



***Transfiguration Sunday
February 19, 2023
Guest Speaker – Josh Spangler***

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

Prelude

Detroit – Wilbur Held
Blessed Assurance – Mark Hayes

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

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Holy One.

The Holy One is high on the mountain and exalted among the people.

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Mighty One.

The Mighty God is sovereign, loves justice, and establishes equity..

Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Everlasting God.

The Everlasting God hears our cries and answers our call.

Praise our God!

*Hymn No. 554

I'll Fly Away

Call To Confession

Righteous God, we find ourselves wanting to retreat from the harsh realities of life. We can find ourselves lifted to high places and forget those we have left behind. Our concern for our neighbor too often dissipates at the point of our discomfort. Forgive us for wanting to dwell in your presence without being transformed with new energy for the work of your ministry. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Just as Jesus gifted his disciples with a moment of respite and awe, it is good for us to transcend movements in the presence of God. When we too often choose to linger there rather than enter into hard or even mundane places, God does not condemn

us. With grace and compassion, Jesus encourages us in the direction we should go.

Scripture:

Exodus 24:12-18

12 The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tables of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.”

13 So Moses rose with his servant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

14 And he said to the elders, “Tarry here for us, until we come to you again; and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a cause, let him go to them.”

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

18 And Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Psalter

Psalm 2

1 Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?

**2 The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,**

3 “Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us.”

**4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD has them in derision.**

5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

**6 “I have set my king
on Zion, my holy hill.”**

7 I will tell of the decree of the LORD:

He said to me, "You are my son,
today I have begotten you.

**8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.**

9 You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

**10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

11 Serve the LORD with fear,
with trembling

**12 kiss his feet,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

1 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother and led them up a high mountain apart.

2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light.

3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

4 And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

5 He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe.

7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear."

8 And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

9 And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

Hymn No. 297

I Love to Tell the Story

**Sermon
“Thin Places”
Guest Speaker – Josh Spangler**

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostle’s 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**

The Lord’s Prayer (using debts and debtors)

***Hymn No. 499**

Sunshine in My Soul

***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

**When in Our Music God Is Glorified
Mark Hayes**

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Dates to Remember:

**Ash Wednesday – February 22, 2023
Maundy Thursday – April 6, 2023
Good Friday – April 7, 2023
Easter – April 9, 2023**



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

Prayer List Update

Once again, we are in need of your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

One Call Now Prayer List

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends, and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.

Giving From 02/05/23

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2351.00	\$3155.58	-\$804.58
Ben	\$305.00	\$182.69	\$122.31
Maint	\$115.00	\$163.46	-\$48.46
Mem	.00		
Total	\$2771.00	\$3501.73	-\$730.73

Worship Attendance: 68

Sunday School: 20

The Saints In Action

TODAY – Transformation Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 Sunday School

Tuesday: Shrove's Tuesday Unity UCC

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Next Sunday – First Sunday in Lent – Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

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), Russ Hillegas (Camera)

Ushers: Ken Miller, Carl Brick

Acolytes: Maelyn Fochtman, Cora Wright

The Flowers on the altar in honor of the children of our congregation by Bob & Colleen Glotfelty

Special Flower Baskets on the altar in honor of our son, Colby Custer's 43rd birthday on the 21st and in memory and celebration of Lucas Hayman's 22nd birthday on the 24th by Larry & Pam Custer.

Special Flower Basket on the altar in recognition of the 3rd anniversary of Pam Bush joining Trinity United Church of Christ as our Secretary and her dedication and the services she provides to the Congregation.

Bulletin Dedication in recognition of the 3rd anniversary of Pam Bush joint Trinity United Church of Christ as our Secretary.

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

Website: www.berlinucc.org

The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule:

February 19-March 26: You Make Me Crazy: Surviving Relationships God's Way:

A crazy-maker can really make life difficult. This six-week video-based study from Pastor Warren will help bring sanity to your relationships so you can do more than just coexist. Learn how to connect with the crazy-makers in your life; whether a spouse, sibling, parent, co-workers, or someone else.

April 2 & 9: **A Look at Easter** – A short Bible study to focus in on the wonder of Easter.

April 16: **No class** as Sue Coughenour will be away. We invite you to join Tom Calvert's class this week.

