



***Second Sunday of Advent  
Holy Communion  
December 4, 2022  
Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer***

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

## **Prelude**

**Ding Dong! Merrily on High – Mary McDonald  
God Rest You Merry Gentlemen  
– Douglas Wagner**

## **Welcome**

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

## **\*Call to Worship**

I will hear what the Lord has to say.

**A VOICE THAT SPEAKS FOR PEACE.**

Peace for all people and for all who love the Lord.

**AND TO THOSE WHO TURN TO GOD IN THEIR HEARTS.**

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST AND PEACE TO ALL  
GOD'S PEOPLE.**

## **Morning Prayer**

### **\*Hymn No. 119**

**O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful**

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Jason, Amy, and Cohen Clark

Last Sunday we lit the first candle—the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

**Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning,  
We thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.  
Show us the creative power of hope.  
Teach us the peace that comes from justice.  
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,  
That we may walk in the light of Christ.**

### **\*Hymn No. 120**

**The Advent of Our God**

**Prayer of Confession:**

God of all nations, as we assemble in this house of worship today, we are confronted by the sin in our lives. We have not always shown others the love and forgiveness that we expect them to give to us. We have fallen short of what you desire of us. We have sometimes ignored those who are in need so that we could have more for ourselves. We have judged others, shown jealousy, and allowed our pride to stand in the way of healing relationships. Forgive us again, O Lord, and give us the strength to live each day to your glory. Amen.

**Silent Confession:****Assurance of Forgiveness:**

We have offered our prayers and the Lord grants forgiveness.

**We rejoice that the Lord forgives all who turn their hearts to him.**

Let us praise our God!

**\*Hymn 66 – Verse 1**

**To God Be The Glory – Verse 1**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

***The Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe**

**in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of 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**

**The Lord's Prayer** (using debts and debtors)

**Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 11:1-10**

**1** There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

**2** And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

**3** And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

**4** but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

**5** Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

**6** The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

**7** The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

**8** The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

**9** They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

**10** In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the  
peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be  
glorious.

### **Epistle – Romans 15:4-13**

**4** For whatever was written in former days was written for our  
instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of  
the scriptures we might have hope.

**5** May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to  
live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ  
Jesus,

**6** that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**7** Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you,  
for the glory of God.

**8** For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to  
show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to  
the patriarchs,

**9** and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As  
it is written, "Therefore I will praise thee among the Gentiles,  
and sing to thy name";

**10** and again it is said,  
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

**11** and again,  
"Praise the Lord, all Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him";

**12** and further Isaiah says,  
"The root of Jesse shall come,  
he who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him shall the Gentiles hope."

**13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

## **Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12**

**1** In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

**2** “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

**3** For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

**4** Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

**5** Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan,

**6** and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

**7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

**8** Bear fruit that befits repentance,

**9** and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

**10** Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

**11** “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

**12** His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

## **Sermon**

### **“Knowing Your Past” Pastor Jay Shaffer**

## **Sacrament of Communion**

*Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.*

***In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.***

### **Communion Prayer:**

*God be with you*

***And also with you.***

*Lift up your hearts.*

***We lift them up to God.***

*Let us give thanks to God Most High.*

***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

*Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history. We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints and all the company of heaven, we glorify you.*

*p* *mf* *f*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are

full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho -

san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the

*crescendo* *f*

name of the Lord, Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high-est!

We remember that on that night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.  
**Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!**



Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt, and light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

**Amen. Come Holy Spirit.**

### **The Sharing of the Bread and Cup:**

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

### **Resurrection Acclamation:**

Alleluia! Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. **I died, and behold I am alive for evermore. Alleluia!**

### **Sharing the Elements:**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

The body of Christ, the living bread.

**Amen!**

The blood of Christ, the saving cup.

**Amen!**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No: 125**

**Joy To The World**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Response – Sung with Dismissal**

**Go Now in Peace**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

**\*Going Forth**

**Postlude**

**Joy to the World – Diane Bish**

**+ + + + + + +**



**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, 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, Grace Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Avis Specht, 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 –Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

10:10 Sunday School Following Meeting

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

7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Next Sunday – Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

## Giving From 11/27/22

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$1663.00	\$2434.93	-\$771.93
<b>Ben</b>	\$175.00	\$213.46	-\$38.46
<b>Maint</b>	\$520.00	\$163.46	\$356.54
<b>Mem</b>	\$0.00		
<b>Total</b>	\$2358.00	\$2811.85	-\$453.85

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Adopt a Family (Secret Santa) of \$90

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: 61**

**Sunday School: No Sunday School Last Week**

***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:** Chris King (Board), Russ Hillegas (Camera)

**Acolytes:** Cohen Clark and Colton Custer

**The Flowers on the altar** in loving memory of my parents William E. Tamblyn & Marth H. Tamblyn by 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 Today**– 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.

**Adopt A Child Wrapping Party** is tentatively scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>. Watch for additional details from Julie Petro.

**“Secret Pals” Program**

Please be sure to sign up for this year’s Secret Pal program by completing the application you received in your newsletter or an application hanging on the bulletin boards. The deadline has passed however we would love to see more participation.

## **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.

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

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!*

**Bethlehem Experience** is being held **next** 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 - Today and Tomorrow!**

“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. Marlene Gotjen will be playing the piano. Together we will share in the blessings of Christmas Day and sing carols of choice as received in weeks prior to the service.

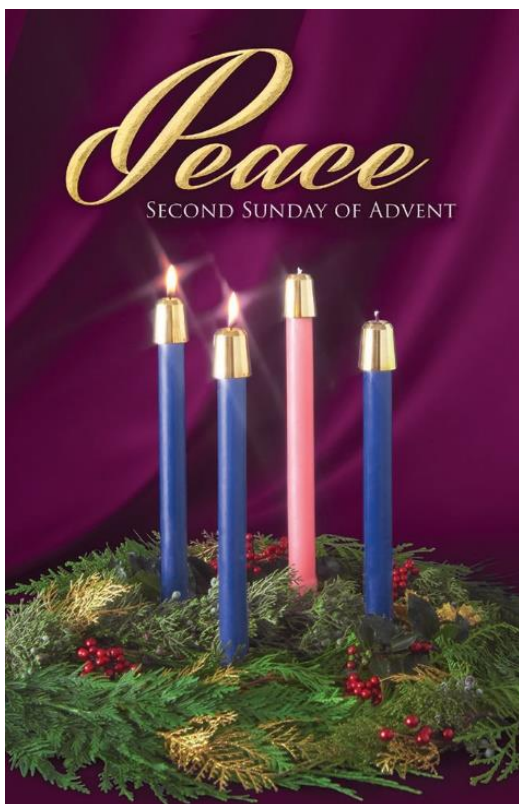
### **Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol?**

We are asking for requests for your favorite Christmas carol to be played at the Christmas morning service. Please let us know so that we can get the music to Marlene. Let's sing our favorites!

### **New Year's Day Service**

Please watch your bulletins for information on this service soon.

**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.



***“Go Now in Peace”  
And have a Blessed  
Week***