



***“Veteran’s Sunday”***  
***Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost***  
***November 13, 2022***  
***Guest Speaker – Pastor Art Gotjen DMn***

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

**Prelude**

**Now Thank We All Our God – Paul Manz  
Trumpet Tune on “Ash Grove” – Michael Helman**

**Welcome**

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

The grace of Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

The risen Christ is with us.

**Praise the Lord!**

**\*Hymn No. 435**

**What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Almighty God,**

**To you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**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**

**Veteran’s Day Program**

**Sheron Engleka**

**“Armed Forces of America Medley” – Arr. Peggy Duquesnel**

**Prayer For Illumination**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as Scriptures are read  
and your word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today.**

**Amen**

## **Scripture Lesson**

### **Isaiah 65:17-25**

**17** “For behold, I create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
and the former things shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.

**18** But be glad and rejoice for ever  
in that which I create;  
for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing,  
and her people a joy.

**19** I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and be glad in my people;  
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping  
and the cry of distress.

**20** No more shall there be in it  
an infant that lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not fill out his days,  
for the child shall die a hundred years old,  
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.

**21** They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

**22** They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

**23** They shall not labor in vain,  
or bear children for calamity;  
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,  
and their children with them.

**24** Before they call I will answer,  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

**25** The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
and dust shall be the serpent's food.  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain,  
says the LORD.”

## **Psalm 118:1-9 (Responsively)**

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!

**2 Let Israel say,  
“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

3 Let the house of Aaron say,  
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

**4 Let those who fear the LORD say,  
“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

5 Out of my distress I called on the LORD;  
the LORD answered me and set me free.

**6 With the LORD on my side I do not fear.  
What can man do to me?**

7 The LORD is on my side to help me;  
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

**8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
than to put confidence in man.**

9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
than to put confidence in princes.

## **Gospel Lesson**

### **Luke 21:5-19**

5 And as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said,

6 “As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”

7 And they asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?”

8 And he said, “Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them.

9 And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

10 Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;

11 there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

**12** But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake.

**13** This will be a time for you to bear testimony.

**14** Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer;

**15** for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.

**16** You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death;

**17** you will be hated by all for my name's sake.

**18** But not a hair of your head will perish.

**19** By your endurance you will gain your lives.

## **Sermon**

### **“The Church In Survival Mode”**

**Pastor Art Gotjen**

#### **\*The Apostles Creed**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament.

**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.**

## **Prayers and Concerns**

### **Confession and Pardon:**

**Merciful God,**

**We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**Will have not done your will,**

**We have broken your law,**

**We have rebelled against your love,**

**We have not loved our neighbors,**

**And we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us for joyful obedience,**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **Silent Confession:**

#### **Assurance of Forgiveness:**

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

We invite you to come forward to the Operation Christmas Child boxes as we pray:

**We Pray that God will meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the children who receive shoebox gifts and their families who are living in desperate circumstances, suffering from poverty, sickness, war, or the effects of natural disaster.**

**We Pray for the hundreds of international volunteers who receive and distribute the shoebox gifts.**

**We Pray that the shoebox gifts are an effective ministry tool that opens many doors in countries that are not receptive to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**We Pray for the implementation of the follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, that it would open the hearts of many to receive God's love and the Good News of Jesus Christ.**

**The Peace**

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

**\*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**

As forgiven and reconciled people,  
Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

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

**\*Hymn No: 347**

**Be Still, My Soul**

**\*Benediction**

**\*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**

**Go Out with Joy! – Mary McDonald**

**+ + + + +**



**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, Jerry & Kay Barnard, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Carol Boyer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, John Durst, Alvin Harbaugh, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Larry Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Avis Specht, Phyllis Stoy, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

**Prayer List Update**

Once again, we are in need of your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

**One Call Now Prayer List**

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the



office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.

