



***Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 26, 2021***

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

## Prelude

\*The Doxology: No. 625

\*Confession of Sin

Merciful God,

**in your gracious presence**

**we confess our sin and the sin of this world.**

**Although Christ is among us as our peace,**

**we are a people divided against ourselves**

**as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

**The profit and pleasures we pursue**

**lay waste to our souls.**

**The fears and jealousies that we harbor**

**set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.**

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of**

**intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world**

**as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*Word of Pardon

\*Hymn of Praise: No. 440

*O For a Heart to Praise My God*

\*Psalter

Psalm 19:7-14

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,

reviving the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure,

making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> **the precepts of the LORD are right,**

**rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the LORD is pure,**

**enlightening the eyes;**

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean,

enduring forever;

the rules of the LORD are true,

and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> **More to be desired are they than gold,**

**even much fine gold;**

**sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

12 **Who can discern his errors?**

**Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;  
let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.

14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight,**

**O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

**\*Praise**

***Praise to You, O God of Mercy***

## **Morning Prayer**

**\*Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**St. Mark 9:38-50**

<sup>38</sup> John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup> But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup> For the one who is not against us is for us.

<sup>41</sup> For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

<sup>42</sup> "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,<sup>7</sup> it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup> And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell,<sup>8</sup> to the unquenchable fire.<sup>9</sup> <sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.

<sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup> 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' <sup>49</sup> For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>10</sup> <sup>50</sup> Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

**\*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.

**Proclamation of God's Word**

**"PD"**

***Is Holiness Possible???***

**Prayer of Intercession**

**Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]**

**\*Song of Commitment: No. 441**

***Take Time to Be Holy***

**\*Sung Dismissal and Blessing**

***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.

**Give Him the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.  
Both now and forevermore, Amen!**

**\*Going Forth**

**+ + + + +**

**Thank you.** . .Dear Friends, thank you for the beautiful corsage, singing, and reception last Sunday for my 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. You made my day filled with love and joy. Thank you! --- Fae Hetrick

## **Fundraiser for J B Schrock Playground - Saturday, October 16th**

Linda Karchner, President of the J B Schrock Community Park Board, is celebrating her 60th birthday as a fundraiser for the playground!

The festivities will be **Saturday, October 16, 2021 from 10:30 am - 2:00 pm at the J B Schrock Playground** [700 South St., Berlin].

The playground is **pre-selling tickets for BBQ Chicken Halves AND Dinners**. Halves are \$6 and Dinners are \$10 [includes BBQ chicken half, cole slaw, baked beans, Landis bakery roll & butter, dessert]. **Chicken must be pre-ordered and prepaid by Oct. 2nd. Contact Shirley Reed at 814-267-4961 to order chicken.** [NOTE: Chicken pick up on Oct. 16th will be from 11 am - 1 pm]

Other fundraising opportunities that day will include an **old-fashioned cake walk, raffles, Boscov's Shopping Discount cards, and beverage sales.**

**Music AND FREE kids' activities** [games, crafts, and THE STORY LADY will be making a special appearance at 12:30 pm]!

**Several individuals, businesses, and organizations have already supported the fundraiser but additional donations of cakes, gift certificates/baskets/etc.for the raffles,as well as monetary gifts are appreciated.**

Thank you in advance to **Berlin Market** and **Thrivent Financial** for their donations.

**DoTERRA® Essential Oils** is also matching all donations that day, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$5,000!

## **Pastor's Fall Bible Study – Making Sense of Suffering**

In the past 18 months there has been much suffering around us. The horror of COVID-19, changes in employment, ongoing illness, and sudden death. I have been asked more than once “where is God in all of this mess?” I began to consider various scriptures and reading several texts from C.S. Lewis, Mike Yaconelli, and others. I will not be providing easy answers, rather we will look to God's Word to provide us a framework to be

“strengthen” to persevere in life. There will be no “platitudes,” rather I might leave you with more questions than answers. One outcome I hope to provide is that we who are in Christ may be comforted with the promises of the Gospel to be courageous even in the midst of suffering.

Thursday evenings for five weeks beginning September 23 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Trinity Church Pastor Dave will offer teach on the following topics:

September 30 – *Where Is God In This Mess?*

October 7 – *NO Class – King Lion has Lion’s Club that evening.*

October 14 – *God’s Purposes In Our Suffering*

October 21 – *Unexplained Tragedy*

October 28 – *Redeeming Suffering*

Bring your Bible, pen and paper and we will consider passages of scripture from Job, Isaiah, Luke, Exodus, 2 Corinthians, James, and more. Each week there will be an article to read but no other assignment will be required.

