



Jesus Appears

As Lamb of God

Third Sunday After
Epiphany

***3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
January 26, 2025***

Student Pastor – Dave Creamer

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

Prelude

When Morning Gilds the Skies – Anna Laura Page
Longing – Mark Hayes

Announcements

Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 19

The Love of our God revives the Soul!

O Lord our rock and redeemer!

The Word of God is sure, bringing wisdom to us all!

O Lord our rock and our redeemer!

The Guidance of our God is right, comforting our hearts.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O lord my Rock and my redeemer!

***Hymn No. 76**

O For a Thousand Tongues

Call to Confession

Whether we are scattered or gathered, close or far, when we seek forgiveness, it unites us with God. Let us join together in prayer.

Confession

Heavenly Father, our gracious redeemer, hear our prayer.

Help us not to wander from your will. Help us to return to the path you set before us. Forgive us of our sins. Bless us with your guidance. Strengthen our resolve. Keep us humble in your sight.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

No matter where we are, no matter how far away we seem to be, God hears our prayers. He forgives us when we ask. Returning to him refreshes us makes new the bond we share. For that we should always give thanks!

***The 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.**

***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. Offering to you some of what you give to us. Our time, talents, and resources, all the things that make us one body under Christ. Place these gifts where you see they are needed. We pray for your presence in a chaotic world. We ask that your will be done. Let your mercy and comfort come to the places and people that need you. We pray that your Spirit is here in our homes and with our families. We pray that your guiding light shines in our schools, places of work, and in your church. We lift up to you our prayer list. Please bring healing, rest, and comfort to those in need. Strengthen us to be your hands as we care for one another. We are grateful for your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. All these things we do is through him. We offer you the prayer he taught us to pray;

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

Scripture:

Nehemiah chapter 8, VS 1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the Lord had given to Israel.

2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.

3 And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people; and when he opened it all the people stood.

6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God; and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands; and they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

8 And they read from the book, from the law of God, clearly; and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Epistle:

First Corinthians chapter 12, VS 12-31

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

18 But as it is, God arranged the organs in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

19 If all were a single organ, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

22 On the contrary, the parts of the body which seem to be weaker are indispensable,

23 and those parts of the body which we think less honorable we invest with the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty,

24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior part,

25 that there may be no discord in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?

30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts.
And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Gospel:

Luke chapter 4, VS 14-21

14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, and a report concerning him went out through all the surrounding country.

15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read;

17 and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

19 to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

20 And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

21 And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Hymn No. 286

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

Sermon

"Just Like We Always Do – Part 1"

Dave Creamer

Hymn No. 285

In Christ There Is No East or West

***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

Festive Trumpet Tune – David German

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Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for the Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, 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, 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, Gary Hillegas,
 Cindy McCullen Janicki, 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, Steward Saylor, Nancy Schrock,
 Curt Shaulis, JoAnne Smith, Phyllis Stoy, Brooke Stutzman, Larry
 Tinkey, Robin Walker, Nancy Weighley, Rick Work,
 Allison Zimmerman, Gerald Zorn

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 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Next Sunday – 4th Sunday after Epiphany
 9:00 a.m. Worship
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 01/19/25

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$1573.00	\$2298.72	-\$725.72
Ben	\$110.00	\$240.38	-\$130.38
Maint	\$30.00	\$163.46	-\$133.46
Mem	\$80.00		\$80.00
Total	\$1793.00	\$2702.56	-\$989.56

Not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry/Souper Bowl of \$430

Worship Attendance: 49
Sunday School: 23

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 and Jim Darr (?)

Ushers: Lori Gindlesperger, Jim Walker

Acolytes: Nathan Spangler

Organ: Amanda Custer

Flowers on the altar in memory of Frank & Ruth Ream and Frank Jr. by Bill, Ann and Willie Slifco

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

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Trip to Sight and Sound

There are **2** tickets available for the show June 26th, 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, reach out on Unity UCC's Face Book, or talk to Pastor Dave (cell 814-777-2280)

Trinity Bells

There will not be bell practice for the month of January.

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 will begin on December 22nd and be led by Sue Coughenour.

The Souper Bowl Competition is underway. There will be two winners again this year, so we will have to be on our game and regain our #1 spot as we lost it last year. The four quarters of the competition will be the four Sundays in January and the two Sundays in February before the actual Super Bowl. If making

monetary donations, please mark your envelope "Souper Bowl" and make your check payable to Trinity UCC.

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.

Meals on Wheels of Somerset County needs volunteers to deliver meals in Berlin and the surrounding area on Mondays. If you would be interested and want more information, contact Meals on Wheels at 814-443-2787 or Rose Shaffer, Berlin driver coordinator, at 814-267-5310.

Hugs & Kisses – February 16th

Hugs & Kisses will be hosting a brunch after church. This will be a potluck for EVERYONE!!! There will be a sign-up sheet at the Vine Street entrance. Please come and fellowship with us! There will be no Sunday school on that date.

Christmas Un-Decorating

Sadly, our beautiful tree will be coming down soon. Please think about helping with that chore that requires just as much effort coming down as going up. We could have used more help with putting it up and as you may or may not know....it takes a small village to accomplish these tasks. We all benefit from the beauty so if you would please consider helping, it would make things a lot easier. Please think about it and contact Jim Darr, Ann Slifco, the office or any member of consistory.

Berlin Community Ladies Bible Study

Beginning February 4th at Cup of Soul. Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. For more information, please contact Gail Stolfus 814-279-4089 or Jeannette Landis 814-267-3020.

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.



**Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen**



Blessings For a Wonderful Week Ahead