



Trinity Sunday

May 26, 2024

Guest Speaker – Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh

Assisted by Lily Countryman

Trinity United Church of Christ

600 Main Street

Berlin, Pennsylvania

Preludes

Lead On, Eternal Sovereign – Hal Hopson
In Memoriam – Lani Smith

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

Call To Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Lord God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

We come before you to give you thanks and praise.

God of Abraham and of Sarah, of Joseph and of Mary,

We come before you to learn and to do your will.

God of Earth, Wind, Water, and Fire,

We come before you in wonder and in awe.

Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.

We worship and adore you.

Hymn No. 267

Come, Thou Almighty King

Call to Confession

Lord God, we bind unto ourselves today your holy and living reality. We invoke your presence in the way you have revealed yourself to us - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - Three in One and One in Three. We invoke you by the name you have given us - the strong name of the Trinity. We pray your power to hold and lead us, your eye to watch, your might to stay, your ear to hear, your wisdom to teach, your hand to guide, and your word to give us speech. Help us celebrate your love and to proclaim your majesty, your glory, and your awe - both now and evermore. Hear our prayers in silence and forgive us our sins and strengthen us to serve. Amen.

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness

Your sins are forgiven.

**I believe that God,
because of Christ's atonement,
will never hold against me
any of my sins nor my sinful nature,
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, in his grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.**

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**

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven
and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God;
Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of
Light, Very God of Very God; Begotten, not made, being of
one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven,
And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And
was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He
suffered and was buried;
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures;
And ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
the Father.
And he shall come again, with glory, To judge both the quick
and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and giver of Life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified;**

Who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one Holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; And we look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life in the world to come. 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

Almighty God, we offer our gifts in gratitude this morning – not just for what you do in our lives, but for who you are in our lives. You are with us in the person of the Father, the God above us. You come to meet us as the Son, as God beside us. You empower us to do the work of kingdom-building by the Holy Spirit, God within us, providing strength and boldness that we would never find on our own. May these gifts be tools that make the transformation of the world a reality. We pray in the name of one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Issaiah 6:1-8

1 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple.

2 Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

3 And one called to another and said:
“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

6 Then flew one of the seraphim to me, having in his hand a burning coal which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

7 And he touched my mouth, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin forgiven.”

8 And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

Romans 8:12-17

12 So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

13 for if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live.

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, “Abba! Father!”

16 it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

John 3:1-17

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him.”

3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?”

5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’

8 The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can this be?”

10 Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this?”

11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.

12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

13 No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,

15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Hymn No. 266

Holy, Holy

Sermon
“Unnatural Birth”
Guest Speaker – Pastor Peter Kaltenbaugh

Hymn No. 472

America the Beautiful

***Benediction**

May the strength of God sustain us; may the power of God preserve us; may the hands of God protect us; may the way of God direct us; may the love of God go with us this day and forever. Amen.

***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

Trumpet Tune – Gordon Young

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

Please provide the office with updated information regarding our prayer list. We would like to welcome those who have overcome their illnesses thanks to our Lord and your prayers and return to their respective church families.

The Saints In Action

TODAY- Trinity Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Next Sunday – 2nd Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 05/19/2024

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2168.00	\$3155.58	-\$987.58
Ben	\$171.00	\$182.69	-\$11.69
Maint	\$216.00	\$163.46	\$52.54
Mem	\$0.00		\$0.00
Total	\$2555.00	\$3501.73	-\$946.73

Also not included in Benevolence were Donations to Food Pantry of \$15 and Camp Living Waters/Eagle Scout Project of \$150 and Tory Foltz Fundraiser \$40

Worship Attendance: 87 + 13 Online = 100
Sunday School: 26

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

Ushers: Amy Clark, Jason Clark

Acolytes: Lily Countryman

Flowers on the altar in the loving memory of our parents and grandparents. Reon and Evelyn Engleka, Sr, Lewis and Helen Altfather, William and Martha Engleka, Stewart and Dorothy Saylor, Stewart and Rachel Saylor, Harry and Rose Schmucker.

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

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Changes to upcoming Supply Minister assignments.