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.

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

Croner Educational Fund

Trinity United Church of Christ established the Education Fund in memory of Joseph and Erma Croner with Earl D Croner and Richard F Croner as donors. First priority for the money from the Fund shall be to members of the church who are students for the Christian ministry. Second priority shall be for college students who are members of the church and have a financial need. Applications for the Croner Educational Fund Scholarship will be accepted from January 1 – March 31, 2023. A transcript of applicant/student grades is to be included with the application. Applications can be obtained at the church office.

Holy Trinity Lutheran will hold mid-week Lenten services 3/1 through 3/29/2023 at 7:00 PM.

We will be presenting the five-part Lenten Drama "They Followed the Master".

We welcome the community to join us.

Ash Wednesday

Just a reminder that there will be an "**ASH WEDNESDAY**" service February 22, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Good Friday Combined Service

We have been invited to join the Brethren Church, Three Seasons Church, and the Lutheran Church in a combined service at the Lutheran Church, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. We will have members

participating in the service and would like to have good representation of Trinity UCC. Stay tuned!

Greeter Committee

Now that Bob Brown has completed the Usher List (thank you for those willing to participate), we would like to begin a “Greeter” list once again. If you are interested in coordinating this list or participating, please let us know. You may contact any Consistory member, Bob Brown, or the church office.

Please join us for an Easter Egg Hunt



Attention Youth – Fun Ahead!!

On March 26th, we would like to play Rainbow Bells during church and after church that day we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt with prizes! We will need to practice a few times which will just be during Sunday School (after church around 10:00 in the basement) on March 12th and March 19th. Please plan on joining us so that we have enough kids to play bells. Any questions- see Amanda Custer.

Trinity Trumpet

It's that time....Trinity Trumpet Newsletter is underway. Please let the office know if you have items that you would like to provide for March and April as soon as possible. We want to share your information with our entire congregation. We go to print this next week.

Prayer and well wishes for Pastor Art Gotjen

Pastor Art has recently undergone some surgery and will be unavailable for the next couple of months. Please join us in sending him your prayers, well wishes and cards to:
Art Gotjen, 1096 Sunset Dr., Somerset PA 15501

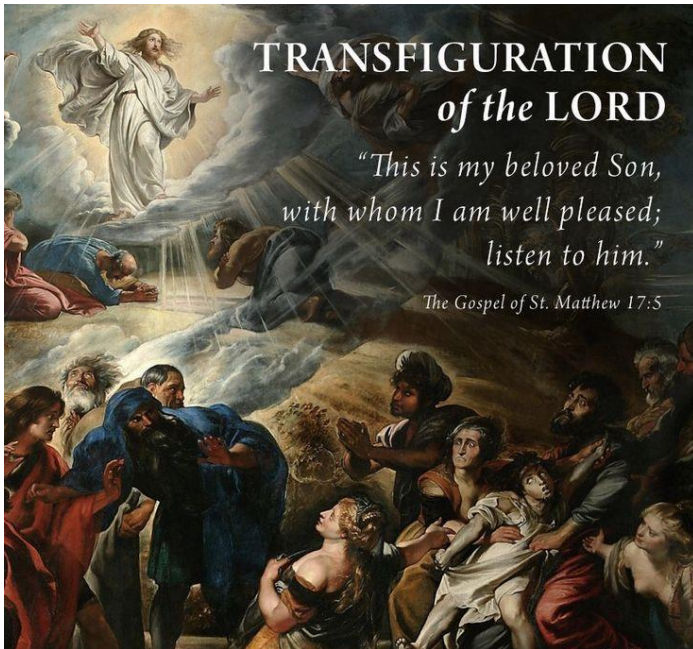
The Gotjens have asked that you know how much your cards, thoughts and prayers are appreciated. Pastor Art will be visiting a specialist in March, so we ask that you keep him in prayer.

Audrey Twombly has asked that we share her appreciation for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and calls during her recent illness.

An Invitation to “Shrove Tuesday” THIS TUESDAY!!!!

You have all been invited by Pastor Jay to Unity United Church of Christ’s Shrove Tuesday February 21st from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. All you can eat pancakes and sausage!!! Everyone welcome.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, 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.



Have a blessed week ahead!