



***Second Sunday of Lent  
March 16, 2025***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer  
Assisted by – Matt Miller***

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

**Prelude:**

**I Trust in Thee – Mary McDonald  
Pavane – Gabriel Faure**

## **Announcements**

### **Call to Worship:**

Let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for our joy endured the cross.

**Jesus came to preach good news to the poor!**

He proclaims release to those captive to sin.

**Jesus brings sight to the blind!**

He brings liberation to the oppressed heart.

**Alleluia, our Savior Jesus, Alleluia!**

**\*Hymn No. 51**

**Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

### **Call to Confession**

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. Let us pray that we can return to that Love.

### **Confession**

**Heavenly Father, hear our prayer. The worries of the world are distractions to us. Our wants guide us away from your will. Help us keep our Lenten promise to you, help us to repent. Forgive our sins and guide us through this dark hour. Give us your Spirit to show us your light.**

### **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

The apostle Paul tells us in Philippians we are not to be enemies of the cross. That our citizenship is in heaven. As we stand firm in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we will be restored. Amen

**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.**

**\*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 humble ourselves before you. Grateful to share our gifts. Guide them and us to do your Will. We ask that your Spirit be with us in our homes, helping us to be a productive people. Shaping a world for your glory. We pray that your presence brings comfort and care to those who need you, Our military, and their families, our sick and lonely, those that are frustrated and lost. Help the caretakers to be strong and compassionate and dedicated to those in need. Help us to hear your voice, help us to see the path that leads us to you, help us to repent and give up the guilt of our sins. We are grateful for your Son Jesus Christ. Help us to be worthy of his gift, his sacrifice. We offer to you the prayer he taught to us.

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

### **Scripture:**

#### **Genesis Chapter 15, vs 1-6**

**1** After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

**2** But Abram said, "O Lord God, what wilt thou give me, for I continue childless."

**3** And Abram said, "Behold, thou hast given me no offspring; and a slave born in my house will be my heir."

**4** And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; your own son shall be your heir."

**5** And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

**6** And he believed the Lord; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness.

### **Psalm 27**

**1** The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

**2** When evildoers assail me,  
uttering slanders against me,  
my adversaries and foes,  
they shall stumble and fall.

**3** Though a host encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war arise against me,  
yet I will be confident.

**4** One thing have I asked of the Lord,  
that will I seek after;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple.

**5** For he will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent,  
he will set me high upon a rock.

**6** And now my head shall be lifted up  
above my enemies round about me;  
and I will offer in his tent  
sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

**7** Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,  
be gracious to me and answer me!

**8** Thou hast said, "Seek ye my face."  
My heart says to thee,  
"Thy face, Lord, do I seek."

**9** Hide not thy face from me.  
Turn not thy servant away in anger,  
thou who hast been my help.  
Cast me not off, forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation!

**10** For my father and my mother have forsaken me,  
but the Lord will take me up.

**11** Teach me thy way, O Lord;  
and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.

**12** Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.

**13** I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living!

**14** Wait for the Lord;  
be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
yea, wait for the Lord!

**Gospel:  
Luke Chapter 9, vs 28-36**

**28** Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

**29** And as he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white.

**30** And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah,

**31** who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem.

**32** Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

**33** And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said.

**34** As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.

**35** And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

**36** And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silence and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

**Hymn No. 50**

**The Lord’s My Shephard, I’ll Not Want**

**Sermon**

**“Don’t Stand in One Place to Long”**

**Dave Creamer**

**\*Hymn No. 382**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**\*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**

**Lift High the Cross – John Leavitt**

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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, Paige Boyer, Father  
Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,  
Tammy Coughenour, Tracy Dickey, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka,  
Paul Gallick, Nancy Gindlesperger,  
Louie David Gontis, 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, Stewart Saylor, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Curt Shaulis, Phyllis Stoy, Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Rick Work, Gerald Zorn

Please keep the family of Mary Forespring in your prayers due to her passing this past Wednesday.

**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 – Second Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday – 6:30 Trinity Bell Practice

Next Sunday – 3rd Sunday in Lent

Trinity Bells

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m.

**Giving From 03/09/25**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$4005.00	\$3155.58	\$849.42
<b>Ben</b>	\$350.00	\$182.69	\$167.31
<b>Maint</b>	\$170.00	\$163.46	\$6.54
<b>Mem</b>	\$200.00		\$200.00
<b>Total</b>	\$4725.00	\$3501.73	\$1223.27

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry \$15

**Worship Attendance: 84**

**Sunday School:**



**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:** Jim Darr, Tom Croner

**Ushers:** Jean Ann Darr, Jean Hart

**Acolytes:** Matt & Kaitlyn Miller

**Organ:** Jean Ann Darr

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

**Bulletin** in loving memory of my father, James R. McCullen by Larry McCullen.

***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](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

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

**Sunday School**

Who is God?

A true, intimate relationship with God is not based on our own ideas about what God is like. If we really desire to know God, we must approach Him based on the knowledge of who He reveals Himself to be in His Word. Join Dr. Steven J. Lawson in this in-depth study as he articulates a biblical understanding of fifteen divine attributes and explores how a right understanding of God can affect every aspect of our lives. This 16-week adult Sunday School series began on December 22nd and is led by Sue Coughenour.

**Berlin Food Pantry 2025 Souper Bowl WINNER!!**

Congratulations to Trinity United Church of Christ for being the winner of the large church competition. Our total points were 10,500.

"**Berlin Veterans Home**, 413 Meadow St, Berlin will be having Fish Frys on the following dates, March 7, March 21, 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"

**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.

**Birthright of Somerset, Inc.** is pleased to announce its Annual Birthright Award Contest. The Essay Award will be given to the 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who can best convey their response to the essay scenario as presented in the Award Criteria. The eligible student who wins the first-place award will receive \$1000.00 and a prize of \$750.00 will be awarded to the second-place winner. If interested, please contact the church office for more information.

### **Trip to Sight and Sound**

There are **2** tickets available for the show June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The current price is Adults \$184 and children 12 and younger \$132. Final Price will less after a fundraiser in January. Cost includes the bus, dinner, and the show. If you are interested in attending contact Vanessa Gardner, [vgard59@gmail.com](mailto:vgard59@gmail.com), reach out on Unity UCC's Face Book, or talk to Pastor Dave (cell 814-777-2280)

### **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. Bin is located by the organ in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not give us bags that are soiled. They are also in need of large boxes so if you can help in that area, it would be appreciated.

### **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.



**Have a Blessed Week!**