



***Ash Wednesday***  
***Evening Service – 7:00 p.m.***  
***Guest Speaker:***  
***“Reverend James Vander Schuur”***

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

**Prelude      Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise – Mark Hayes  
Glory and Grace – Ruth Elaine Schram**

**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**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may  
have eternal life.

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.

O God the Father, creator of heaven and earth,

**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Son, redeemer of the world

**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate, and guide,

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,  
three persons and one God,

**Have mercy on us.**

**\*Hymn No. 382**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**Prayer of Confession:**

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercies, blot out our  
transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and  
cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and  
our sin is ever before us. Create in us a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from  
your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore  
to us the joy of your salvation and uphold us with a willing  
spirit.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Silent Confession:**

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give us contrite hearts. May Christ, bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal us by his wounds. May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak words of pardon and peace.

### **Scripture:**

#### **Ezekiel 36: 24-27**

**24** For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land.

**25** I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

**26** A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

**27** And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances.

#### **Joel 2: 12-13**

**12** Yet even now," says the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; **13** and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

#### **Luke 3: 2-8**

**2** in the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness;

**3** and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

**4** As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

**5** Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be brought low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

**6** and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

**7** He said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

**8** Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin 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.

### **Sermon: Guest Speaker - Rev James Vander Schuur A New Heart for A New Hope**

#### **Prayer for the Imposition of Ashes**

Gracious God,  
you created us out of the dust of the earth  
and breathed into us the breath of life.

By your hand we live and to your hands we return when all  
our days are done.

Grant that the awareness of our mortality may lead us not to  
fear, but to faith.

In our weakness teach us to look to you for strength,  
in our failures to turn to you and find forgiveness,  
and in our dying to await the gift of everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Imposition of Ashes**

**\*Hymn No: 92**

**Love Devine, All Loves Excelling**

**\*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 Holy, Holy, Holy – Anna Laura Page**

**+ + + + +**

There is no formal offering this evening. You are invited to leave a gift as you feel in the offering plates at the sanctuary entrances.

The purpose of Ash Wednesday worship is threefold: to meditate on our mortality, sinfulness, and need of a savior; to renew our commitment to daily repentance in the Lenten season and in all of life; and to remember with confidence and gratitude that Christ has conquered death and sin. Ash Wednesday worship, then, is filled with gospel truth. *It is a witness to the power and beauty of our union with Christ and to the daily dying and rising with Christ that this entails.*



**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, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Larry Custer, John Durst, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Debbie Luteri (her sisters & family) Larry McCullen, Bob Murphy, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Harold Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Greg Shaulis, Tracey Smith, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Audrey Twombly, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Audrey Twombly has requested additional prayers for Nancy Weighley as she enters a 30 day treatment program, that with your prayers and the grace of God, will elevate some of her on going illness.

***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

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers

*These Days* – Devotional

**Assisting in Worship**

**Sound:** Tom Croner (Board) Pam Bush (Camera)

**Ushers:** Leonard Gary, Julie Petro

***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)



Jesus Christ,  
We want always to remember that you love us, died for us, and  
rose from the dead for us. In the next weeks, help us to  
remember, and help us trust in you more and more.  
**Amen.**