our time that Christ has come, and that Christ will come again. Amen!
Come Christ Jesus!

***Hymn No. 96**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Call to Confession

Let us pray as a community of Faith.

Confession

Eternal God, whose whisper silences the shouts of the mighty, quite with in us every voice but your own. Speak to us now through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ that by the power of your holy spirit we may receive Grace to show forth Christs love in lives committed to your service.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

The road to grace is paved in Palms. A simple path for us to follow. It leads to the gift for us on the cross.

***The Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God; Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,

By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,

And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried;

And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.

And he shall come again, with glory, To judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;

Who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; And we look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life in the world to come. 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 offer you a part of ourselves, a measure of what you have given us. Not as a bribe for our sins, but as a hope that you will make it and us tools of your will. We pray for protection for the military, care for our families, and healings for those in our hearts. Strengthen us with your Spirit as we journey through another week, let the Holiness of this time be meaningful in our lives. We are thankful for the gift of Easter, grateful for your Son Jesus Christ, we offer to you the prayer he taught to us:

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Gospel: Colton Custer

Luke Chapter 23:1-12

1 Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pilate.

2 And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ a king."

3 And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so."

4 And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes, "I find no crime in this man."

5 But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."

6 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean.

7 And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.

8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him.

9 So he questioned him at some length; but he made no answer.

10 The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him.

11 And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then, arraying him in gorgeous apparel, he sent him back to Pilate.

12 And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Gospel: Pastor Dave Luke Chapter 23:13-49

13 Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

14 and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him;

15 neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him;

16 I will therefore chastise him and release him."

17 Now he was obliged to release one man at the festival.

18 But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas" —

19 a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city, and for murder.

20 Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus;

21 but they shouted out, "Crucify, crucify him!"

22 A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no crime deserving death; I will therefore chastise him and release him."

23 But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.

24 So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted.

25 He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, whom they asked for; but Jesus he delivered up to their will.

26 And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

27 And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him.

28 But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

29 For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!'

30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.'

31 For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

32 Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

33 And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

34 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

35 And the people stood by, watching; but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"

36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar,

37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

41 And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

43 And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

44 It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour,

45 while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

46 Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, and said, “Certainly this man was innocent!”

48 And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.

49 And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

***Hymn No. 174**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

**Sermon
“One Lucky Thief”
Dave Creamer**

***Hymn No. 173**

All Glory, Laud and Honor

***Benediction**

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

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.**

Going Forth

Postlude

Crown Him with Many Crowns – Jayson Payne

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Debbi Luteri,
Lillian Potter, Lois Saylor, Ruth Elaine Whitacre.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Brad Bowers,
Paige Boyer, Dennis Brant, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown,
Ray Coleman, Susan Constantino, Tammy Coughenour, Eric
Custer, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka, Paul Gallick,
Nancy Gindlesperger, Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith,
Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris,
Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Marilyn Heiple, Gary Hillegas,
Cindy McCullen Janicki, Barry Landis, Brenda Leister,
Jim Little, Judy McCullen, Larry McCullen, Cathy Meyers, Joyce
Miller, Laura Miller, Robert "Lee" Miller, Carl (Edison) Paul,
Kathy Picking, Brian Robb, James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie
Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy,
Dawn Edminson Strasser, Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey,
Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Rick Work, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

Please let the office know of the status of anyone you have placed
on the Prayer List.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – 6th Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday – 7:00 p.m. Consistory

Wednesday – 6:30 Trinity Bell Practice

Next Sunday – Easter Sunday & Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 4/06/2025

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2906.00	\$3155.58	-\$249.58
Ben	\$240.00	\$182.69	\$57.31
Maint	\$295.00	\$163.46	\$131.54
Mem			
Total	\$3441.00	\$3501.73	-\$60.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry \$65, Sight & Sound \$50, and Hoffman Homes \$210.

Worship Attendance: 70

Sunday School: 21

Where You May Find. . .

