



Pentecost Sunday

***Twenty Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
November 24, 2024***

***Student Pastor – Dave Creamer
Assisted by - Cora Wright***

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

**Prelude Come Ye Thankful People, Come - Charles Callahan
Morning Has Broken - Fred Bock**

Announcements

Call to Worship: (Based on Psalm 93)

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty.

He clothed in strength and compassion.

He has established the world; it shall never be moved.

His throne is established of old; he is everlasting.

Floods lift the name of God, His voice is over the roaring river, and the crashing waves.

Our Lord is majestic on high, our Lord forevermore.

***Hymn No. 103**

Blessed Be the Name

Call to Confession

Our struggle to change is constant. Our desire to remain unchanged is easier than the work and effort it takes to do Gods will. Let us reach out for forgiveness and pray to change.

Confession

Heavenly Father hear our prayer. Bless us with strength and determination to do your will. Forgive us for not wanting to change, for being comfortable with our old ways. Help us to be more than we believe we can be.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God reminds us that he is the Alfa and the Omega. The beginning and the end. His love for us, his forgiveness for us, the grace he gives us is timeless. For that we should always rejoice!

**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, provider and sustainer, we humble ourselves before you. Thankful for your gifts, grateful for your care, blessed in each moment.

We offer to you our tithe. A measure of what you have given to us. Take these gifts and our talents and place them with the people and places that need them most.

We pray for the ones who care for us, our military and first responders. The ones that watch over and protect us. In places far from home and here in our community. We ask that you keep them safe, let them know they are loved.

We ask that you care for those on our prayer list. Be with our shut ins. We pray that you heal them where they need, mind, body, or heart. Comfort them with your Spirit.

We pray that you are with our caregivers. Help them as they help those they love. Bless them with assurance, peace, and compassion. Strengthen their resolve to serve those in need.

Bless us with your spirit. Let it guide us in times we are unsure, strengthen us when we are not steady, comfort us when we feel lost. Help us follow the path that leads to you.

In this season of Thanksgiving, we are grateful for your Son Jesus Christ. His sacrifice our greatest gift. His life our best example to live. His love unending. We offer to you the prayer he taught us to pray;

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Scripture:

2 Samuel 23:1-7

1 Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, the son of Jesse, the oracle of the man who was raised on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the sweet psalmist of Israel:

2 "The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me, his word is upon my tongue.

3 The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me:

When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God,

4 he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth upon a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.

5 Yea, does not my house stand so with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure.

For will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire?

6 But godless men are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be taken with the hand;

7 but the man who touches them
arms himself with iron and the shaft of a spear,
and they are utterly consumed with fire.”

Epistle:

Revelation 1:4-8

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is
to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
5 and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born of the
dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood
6 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him
be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see
him, everyone who pierced him; and all tribes of the earth will wail
on account of him. Even so. Amen.

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is
and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel:

John 18:33-37

33 Pilate entered the praetorium again and called Jesus, and said
to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

34 Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did
others say it to you about me?”

35 Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief
priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?”

36 Jesus answered, “My kingship is not of this world; if my
kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might
not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the
world.”

37 Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You
say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come
into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the
truth hears my voice.”

Hymn No. 424

Tell Me the Old, Old Story

**Sermon
"What is Truth "
Dave Creamer**

***Hymn No: 97 Jesus We Just Want To Thank You**

***Benediction**

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

**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 Now We Thank All Our God - Fred Bock

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Mary Jane Harding, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor, Ruth Elaine Whitacre.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Paige Boyer, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Wilma Durst, Reon Engleka, Paul Gallick, Don Gary, Nancy Gindlesperger, Marlene Gotchen, Karen Griffith, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Joe Harris, Michael Harris, Joy Hay (Dwayne), Larry Hay, Cindy McCullen Janicki, Peter Kaltenbaugh, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry 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, JoAnne Smith, Phyllis Stoy, Brooke Stutzman, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, 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.

Prayer Calls:

If you are not receiving our one call prayer calls, please contact the office. The number that calls is an "877" number. This may appear to be spam. If your phone is blocking spam calls, this may be one reason why. If you prefer to receive the calls on your cell vs. landline we would like to know that as well.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – 27th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

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

Next Sunday – 1st Sunday of Advent / Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

Congregational Meeting following Worship

10:10 a.m. Hanging of the Greens and Fellowship

Brunch

Giving From 11/3/24

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$4018.00	\$3155.58	-\$862.42
Ben	\$170.00	\$182.69	-\$12.69
Maint	\$170.00	\$163.46	\$6.54
Mem	\$50.00		
Total	\$4408.00	\$3501.73	\$906.27

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Operation Christmas Child of \$75, Hugs & Kisses \$25 and Adopt-A-Family \$125.