**The Saints In Action**

TODAY – Veteran’s Program  
 9:00 a.m. Worship  
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Monday- 7:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Wednesday -6:30 p.m. Trinity Bell rehearsal  
 Wednesday – 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday –6:00 p.m. Big Tree Goes Up!

Next Sunday – Reign of Christ – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 9:00 a.m. Worship  
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

**Giving From 11/6/22**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$3066.00	\$2434.93	\$631.07
<b>Ben</b>	\$1544.00	\$213.46	\$1330.54
<b>Maint</b>	\$170.00	\$163.46	\$6.54
<b>Mem</b>	\$0.00		
<b>Total</b>	\$4780.00	\$2811.85	\$1968.15

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$40, Adopt a Family (Secret Santa) of \$835; Operation Christmas Child \$490

The **2023 Offering Envelopes** will be available for pickup at the Church on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> – December 4<sup>th</sup>. All offering envelopes remaining after December 4<sup>th</sup> will be mailed. We are

trying to cut down on the cost of postage, so any arrangements that can be made for pick up would be greatly appreciated.

**Worship Attendance: 78**

**Sunday School: 18**

***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:** Jim Darr (Board), Russ Hillegas (Camera)

**Acolytes:** Kaitlyn Miller

***The Flowers on the altar*** in memory of Devon & June Landis, Larry Landis and Helen Landis Fry by Barry Landis.

***Special Flowers & Bulletin*** in honor of military service by the members of our family: James R. McCullen, U.S. Army (WW2), Larry W. McCullen Jr., U.S. Navy, Master Chief Kenneth A. Janicki, U.S. Coast Guard Retired, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Jacob K. Janicki, U.S. Army, Joshua L. Janicki, PA National Guard, Army by Larry & Judy 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:***

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

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

Alan Brick, 814-267-6628

**Consistory Deacons:**

*Amy Clark, Jean Ann Darr, Ann Slifco  
Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, John Wisler  
Alissa Wright, 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)

**Annual Congregational Meeting** – The Consistory calls for the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> following worship to act upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, adopt the proposed 2023 Budget, and take up any other business of the congregation. The meeting will commence following the service at 10 a.m.

**“Secret Pals” Program**

We are gearing up for another round of the Secret Pals program beginning in November. The applications were included in our last newsletter as well as posted on our church community bulletin board.

**Adopt-A-Family aka Secret Santa**

We will begin collecting money again this year for families in need. Through November 20<sup>th</sup> if you want to make a donation towards our Adopt-A-Family please make note of it on your collection envelope. Last year we supported 4 families and purchased gifts for 12 kids. In addition, we were able to provide a gift certificate for each family to have a full holiday meal. Every year there are individuals to help shop, wrap, and support this cause; it truly means so much to each of the recipients. Thank you. If you would like to partake in assisting again this year, please let me know. Thanks, Julie Petro

**\*\*Julie reported last Sunday that this year we have 5 families and 18 children so your assistance in anyway will help these families. \*\***

## **Christmas Play**

Thank you, Amy Clark, for volunteering to be our Christmas Program Coordinator! We are sure she will be looking for assistance so please contact Amy or Kathy Spangler.

## **Do You Like to Sing?**

It has been decided to get the Choir back together. If you are interested in joining, practice will start Wednesday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. and it will be one half hour practices. Please contact Ann Slifco, Nancy Bittner, Jeanne Hillegas or Jean Ann Darr.

## **What is Operation Christmas Child?**

Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse provides shoeboxes and the word of God to children throughout the world. Although we have a short deadline to get the boxes packed and delivered, I know we can do it.

Our goal is to fill 100 boxes!

### **AND WE DID IT!!!! (And Then Some)**

We will be delivering the boxes to the Brethren Church (the OCC drop off point for this area) the end of this week so there is still a bit of time to bring in your boxes.

If you would still like to make a monetary donation (we are a little short on the postage) you can mark your Offering Envelopes with OCC or donation boxes have been placed by the offering plates. Thank you all who came to the packing party and as it was said multiple times...." Many hands make light work".