The Nursery: *is on the lower level for children and their parents. 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: Pam Bush & Cora Wright

Ushers: Bill Landis & Lori Gindlesperger

Acolytes: Colton Custer

Organ: Amanda Custer

Flowers on the altar in memory of her father, Lewis and in honor of her mother, Barbara by Michele Romesberg

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

Hugs & Kisses

April 13th - Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School

April 27th – H&K will visit homebound members after church. Meet downstairs and we can carpool. We are making them cards, taking them flowers and playing rainbow bells.

"Berlin Veterans Home, 413 Meadow St, Berlin will be having Fish Frys on the following dates, April 4, and April 18. The menu is fried or baked fish, french fries or baked potato, hush puppies, coleslaw and a dinner roll. The cost is \$14.00 and the meal, either eat in or take out, will be available from 3 to 6 pm. Desserts will also be available.

Community Good Friday Service Good Friday Community Cross Walk

April 18th at 6:00 p.m.

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

We recommend that you park at the Berlin Brethren Church as the Community Building Lot is likely to be full due to the fish fry at the Veterans Home.

Participants are invited to take a turn carrying the cross.

Be sure to dress appropriately for walking and winter weather.

Prayer Stops:

(Participants not doing the full route are welcome to join us at any of the stops along the way).

Berlin Community Building Lot

Corner of 7th and Main

Across from Berlin Brethren Church

Across from the Food Pantry and Trinity UCC

Fairman Family Chiropractic

Holy Trinity Lutheran

Luther Haus (for Three Seasons Community Church)

Join us following the walk for the Community Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Unity United Church of Christ

Unity's youth will be visiting Hoffman Homes on a trip at the end of April for their Mission of the Month. If you are interested in helping the youth please see the items needed and monetary donations are also welcome. Please put monetary and gift cards donations in the offering plates marked Hoffman Homes and all other items in the box at the back door entrance. *The specific items they have asked for include:*

Gift Cards in any amount (\$5, \$10, \$20, etc.) to: Dunkin, Starbucks, Domino's Pizza, Rita's Italian Ice, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, Wendy's, Taco Bell, Panera, Subway, Sheetz, Walmart, Target, Five Below, Amazon.

Other items that they go through frequently include: Sensory toys, journals/composition books (NO WIRE), gel pens, adult & youth coloring books, and drawing/construction paper.

Since it will be Spring, you could also look at outdoor activities such as frisbees, volleyballs, playground balls, outdoor games, water squirters, water balloons, sidewalk chalk.

The last day to donate to Hoffman Homes is Easter Day, Sunday 4/20.

Hospice is currently looking for volunteers in our area. Our Mission Statement: Our Hospice services are designed to provide comfort care as well as spiritual and emotional support for people in the final phase of a terminal illness. If interested, please refer to the poster at the back door entrance for more information.

The cinnamon roll gang is back at it this year at Unity, making both regular and maple iced rolls! They will be ready for pick-up on Thursday May 8th (Mother's Day Weekend) only when notified by us unless prior arrangements are made! All orders are due Sunday April 27th. Contact Ally Warren or Jeannie Custer at 814-444-2904 if you have questions! We also are looking for helpers to assist us on our baking day so please let us know if you can help! Order blanks are available at the Vine Street Entrance.

Camp Living Waters Spring Clean Up Day

The cleanup day is planned for Saturday April 19th starting at 9:00AM! They will be cutting firewood and doing some painting among other tasks. Just come on down and join the crew that day, many hands make light work! Any questions, contact Pastor Dave or Jason Clark.

Berlin Community Bible School

Hello, I'm Connie Jandik and I'm one of the coordinators for the Berlin Community Bible School. The work has begun for this year's VBS. We would like to invite you and your children to participate. How you ask?

1. Talk to your kid's ministry leader and your congregation about attending.
2. Volunteer – we can use any help you can give us.
3. We would like a pastor or youth leader to be present every night each taking a night to pray and interact with the kids.

