



***Fifth Sunday of Easter***  
***May 7, 2023***  
***Guest Speaker – Bill Deal***  
***Assisted By – Cohen Clark***

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

**Preludes**                    **O God Beyond All Praising – Anna Laura Page**  
**Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross – Jason Krug**

## **Announcements**

### **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**

Jesus said, I go and prepare a place for you, and I will come again.

**We gather in this place to know your presence and your love, now and always.**

Jesus said, I am the way, and the truth, and the light. If you know me, you know God.

**We pray to know you more deeply, that we may know God more intimately, now and always.**

Jesus said, Ask me for anything, and I will do it.

**Help us to ask for the right things, Lord Jesus Christ, that we may fulfill your will, now and always.**

Jesus said, Believe in me, and "Follow me."

**Help us to worship you fully—believing and following—now and always!**

**\*Hymn No. 66**

**To God Be the Glory**

### **Prayer of Confession:**

**Ever-gracious God, from generation to generation you call forth faithful women and men to be willing servants of truth. You fill us with strength and hope, yet we find it is often not enough. We pray both for great faith and for easy lives, but we know these things seldom exist together. We pray only to avoid the time of trial, when we need also to pray for strength and confidence to face the challenges that come with faithfulness. Forgive us, God, for our limited vision and our feeble trust. Make us strong like Stephen, so that we may**

rejoice in your unending grace even in the times of deepest suffering. In Christ we pray. Amen.

### **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Forgiveness:**

### **\*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 Dedication:**

O God, you have given us more than we can ever give back. You gave your own Son for our salvation. We have shared the abundance of your kingdom. Now we give of ourselves that we may share that abundance with others. Help us to give even as you have given to us and help us to love as you have loved us. Bless all that is given to your church today throughout this week that all nations may know your mercy and that we may truly be a royal priesthood on earth for this age. **Amen.**

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

### **Scripture:**

#### **Acts 7: 55-60**

**55** But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

**56** and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God."

**57** But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him.

**58** Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.

**59** And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

**60** And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

**Epistle:**

**1 Peter 2:2-10**

**2** Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation;

**3** for you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

**4** Come to him, to that living stone, rejected by men but in God's sight chosen and precious;

**5** and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**6** For it stands in scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and he who believes in him will not be put to shame."

**7** To you therefore who believe, he is precious, but for those who do not believe,

"The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner,"

**8** and "A stone that will make men stumble, a rock that will make them fall";

for they stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

**9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**10** Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.

**Gospel:**

**John 14:1-14**

**1** "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.

**2** In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

**3** And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

**4** And you know the way where I am going.”

**5** Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?”

**6** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.

**7** If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know him and have seen him.”

**8** Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied.”

**9** Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?

**10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

**11** Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves.

**12** “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father. **13** Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; **14** if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

**Hymn No. 404**

**Solid Rock**

**Children’s Time – Elizabeth Deal**

**Sermon**

**Guest Speaker – Bill Deal**

**\*Hymn No. 292**

**God of Grace and God of Glory**

**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**

**Trumpet Tune on  
“Good Christians, All Rejoice and Sing”  
David Laskey**

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**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, Melvin & Bonnie Baughman, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Larry Custer, Elizabeth Deal, John Durst, Art & Marlene Gotchen, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Barry Landis, Brenda

& Larry Leister, Jim Little, Larry McCullen Jim McKenzie, Bonnie Murphy, Harold Pritts, James Robb, Lois Saylor, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Peggy Stayrook, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

**Prayer and well wishes:**

Pastor Art Gotjen underwent surgery this past Tuesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. Please join us in sending him your prayers, well wishes and cards to:

Art Gotjen, 1096 Sunset Dr, Somerset, PA 15501.

Debbie Luteri fell in February and broke her arm but seems to be healing well. Please join us in sending her, your prayers, well wishes, and cards to:

Debbie Luteri, 730 Bloom St., Apt 4l, Johnstown, PA 15902

**The Saints In Action**

TODAY –Fifth Sunday in Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Hugs & Kisses Fellowship Hall Brunch

Monday – 7:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells Practice

Next Sunday – Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

**Giving From 04/30/23**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$1744.00	\$3155.58	-\$1411.58
<b>Ben</b>	\$81.00	\$182.69	-\$101.69
<b>Maint</b>	\$131.00	\$163.46	-\$32.46
<b>Mem</b>	50.00		
<b>Total</b>	\$2006.00	\$3501.73	-\$1545.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15 and Knotty Knotters of \$95. A donation was given to the Legacy Fund for the upgraded sound system. The Memorial Donation was to the Hugs & Kisses

**Important Note:** Please be sure to make donations for Knotty Knotters directly through TUCC in order to receive donation credit.