To prepare you are asked to register for class so that enough materials may be prepared for those attending. You may send Pastor a note at his email: [uccvicar@gmail.com](mailto:uccvicar@gmail.com) or call the church office at 814-267-3234.

### **Founder’s Day Dinner – Living Waters Camp – October 3rd**

This event is to honor Rev. Dr. Paul Westcoat for all of his time, talent, and dedication in making Living Waters the successful outdoor ministry that it is today.

During the celebration, we will be rededicating the lodge and naming it the “Westcoat Lodge”. The rededication and naming ceremony is being planned as a surprise to honor Rev. Dr. Westcoat, so please help us in keeping this a secret to him.

### **Schedule of Events for Founder’s Day Celebration**

4:00 – Dedication of “Westcoat Lodge”

Program, tours, presentation of remodeling plans.

5:00 – Turkey dinner served in the dining hall.

The cost for attending the event with the meal is \$20/person or a table of 8 for \$150. Indoor seating for the meal is limited to 80

people and outdoor seating will be weather permitting. We are also offering a virtual option that will include the presentation of programming for \$20/household. Please reserve your spot for the celebration by calling (814) 733-4212 or by emailing [camplivingwaters65@gmail.com](mailto:camplivingwaters65@gmail.com). Payment can be made by check, cash, or PayPal.

**The Organ Dedication Concert for October 31** with Mr. Nicholas Bowden has been postponed and will be rescheduled later this year, hopefully!

**Cleaning Help.** . It is said and has been shown that many hands make quick work. As pastor has shared, Zion Lutheran experienced the “fall” of a portion of the plaster ceiling in the sanctuary. The ceiling has been repaired and now the sanctuary needs to be cleaned from all the plaster dust [old and new]. Unfortunately, their insurance company has declined to honor the claim and this work is being left to the congregation. Today, if you would offer some assistance lunch will be served at 12 Noon and cleaning will commence in the sanctuary following. If you would help, please speak with PD.

### **The Saints In Action**

TODAY –

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

12:00 Noon – Lunch and Sanctuary Cleaning –  
Zion Lutheran Church

Wednesday – NO Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday – 7:00 p.m. Pastor’s Fall Bible Study

Next Sunday – September 19

9:00 a.m. Worship – World Wide Communion Sunday

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

**The Church Office Hours** – our secretary, Pam Bush, is enjoying visiting with family and friends in Oregon this week, however she will be in the office on Friday from 9 to 1. Pastor Dave will be “in and out” of the office. Please call his cell phone if you need assistance. This week he will be at Zion helping to clean the pipe

organ to restore it to playing condition Monday through Wednesday.

**Giving From 9/19/2021**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	3175.00	\$2434.93	740.07
<b>Ben</b>	380.00	\$213.46	166.54
<b>Maint</b>	190.00	\$163.46	26.54
<b>Mem</b>			
<b>Total</b>	\$3745.00	\$2811.85	\$933.14

Benevolence includes Food Pantry of \$140.00.

**Worship Attendance: 69**

**Sunday School: 8 [Confirmation Class], Bible Study: 5**



**Those Remembered in prayer:**

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

**Shut Ins:**

Lew & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Janet Gindlesperger, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Deb Luteri, Lois Saylor, Dirkje Stellingwerf.

**Healing Concerns:**

Sally Altfather, Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Abigayle Broadwater, Pam Crooks, Linda Gallick, Dawn Gindlesperger, Barry Landis, Larry McCullen, Bayley Mull, Betty Murphy, Nancy Schrock, Avis Specht, Robin Walker, Harry and Jane Watkins, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Karen Will, Kimberly Kay Roos Zimmerman

## **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:** Lori Gindlesperger and Gaye Maust

***The Flowers on the altar*** in honor of our seven grandchildren and in honor of her mother, Dorothy Doyle, by Debbie and Terry Luteri.

## ***The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by***

*Pastor: Rev'd Dr. David A. Williams*

*Church Secretary: Pam Bush*

*Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger*

*Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick*

*Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas*

## ***Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday***

***9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.***

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Snail Mail: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: [berlinucc@yahoo.com](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

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

## **Pastor's Contact Information**

**Cell Phone: 814-241-3919**

**E-Mail: [uccvicar@gmail.com](mailto:uccvicar@gmail.com)**

603 Fletcher Street, Berlin, PA 15530

# Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

♠ Coda



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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