Giving From 11/10/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1340.00	\$3155.58	-\$1815.58
Ben	\$240.00	\$182.69	\$57.31
Maint	\$200.00	\$163.46	\$36.54
Mem	\$100.00		
Total	\$1880.00	\$3501.73	-\$1721.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Operation Christmas Child of \$225, and Adopt-A-Family \$229.

Giving From 11/17/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2877.00	\$3155.58	-\$278.58
Ben	\$90.00	\$182.69	-\$92.69
Maint	\$85.00	\$163.46	-\$78.46
Mem	.00		
Total	\$3052.00	\$3501.73	-\$449.73

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15, Operation Christmas Child of \$190, and Adopt-A-Family \$165.

Worship Attendance: 84

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: Pam Bush & Jim Darr

Ushers: Ken Miller & Leonard Gary

Acolytes: Cora & Lucy Wright

Organ: Amanda Custer

Flowers on the altar given in honor of her Mother and in memory of her Father and Grandparents by Michele Romesburg

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:

Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650

Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166

Jim Darr, 814-483-0957

Consistory Deacons:

Pam Bush, Leanna Coughenour, Tom Croner (President) 814-

442-6740, Amanda Custer, Jean Hart, Gale Hay, Bill Landis,

Julie Petro, Ann Slifco

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

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

December 1	Jay Shaffer
December 8	Steve Dinning
December 15	Dave Creamer
December 22	Dave Creamer
December 24	Dave Creamer
December 29	Dave Creamer

Bolded dates indicate “Communion” Sundays.

Sunday School

How do you approach prayer? Do you worry you are not doing it “correctly”? Do you see it as an obligation to check-off a to-do list? Do you think of it as a last resort – a kind of supernatural SOS when you need help? In this Pray First video Bible Study, Pastor Chris Hodges shares proven ways to help you spend time in

conversation with God – and enjoy every minute of it. Pray First is a 6-part revolutionary study for anyone who wants to experience a dynamic, intimate prayer life with God, that begins on October 27th in the Fellowship Hall at 10:10 following worship service. Questions about this class may be directed to Sue Coughenour.

Sunday, December 15th- Church Christmas Play “Joy Story”

Any youth interested in participating, please contact Jean Hart at 814-267-5667 ASAP. We need you! Even if just a small part or to play the Rainbow Bells and if interested please contact Amanda Custer at 814-483-4283. We are planning on practicing during church (9-10 AM) November 10, 17, 24 and December 8. Everyone is welcome!

Escaping Egypt - Youth Rally at Camp Living Waters Friday, December 6, 2024 - Sunday, December 8, 2024 where you will try to help the Israelites escape. Cost for the weekend is \$25. If interested, please contact the church office for more information.

Glade One-Room Schoolhouse Historic Christmas Tours

Sunday, December 15th, 6:30 pm, 7:15 pm and 8:00 pm. Parking at Unity UCC, 2074 Huckleberry Hwy, Berlin. Parking will also be available by the schoolhouse for those who need easier access.

Bring the whole family to experience Christmas that would have been celebrated in the early 1900's hosted by the Berlin Area Historical Society! Unity UCC will have some time period activities with refreshments in the social hall between tour times. You will walk with a guide from the church to the one-room schoolhouse at the times designated above to immerse yourself in a Christmas celebration from the past with a real decorated tree, caroling, and traditions that would have taken place! There will be a fire started in the schoolhouse in the potbelly stove but be sure to dress for the weather. No registration is required for this free event! Take a step back in time and appreciate the history of this building while learning about old Christmas traditions.

Children and teens of all ages are needed to help with tours, refreshments, activities and more. Contact Dave Creamer if you are interested in helping.

Contact Leanne Calvert 814-341-0589 or Tine Hillegass 814-442-3094 with questions.

Adopt-A-Family

We will be taking up a special collection during the month of November for our Adopt-A-Family Christmas project. We have been helping local families for over a decade by supporting them with essential gifts and food for the holiday season. If you would be interested in supporting this project, please make your donations to the church marking "Adopt-A-Family" on your offering envelopes. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Petro (814) 442-5124. Thanks.