**The Berlin Area Historical Society** is hosting an Open House on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm. The Genealogy Building, Heritage Haus and Barn will be open for visitors. All are welcome! Come explore!

**The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule until the end of the year:**

Nov 13 – *Who Needs Christmas* – A unique look at Christmas.

Nov 20 – Hanging of the Greens in Fellowship Hall with snacks.

Nov 27 – No Sunday School, Profile Committee open forum.

Dec 04 – Congregational Meeting

*Who Needs Christmas* – if time allows.

Dec 11 – *Who Needs Christmas*

Dec 18 – *Who Needs Christmas*

This class will not be meeting on Dec 25<sup>th</sup> or Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

This class is open to adults of **ALL** ages and is led by Sue Coughenour. *Come join us!*

### **Profile Committee:**

We invite all of you to be part of a self-study and community learning process that will identify our church's imagination for the future and corresponding pastoral needs. We are in the process of developing a church profile for potential candidates. There will be an open forum gathering Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following the church service. David Ackerman, Conference Minister, Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ will be there to assist, as well as provide, an opportunity to answer questions. In preparing our local church profile, what matters most is clear communication and a cohesive process to encourage maximum participation by the whole congregation.

### **Christmas Decorating:**

Will commence the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be erecting the BIG TREE this year!!! Merry Christmas to us!! The big tree is a big task, so the night of, Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. we would like as much help as possible.

### **Camp Living Waters**

Fall Youth Rally, December 2-4, 2022. Grades 6-12. Cost \$25. Arrival: 7 p.m. Friday, Parent Pick Up: Noon Sunday. Watch your bulletin for additional details or contact Camp Living Waters at [www.livingwaterscamp.org](http://www.livingwaterscamp.org) for more information.

**Bethlehem Experience** is being held Sunday, December 11, 2022, 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a drive through event and will begin at the Berlin Brethren Church parking lot. The Borough Building will host refreshments. In the event of inclement weather, it will be necessary to cancel.

**Laurel Highlands Chorale Concert**

“Merry Christmas from Around the World”

Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Director ~ Jan Burket

Accompanist ~Rick Kimmel

Tickets \$5 at the door or by calling

Dorene Friedline at

814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Please join us for a special candlelight service on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 p.m. Our virtual organist, Rick Kimmel, will be playing live! Conference Minister, David Ackerman, will be leading us in worship, our Trinity Bells will be ringing, and we will be singing the praises of our Lord.

**Christmas Day Service**

Pastor Art Gotjen will lead us in prayer and a short message. We will share in the blessings of Christmas Day and sing carols of choice as received in weeks prior to the service.

**Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol?**

We are asking for requests for your favorite Christmas carol to be played at the Christmas morning service. Please let us know so that your carol can be pre-recorded on the organ. Let’s sing our favorites!

**New Year’s Day Service**

Please watch your bulletins for information on this service soon.

### **Poinsettia Order Forms:**

Most of you should have received your newsletter this week. Enclosed was the Christmas flower order form. We have additional forms at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Please note that these forms must be returned no later than **November 28<sup>th</sup>**. However, the sooner, the better to ensure desired colors. If you need additional room, please use the back of the form. Place your orders in the collection plates, mail or through the mail slot at the church office. Also plan to pick up your plants after Christmas morning service or during office hours the following week.

### **Trinity Trumpet Special Addition**

Please watch your mailbox for a special edition of Trinity Trumpet sometime in mid-November. There will be information regarding our 2023 budget and new Consistory members for 2023.

**Girl Scouts** meet every Monday here at Fellowship Hall. They wanted to do something in return for us allowing them to meet at our church. Nine bags and four trash cans later they have cleaned up all our leaves under the big tree!!! The Girl Scout motto is "Be prepared." "A Girl Scout is ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you must know how to do the job well." Thank you, girls!

**Larry Custer** is recovering beautifully and would like to thank everyone for their well wishes, cards, calls, and prayers during his recovery.

**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.