June 2 **Jay Shaffer**
June 9 Dave Creamer
June 16 Dave Creamer
June 23 Bill Deal

Bolded dates indicate communion.

What is Trinity Sunday:

God the Father: Often seen as the creator and sustainer of all, the Father is the source from which everything derives.

God the Son (Jesus Christ): The Son is believed to be eternally begotten by the Father, meaning that he is generated from the Father's own being and is therefore coeternal with the Father.

God the Holy Spirit: The Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son and is their presence in the hearts and minds of believers. The Trinity is not explicitly mentioned in the New Testament, but the concept is derived from various passages that refer to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in close relationship. The doctrine was developed over several centuries as early Christians sought to understand the relationship between Jesus and God, as reflected in their scriptures and traditions.

The Trinity is often depicted symbolically in Christian art, such as the “Shield of the Trinity” or the Triquetra, which show interlocking shapes to represent the unity of the three persons.

This doctrine is crucial because it articulates how Christians experience God: as the Father who created them, as the Son who saves them, and as the Holy Spirit who lives within them. It also emphasizes that the actions of the Trinity are indivisible, meaning that each person of the Trinity is involved in all the works of God.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School started 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!

Youth Sunday School

Memorial Day Sunday will be the last youth Sunday School for the summer. We will resume in the fall, September 8th.

Hugs & Kisses

Our church will be joining the Beachdale Church of the Brethren for Vacation Bible School. It is June 17-21 from 6-8 p.m. The theme is “SCUBA-dive into friendship with God”. There is a meal and a snack provided. Amy Clark also let us know that we can carpool if necessary. Anyone interested in that should contact Amy by calling or texting her at 701-8361. If you have any questions, contact Alissa Wright.

As a reminder, **we still** need people to sign up to help with the picnic on July 28th. The sign-up sheet is at the Vine Street entrance.

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!

The "2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament" will be held on **June 23rd at 4:00 PM** in the church parking lot. H & K Youth will provide hamburgers/hot dogs and buns. ALL ages and corn hole playing abilities are welcome! Please bring a covered dish/drink and a camping chair and come join in on the fun!!!

Join us **June 30th** for Faith Night for the Johnstown Mill Rats Baseball Team at Point Stadium. Game is at **3:00 PM**, gates open at 1:00 PM for a praise band and other activities before the game. We need a group of 10+ to get the discounted rate of \$4/ticket. Anyone can attend and H&K will pay for any youth that attends. Contact Amanda Custer if interested.

Community VBS at the Grove

July 22-26 is in need of someone to handle Music, Games, Registration – both pre-registration and registration during the week at the grove. If you would be interested please contact Angie Klink at 814-442-9195. Questions may also be referred to Sheron Engleka.

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.

Calling All Graduates

We are rounding up all the names of our Trinity family high school, college, or trade school graduates! Please help by contacting the office as soon as possible.

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.

Patriot Park Foundation presents "A Memorial Ceremony in Honor of the Fallen". May 26th, 7:00 p.m. Special guest speaker Senator Devlin Robinson, Marine Corps Corporal (Retired). Music: Bellwood community choir, led by Ric Bower.

Please bring a lawn chair.

Patriot Park Memorial

6150 Lincoln Hwy, Stoystown PA (Just west of Flight 93 entrance)

In case of Rain, event will be at Camp Allegheny.

Bethlehem Experience

Planning is underway for the 5th biennial "Bethlehem Experience in Berlin PA. This year's event will be held Sunday December 8th, on the Block Party Lot in Berlin. In an effort to cut down on the waiting time, we are planning to offer a "walk through" from 200-4:00 p.m. and a "drive through" from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

How can you help?

