



***Sixth Sunday of Easter***

***Holy Communion***

***May 5, 2024***

***Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer***

***Assisted by Vesper & Truitt Ogburn***

***Trinity United Church of Christ***

***600 Main Street***

***Berlin, Pennsylvania***

**Preludes**

**This Little Light of Mine – Jason Krug  
Nocturne – John Field**

**Welcome**

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

**Greeting and Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Hymn No. 1**

**“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”**

**Call to Confession**

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us

**If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us humble ourselves and confess our sins.

**Confession**

**Merciful Creator, you have given us life and have called us to worship you. Yet, we turn from you and seek to follow our own wills and desires. We confess that our daily pursuits take the energy from us and we become dry in spirit. Only you can give us new life and enthusiasm. Forgive us, O God, and come within our hearts that we might feel the embrace of your love. Teach us to live each day with joy and love as we walk with your Son, Jesus our Savior. Thank you for your love. Amen.**

**Silent Confession:**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

### **Response Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen, Amen.**

### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

### ***The Apostles' Creed***

**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.**

With Joy We Now Offer Our Gifts

### **\*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**

### **Offering Prayer**

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

## **Scripture:**

### **Acts 10: 44-48**

**44** While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.

**45** And the believers from among the circumcised who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

**46** For they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared,

**47** "Can any one forbid water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

**48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

## **Epistle**

### **1 John 5: 1-6**

**1** Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and every one who loves the parent loves the child.

**2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

**3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

**4** For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith.

**5** Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

**6** This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood.

## **Gospel**

### **John 15: 9-17**

**9** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.

**10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

**11** These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

**12** “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**13** Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

**14** You are my friends if you do what I command you.

**15** No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

**16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

**17** This I command you, to love one another.

**Hymn No. 285**

**“In Christ There Is No East or West”**

**Sermon - “What is Love?”**

**Guest Speaker – Pastor Jay Shaffer**

**Hymn No. 323**

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

### **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 to God.**

Let us give thanks to the 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.

**Holy, Holy, Holy God of Love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.  
Blessed is the one who come in the name of our God!  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Please be seated.**

We remember that on the 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 the 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**

**Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine**

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

**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 of 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 scatter, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray.**

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 284 "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Response – Sung with Dismissal**

**\*Going Forth**

**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.**

**Postlude    The Kin of Glory – Mary McDonald**

**+ + + + +**



**Those Remembered in prayer:**

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

**Shut Ins:**

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor.

**Healing Concerns:**

Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Jim Benoit, Kathy Blough,  
Mandy Bockes, Jessica Borosky, Paige Boyer,  
Father Elijah Bremer, Rhonda Brown, Ray Coleman,  
Jim Coughenour, Tammy Coughenour, Pam Crooks,  
Nancy Custer, Reon Engleka, Tory Foltz,



Nancy Gindlesperger, Cheryl Glessner,  
 Melodi Glessner, Art & Marlene Gotchen,  
 Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Michael Harris, Joy Hay (Dwayne),  
 Larry Hay, Brenda & Larry Leister, Jim Little, Joyce Miller, Bonnie  
 Murphy, Gwen Ottaviano, Carl (Edison) Paul, Kathy Picking,  
 James Robb, Brett Sarver, Tammie Saylor, Nancy Schrock,  
 Peggy Stayrook, Betty Strasser, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge,  
 Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

**Please Update**

Please let the office know of the status of anyone you have placed  
 on the Prayer List.

**The Saints In Action**

TODAY- 6th Sunday of Easter / Holy Communion  
 9:00 a.m. Worship  
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

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

Next Sunday – 7th Sunday of Easter  
 9:00 a.m. Worship  
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

**Giving From 04/28/2024**

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$2311.00	\$3155.58	-\$844.50
<b>Ben</b>	\$281.00	\$182.69	\$98.31
<b>Maint</b>	\$351.00	\$163.46	\$187.54
<b>Mem</b>	\$0.00		\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	\$2943.00	\$3501.73	-\$558.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry  
 of \$20

**Worship Attendance: 90 + 17 = 107**

**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:** Lori Gindlesperger (Board), Pam Bush (Camera)

**Ushers:** Debbie Boyer, Jean Hart

**Acolytes:** Vesper & Truitt Ogburn

**Flowers on the altar in honor** of our children, Vesper, Truitt, Callum, and Revere Ogburn by Ruston & Jenna Ogburn.

**Special flowers on the altar are 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:**

*Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650*

*Sheron Engleka, 814-267-4166*

*Jim Darr, 814-267-5260*

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

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

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

May 12 Steve Dinning  
May 19 Steve Dinning  
May 26 Peter Kaltenbaugh  
**June 2 Jay Shaffer**

**Bolded dated indicate communion.**

### **Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School will be beginning a new eight-part study on May 5th entitled "Christian, It's Not What You Think" by Andy Stanley. Throughout the study, Andy Stanley unpacks the qualities Jesus prescribed for his followers that made them unique. What if believers today embodied these traits and put them before all others? Would the non-believing world put aside its derisive definition of 'Christian' and instead know us by our love? Class begins after worship at 10:10 am in the Fellowship Hall and is led by Sue Coughenour. Everyone is welcome!

**Small Town & Rural Church Coalition** is presenting a zoom meeting May 7<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Conference office with the time being estimated at 1-1/2 hours. If you would like to attend, please contact the office so that we know how many will be attending. Refreshments will be available.