4. Financially between the parade candy and flyer and VBS it adds up fast.
5. PRAYER IS ALWAYS A MUST, NEVER TOO MANY

The dates this year are July 21-25 at the Berlin Community Grove. If you have any questions, please call me at 814-267-3047, call or text 814-442-0365 or email: crjandik@gmail.com. Thank you.

Food Pantry

Plastic bags are currently needed for the Berlin Food Pantry, so a collection bin has been placed in the Fellowship Hall. We will continually be collecting bags, as there is also a need for plastic bags for a homeless ministry. A bin is located by the organ in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not give us bags that are soiled.

Food Pantry Thank You

On behalf of the Berlin Food pantry, thank you for your financial support for the month of March. This donation will 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.

Garrett Christian Community Church Choir and Friends

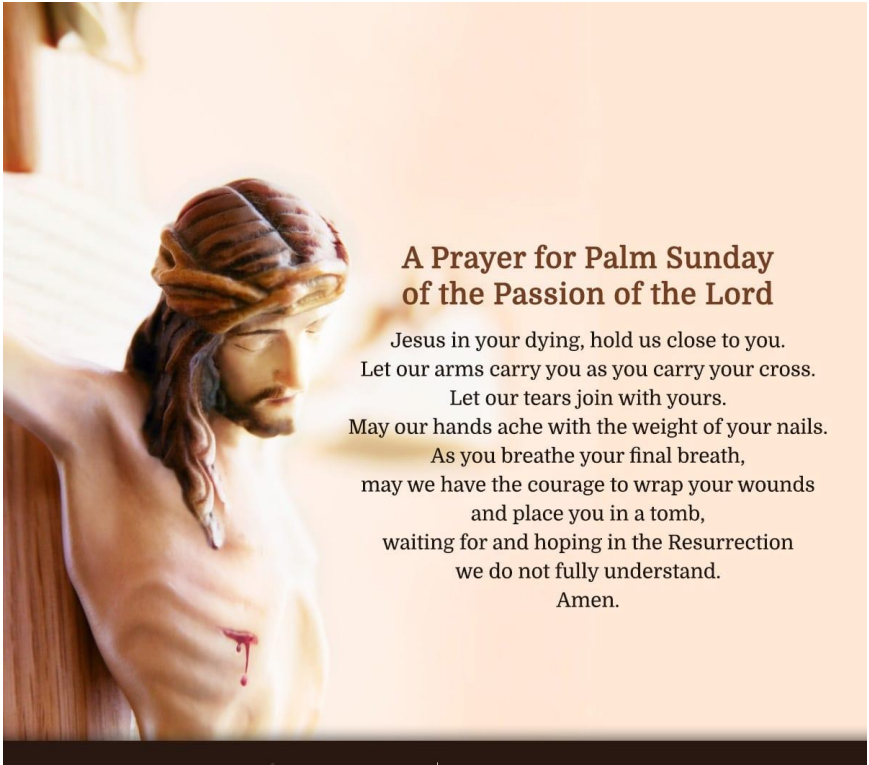
Will present their annual Easter cantata, "It Is Finished" on Sunday evening, April 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at their church at 800 Walker Street in Garrett. A time of fellowship will conclude the evening. This is the former Garrett United Methodist Church

Parking

As a reminder, please remember that the last five spots on either side of Riverside Market (those closest to Main Street) are designated spots for us on Sundays. Additionally, the lot behind the bank (Riverside's big parking lot) is available for us as well. We appreciate Scott Etris letting us park there, so we need to respect the guidelines.

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 Dave

Creamer, Student Pastor for Trinity at 814-777-2280. If Dave is not available, please contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.



A Prayer for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Jesus in your dying, hold us close to you.
Let our arms carry you as you carry your cross.
Let our tears join with yours.
May our hands ache with the weight of your nails.
As you breathe your final breath,
may we have the courage to wrap your wounds
and place you in a tomb,
waiting for and hoping in the Resurrection
we do not fully understand.
Amen.

**Blessings for a wonderful
week ahead!**