**Worship Attendance: 55**

**Sunday School: 28**

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

**Ushers:** Julie Petro, Pam Bush

**Acolytes:** Nathan Spangler

**The Flowers on the altar** in memory of our parents, Wayne & Ann Darr and JB & Betty McCullar by Jim & Jean Ann Darr

**Special Flowers** in memory of the Zimmerman Family by Allison Zimmerman

***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*

*Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166*

**Consistory Deacons:**

*Amy Clark, Julie Petro, Ann Slifco*

*Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, Tom Croner*

*Amanda Custer, 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)

**“No Sunday School Today”**

**The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule in Fellowship Hall:**

**April 23-July 9: Culture Shock:** A 12-part video series by Chip Ingram. Where do you stand on the issues of Truth, Abortion, The Environment, Sex, Homosexuality, Churches, and Politics? More importantly what does God say? More than ever before, believers must develop convictions based on research, reason, and biblical truth. It's equally important that believers are able (and willing) to communicate these convictions with the love and respect that reflects God's own heart. This study will help you to respond with love, even in the face of controversy. In the process, you'll discover the power of bringing light – not heat – to the core issues at the heart of society today. **Because there is a lot of interest in this class, we will be joining Tom Calvert's class in the Fellowship Hall and holding class there.**

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

# “Today!!!!!!”

**May 7<sup>th</sup> – Brunch after Church** – We would like to try something new after Church. Since it’s not lunch time, we would like to invite everyone to stay after Church for brunch and fellowship. There will be no Sunday School on this date. Everyone can bring food to share, and Hugs & Kisses will set things up, heat up casseroles, etc., but we need **everyone’s help** to make this a success. There will be a sign-up sheet at the entrance. Please come, eat, and fellowship with us!

## **Laurel Highlands Chorale Spring Concert**

“From Stage to Screen” will be presented at the Somerset Church of the Brethren, Berlin Plank Road on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm and Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Selections from the musical theatre stage and musical film screen will be presented. Director Jan Burkett and accompanist Rick Kimmel. Tickets are \$5.00 at the door or contact Dorene Friedline at 814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460.

## **Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.**

In the newsletter we provided a list of our upcoming leaders in worship. These are subject to change so we will let you know of any changes as they occur through the weekly bulletin.

May 7	Bill Deal
May 14	Reverend James Vander Schurr
May 21	Bill Deal
May 28	Pastor Jay Shaffer
June 4	Steve Dinning
June 11	Reverend James Vander Schurr
June 18	Bill Deal
June 25	Reverend James Vander Schurr

A huge thank you to all of our pulpit supply participants and to Tom Croner and Rus Ogburn for reaching out to these wonderful people.

**The Trinity Bells** will be playing, Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**The VFW & The American Legion Auxiliaries** are honoring the Berlin Brothersvalley Teachers, Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in donating water, soft drinks, or juice, please contact Pam Bush at 541-990-0832 or drop it off at the church office by Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank You for supporting this community cause!

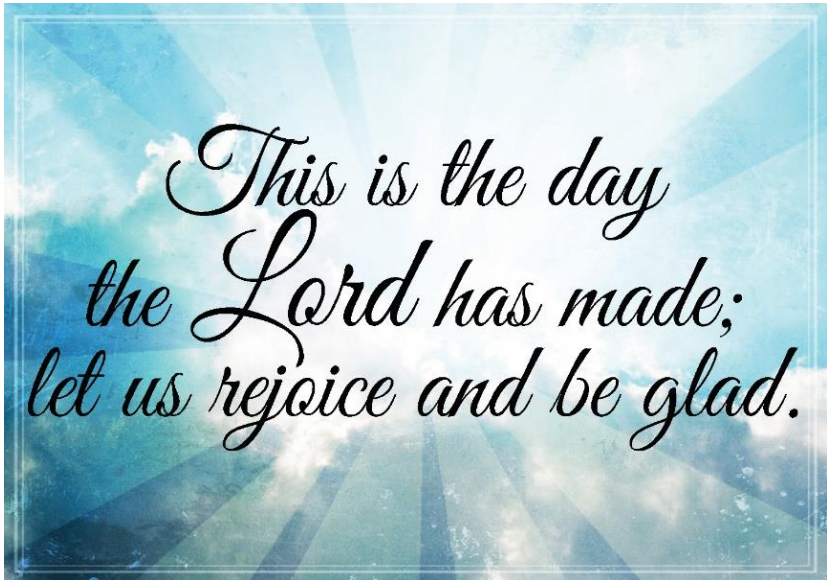
**A Special Tribute** for our active military and all living veterans has been given to us from the **Knotty Knotters**, Lutheran Church, Berlin. The Knotters will make throws for all of our active military and Veterans as a special ***“thank you for your service”*** to be given on Veterans Sunday.

Any active military or veterans that have not given their names to Sheron, please contact Sheron Engleka at 814-267-4166.

Donations are needed for the Knotty Knotters at the Lutheran Church. The Knotters supply prayer shawls, Izzy dolls, dish clothes, walker catties, chemo hats, baby hats, and throws for adults, children, babies, and veterans. In 2022 they gave away over 350 covers alone. It takes many hands to do the above work from many denominations. There are several members from our church that are very active with many hours of their time to spread the love of God to others. Any donations of money or material are used for the above projects. Please mark your donations for Knotty Knotters.

**Important Note:** Please be sure to make donations for Knotty Knotters directly through TUCC in order to receive donation credit.

## Knotty Knotters Veteran Quilts



*Have A Blessed Week Ahead*