Congregational Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held December 1st. The agenda will include minutes from our previous meeting, budget, election of new consistory members and old/new business.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2025 will be available for pickup during Sunday Services on November 24, December 1 & 8. All remaining boxes will be mailed by the end of the year. Please help us cut postage costs by picking up your boxes or making arrangements for them to be picked up.

Christmas Flower Orders

We are rapidly approaching the cut off for your Christmas Poinsettia orders.....Thursday of this week!! Please complete your forms at the back of the church or contact the office Tuesday through Thursday of this coming week. Be sure to use the form dated 2024.

Christmas Decorating:

It's beginning to look like Christmas....everywhere you go in the church!!!!!!! Thank you, Ann Slifco and her mighty elves Nancy Bittner, Jean Ann Darr, Carol Tataleba, Jeanne Hilligas and

Chris King for providing a holiday atmosphere to behold. Thank you, Jim Darr, for coordination of our beloved giant Christmas Tree and to everyone who so willingly helped. We are all so, so, so, very grateful to you all.

For those who attend Sunday School following the Congregational Meeting, we will be having Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 1st during the class time. This will include a covered-dish brunch, with signup sheets at both entrances. We hope all the youth and children will come help decorate the Fellowship Hall for the Christmas season. This is always a fun event as the children love seeing all the memorable decorations made and donated over the years.

December 8th- Bethlehem Experience 2-4PM (walking tour) and 5:30-8PM (drive through tour) located in the Block Party Lot by the Firehall. Some of our own youth and church members will be performing so come and show your Christian community support!

Thank You from The Bethlehem Experience

Dear Trinity UCC,

Thank you for your generous donation. We are diligently working on finalizing the sets, actors and costumes. December 8th will be here before you know it! Thank you again, we do so appreciate it.

December 14th- 5:00 PM Dress rehearsal for the children's church Christmas play. Subway subs provided, bring snack/drink or dessert to share and rehearsal will be after we eat.

December 15th- Christmas play "Joy Story" during church at 9:00 AM- if still interested in participating we are practicing during Sunday School- come join us!

Operation Christmas Child

It is with pride that we inform you that YOU outdid yourselves once again for a wonderful cause! We beat our record from last year and Renee delivered **178 shoeboxes** on Tuesday night to the Brethren Church which is the local drop off point this year! You will put smiles on 178 children's faces all over the world this Christmas! God Bless you all.

Birthright Christmas Tree

Once again, we will be sponsoring the Birthright Christmas Tree. It will be located in Fellowship Hall. Please take a moment to look at it and see if there is some way you can help those in need.

Laurel Highlands Chorale - 'Tis The Season!

The concert will be held at the Somerset Church of the Brethren, Berlin Plank Rd, on **Sunday, December 8th at 3:30 pm** and **Monday, December 9th at 7:00 pm**. Tickets are only \$5.00 and will be available at the door, or from any chorale member. Please contact Dorene Friedline at 814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460 for tickets or more information. We look forward to seeing you there!! We promise it will be a flurry of fun, favorite Christmas songs.

Hurricane Donations

The Berlin Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are seeking nonperishable food donations for holiday dinners and very gently used or brand-new toys for Christmas gifts for Hurricane Helene victims. For just a minute, put yourself in their shoes, what would make the holidays a little brighter for you? Donations will be accepted through Sunday, December 8th. Donations can be placed in the donation box at the Vine Street entrance. Thank you.

Speaking of Hurricane Donations.....

As a result of multiple churches and communities, the Somerset First Church forwarded this letter to us.

“On behalf of Pastor Joe Harding at the Providence Methodist Church, Asheville, NC, I would like to thank you and your church families for the overwhelming response to our North Carolina donation request. On October 29, 2024, two volunteers from Somerset First Church transported an 18-foot trailer full of water, blankets, winter coats, clothing, baby formula, diapers, chain saw oil, and so much more to Asheville, NC. We will be able to bless so many families because of your generous donations. Thank you ALL for your donations, thoughts, and prayers. To God Alone Glory, David N. McCall, Pastor, First Somerset Church.”

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.



**“DON’T LET YOUR HEARTS
BE TROUBLED. TRUST IN
GOD, AND TRUST ALSO IN
ME.
JOHN 14:1 NLT**

May the Holy Spirit fill your heart with joy, peace, and endless blessings as this Pentecost season concludes and Advent begins. May He guide you on the path of righteousness and inspire you with His grace.