- 1) Pray that the people coming to the event experience Jesus and pray for favorable weather.
- 2) Donate funds to purchase supplies for building sets; pay for rental of sound/lighting systems.
- 3) Volunteer to help with making the sets, costumes, painting, etc.
- 4) Volunteer to serve as actors – we will need approximately 40 volunteers.
- 5) Volunteer to help with set up and tear down December 7-8

If you are able to donate, please make check payable to:

Bethlehem Experience, 500 South St., Berlin PA 15530

If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact one of the following:

Joanne Stoltzfus – 814-233-5905

Cheryl Hay – 814-267-5642

Angie Klink – 814-442-9195

Jeanette Landis – 814-267-3020

April Logue – 814-267-5072

Lorrie Shaw – 814-521-8852

Unity UCC Spaghetti Dinner and Painting Party Fundraisers

Emma Carter is a member of Unity who visited Tecat, Mexico last May as a missionary. She now has the opportunity to join Mission Discovery as an intern and plans to serve in different communities around the world and in the United States. Her current plan is to serve in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Tennessee, and West Virginia. That being said, Unity is having the following fundraisers:

Spaghetti Dinner, Sunday June 2, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Unity UCC Social Hall, 2074 Huckleberry Hwy, Berlin PA

Free Will Offering, Cash or Check made out to:

Unity UCC, (with Emma Carter in memo line)

Dinner includes Spaghetti, Roll, Salad, and Dessert

Eat In or Take Out

Community Painting Party, Friday, June 7, 2024, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

UCC Social Hall

Cost: \$35 per project (Money Due to Reserve Your Spot/Design)

To reserve contact Sandy Seifert 814-279-5811

Deadline to pay & Choose Project is May 30th.

Again, all proceeds will benefit Emma Carter's Mission Internship

Bring a snack to share with the group! Drinks will be provided.

Project to be painted are provided by Etch'd N Beyond.

Boy Scout Chicken BBQ

Berlin Boy Scouts will have their traditional Memorial Day chicken BBQ at the Community Grove on Monday, May 27, 2024, from 11:00 – 1:00. Complete chicken dinners or halves only will be available for eat in or carry out. Your support is appreciated.

J B Schrock Community Park 2024 Summer Food Program

The J B Schrock Community Park [500 South St., Berlin] will be hosting a free summer lunch program through the Pittsburgh Food Bank. This program is open to all children, ages 2-18, in the Berlin Brothersvalley School District; no paperwork or income guidelines are required.

"Grab-and-Go" lunches will be available June 10-August 16, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 11:30 am-12:30 pm.

Come to visit the playground & stay for lunch! Each lunch will include enough food for 2-3 days.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO PICK UP MEALS AND HELP TO DISTRIBUTE THEM!!

Required volunteer meeting at the Playground [500 South St., Berlin] on Thursday, May 30th from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

NEW COORDINATOR: KRISTI TATALEBA - call/text 814-701-1971

Baby Tory Foltz Fundraiser

Please join Trinity United church of Christ, the churches in the area and the local community as TUCG hosts a Marianna/Delgrosso Sub & Pizza Fundraiser. If you would like to order please call Pam or Jean Ann at the TUCG office, 814-267-3234 or Pam's cell at 541-990-0832. Also note that if you aren't interested in the food portion 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 remember the cut off is this Thursday, May 30th

It is more important than ever that we continue to support the family through our joint fundraiser and prayers.

Please don't hesitate to contact Pam if you have any questions. Blessings to you all.

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.

A banner for Memorial Day featuring a waving American flag in the foreground. The background is a bright blue sky with a sunburst effect and a few white clouds. The text "MEMORIAL DAY" is written in a large, white, serif font at the top, with "REMEMBER AND HONOR" in a smaller, white, serif font below it, separated by a thin white horizontal line.

MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

Dear Lord,

Today our hearts remember those who have fallen. Though we may not know every name and face, we know that You know every one of them and the ultimate sacrifice that they made on behalf of their country. They gave their own lives. On this day, we ask that You remind us of the great cost they paid and the privileges that they have afforded us.

We think of the family members and friends of those who have lost their lives, and the grief that they continue to deal with. We ask that You surround them with Your comforting arms and bring them peace today. May they come to know the hope that is in Christ, of whom Scripture says that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend. And Christ has victory over death.

Help us not to take the freedom that we have for granted, and to use it to further Your kingdom. Be with those who mourn the loss of their loved one. Strengthen those who continue to serve today. And grant us hearts that are filled with great gratitude for what they have given, knowing it was not in vain.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Our Blessing For A Wonderful Week Ahead!