**THE ASHLAND UNIVERSITY CHOIR** will be presenting a concert in conjunction with the Berlin Brothersvalley High Band and Chorus on May 8th at 7 pm in the Berlin Brothersvalley High School Auditorium. Come for a wonderful evening of music!!

**The Laurel Highlands Choral** will present “**A Musical Montage**” as their spring concert for 2024. The concert will be held at the Somerset Church of the Brethren, Berlin-Plank Road, on **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm** and **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. Selections from various musical genre such as Patriotic, The Blues, Pop, Traditional American as well as American Folksong, and Christian Praise. Allyn and Brandon Lambert will add to the concert excitement with their instrumental talents. There will be special entertainment for the intermission music. The choral is under the direction of Jan Burkett and Rick Showers. Rick Kimmel is the accompanist. Tickets are only \$5.00 and will be available at the door, or from any choral member. Please contact Dorene Friedline at (814) 926-3610 or (814) 442-0460 for tickets or more information. Watch for details in various news releases, posters, and newspaper ads. Thank you – we look forward to seeing you there!

**The Trinity UCC Bells** will be performing, Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> during service. Come and enjoy the special music.



## **Hugs & Kisses**

As usual, this amazing group has been busy planning! Here are a couple of upcoming ideas they have shared.

Sunday School Teachers would like to make a Lego Room out of the part of the Nursery that has carpeting. There are Parables and other Bible Lessons that can be taught using Legos. If anyone has any Legos or a Lego table or Lego storage options that they would like to donate to this project- please bring them and put them in the nursery downstairs. Thank you!

Our youth are looking for a few houses of church members who could use some help with small outdoor spring cleanup projects like picking up sticks, leaves, weeding etc. If you have someone in mind, please contact Amy Clark. (Youth parents- be on the lookout for group texts as these volunteer service projects are going to be planned as they come up and weather permitting so we need anyone who can show up on a certain date/time/address to please show up to help if you can!)

In addition to this, they have plans for a “2<sup>nd</sup> annual Cornhole tournament, VBS with the Beachdale church, Faith Night for the Johnstown Mill Rats baseball team, Berlin Community Day, and a mission/service project of produce from fields to donate to the Food Pantry! Your group is truly a blessing to so many.

**Cohen Clark needs your help!** His Eagle Scout project is to renovate the Camp Living Waters playground and is in need of funds.

In order to receive credit from the church for your contribution you may include it in your offering envelope. Please make the check out to TUCC and Renee’ will see that it is sent to Camp Living Waters for the “Eagle Scout Project”. Please indicate the Eagle Scout Project in the memo line of your check or on your envelope for cash.

**When it comes to volunteering, passion and positivity are the only requirements.**

Too often, as with many organizations, it is the same people who consistently volunteer. Each and every one of you has the knowledge, skills, and abilities to offer something to our church community. We are currently working on a project behind the scenes to update our membership listing and our one call now telephone list. Those of you who have been members of Trinity UCC for many years have knowledge of things from the past...the who, what, when, and where. Once we have narrowed it down to a manageable list, we are looking for people to provide information to narrow it down to those that we might reach out to. This may involve a courtesy phone call, letter, card, or some form of communication to let these people know that they are missed. Trinity UCC of Berlin is vibrant, alive, and well despite our current situation without a Pastor. We have an amazing group of Pastors and lay people who provide an array of preaching styles and

sermons, Trinity bells continue to ring loudly, our music committee has and continues to provide a variety of worship music, Hugs & Kisses focuses on events that benefit the entire congregation, and we are blessed with a kind, caring, and loving church “Family”.

We ask that you just think about how “**YOU**” can contribute by volunteering in any area of need.

**UPMC Family Hospice**, formerly In Touch Hospice, will be holding a spring Grief Support Group beginning March 20 at our Somerset location, 314 S. Kimberly Avenue (Back Entrance of Hillman). The group is free and will run for 6 weeks. Please join us to share your feelings with others, who are grieving a loved one’s death.

**Our Annual Church Picnic** needs someone to coordinate this event, however no one has volunteered to do this. Therefore, once again Hugs & Kisses will coordinate the event scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Grove. They will be providing a list of what needs to be done in the near future, so if you could just pick “**One**” thing that you could possibly assume the responsibility for it would be a tremendous help. We currently have a volunteer to cook the chicken on the open pit at the grove which will be a special treat!!! Please contact Kathy Spangler if you could possibly help in any way. Let’s keep the tradition going!

### **Food Bank Plastic Bags**

The food bank needs plastic bags. Sue Coughenour will bring in a container marked plastic bags for those of you who would please bring them into the church! Thanks in advance.

### **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

Berlin Community Veteran’s Home Association of Berlin  
419 Meadow Street, Berlin  
Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **Tableland Services Presentation**

Beachdale Church of the Brethren  
803 Owl Hollow Road  
Berlin PA 15530  
May 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.

Tableland presentation on available services, highlighting services for Senior citizens. All are welcome!

**Baby Tory Foltz Fundraiser**

Please join Trinity United church of Christ, the churches in the area and the local community as Tucc hosts a Marianna/Delgrosso Sub & Pizza Fundraiser. If you would like to order please call Pam or Jean Ann at the Tucc office, 814-267-3234 or Pam's cell at 541-990-0832. Also note that if you aren't interested in the food end of this fundraiser you may make monetary donations. Any checks can be made out to Trinity United Church of Christ (as the coordinator), with a designation to the Tory Foltz Fundraiser. Please see the insert of your bulletin.

**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 Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.



**Our Blessings for A Wonderful Week Ahead**