

Trinity United Church of Christ
CHRISTMAS EVE



December 24, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.

BROADCAST ON FB LIVE STREAMING

The congregation will speak in unison those portions which are **bolded on the screen.**

WE GATHER

*During this CHRISTMAS EVE worship, we encourage you to know and to remember that this is a **Quiet Meditative Space**, that this is a **Safe and Loving Place**, a **Sanctuary**, for worship, praise and reflection; and to remember that **'No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You are Welcome Here!***

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming" (Pat Hanberry)

Hymn "O Come, all You Faithful" (sung by TUCC Choir,
Directed by Cammeron Williams, Director of Music

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O
come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels!

(Refrain) O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heavenly love:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest"; **(Refrain)**

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be the glory giv'n;
Word of our God, Now in flesh appearing, **(Refrain)**

Bring in the Light (Jackie Nave)

Placing the Baby Jesus in the Manger (Livi Saunders)

Call to Worship (Jackie Nave)

Leader: Like the shepherds, we come to the stable, uncertain of
what we have heard and seen,

Others: longing to hear a word of GOOD NEWS!

Leader: Like the wise ones, we have journeys to make, gifts to
offer, and hope in our hearts,

**Others: that this world can change for the better, that the
GOOD NEWS we find tonight will make our lives hopeful.**

Leader: Here, in the stillness of a winter's night, we gather to
share the light of Christ, a light that shines in the nightfall.

**Others: We gather in the wonder of this night
to share our joy and GOOD NEWS for new life.**

Lighting of the Four Advent Candles (Jackie Nave)

Liturgist: We light these candles as visible signs that there is some good news tonight.

ALL: As this season of “sparkle and bright” unfolds before us, the glimmering promises of HOPE lie like boxed jewels awaiting an adoring light.

Liturgist: May we hold fast to hope’s patient possibilities. Let us light the Candle of HOPE.

Liturgist: As this season of “sparkle and bright” unfolds around us, the beauty of LOVE is found, woven into the simplicity of every moment.

ALL: May LOVE flow from our hearts with abundance filling every moment with the season’s gifts of hope and peace and joy.

Liturgist: Let us light the Candle of LOVE.

ALL: The transforming wonders of JOY await discovery like shimmering sugar crystals on a favorite treat.

Liturgist: May we create JOY in all our surroundings as we share gifts, meals, and simple pleasures with family and friends. Let us light the Candle of JOY.

Liturgist: The silent prayers of PEACE lie like stars hidden in a clouded night.

ALL: May this peace touch our lives in every place of stress, frustration, or fear that we might feel the presence of Christ’s Peace easing our hearts and transforming our lives.

Liturgist: Let us light the Candle of PEACE.

Prayer of Renewal (Pastor Gerry)

Dear God, troubled and confused in a confusing, troubled world, we try to make sense of the conflicting voices we hear. We search to find the words that make sense, that encourage us, that give us courage, that give us hope out of the good news of this night. Come near, Lord. Touch our hearts and souls; enfold your life around ours; speak that one powerful, unifying word: courage! Speak to us, Still-Speaking God, speak

through us and in us that the world will know You, your hope, your peace, and your joy this day. Amen.

Scripture The Prophecy: Isaiah 9:2-7 (Pastor Gerry)

The Annunciation: Luke 1:26-38 (Lane Saunders)

WE ENGAGE WITH THE CHILDREN

Scripture The Birth: Luke 2:1-7 (Laci Saunders)

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (TUCC Choir)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light,
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above;
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of
wondering love.

O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So, God imparts to human hearts the wonders of the
heavens.

No ear may hear his coming but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ
enters in.

Scripture The Birth Story Continued: Luke 2:8-14
(Pat Hanberry)

Scripture The Child: Luke 2:15-20 (Lily Saunders)

**Choir Anthem: “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s
“Messiah” – sung by Morgan State Virtual Choir**

Christmas Meditation

“The Good News Gift That Keeps On Giving”

Pastor Hanberry

Lighting the Christ Candle (Jackie Nave)

Leader: In hope Christ comes.

People: In truth Christ is born.

Leader: In light Christ is shown.

People: In love Christ is given.

Leader: In time Christ is made known.

People: In grace Christ is revealed.

Leader: In justice Christ is birthed.

People: In joy, in the Wonder of Christmas, Christ is received as a gift from the very heart of God.

Leader: The time of waiting is over.

People: God’s promise has been made real.

Leader: During Advent we lit four candles:

People: candles of hope, peace, love, and Joy!

Leader: Tonight we light just one candle – the Christ Candle.

People: This candle represents Jesus Christ, who has come to bring God’s love to all people. Amen!

Invitation to Offering

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication+

Candle lighting – Singing of “Silent Night” (TUCC Choir)

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,

Round yon virgin mother and child,

holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia!'
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, child of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth; Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

WE GO FORTH

Benediction

Hymn: “Joy to the World” (YouTube)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding Joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders of his love.

**See the next page for notice/link/invite to Zoom
Social Gathering following this Service...
at 7:30 pm.**

Join us on Zoom after the worship service for a time of Christmas Eve Fellowship (at about 7:30 p.m.)

Depending on the number who gather we might go into smaller break out rooms.

Use this link to sign in to the Zoom Gathering

Topic: Christmas Eve Social Gathering

Time: Dec 24, 2020 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94791463323?pwd=TW0rU2xQTjZLSWJHNElWQi9Lcnc0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 947 9146 3323

Passcode: 180415

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,94791463323#,,,,,0#,,180415# US (Washington D.C)

+16468769923,,94791463323#,,,,,0#,,180415# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 947 9146 3323

Passcode: 180415

Find your local number:

<https://zoom.us/u/atpnPShWp>

Worship Resources: Written or adapted from various sources by Pastor Hanberry

Worship Leadership

Gerry C. Hanberry

Cammeron Williams

Pat Hanberry

Jackie Nave

Lane Saunders

Laci Saunders

Lily Saunders

Pat Hanberry

Livi Saunders

Karen Haines

Ashby Haines

MB Brainerd

Marge Bailey

Oluseyi Ogunsua

Interim Pastor

Director of Music

Musician

Lay Readers

Places Baby Jesus in Manger

Cameral Operator

Production Director

TUCC Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Today

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God.

Worship Trinity UCC for Next Week

Dec. 27 – Worship by Zoom

Dec. 28 – Pastoral Search Committee @ 7 p m

Contacting the Pastor and the Church Office

To reach Pastor Gerry in an emergency, please call him at 301-788-6546 (cell).

For non-emergencies, please call the church (410) 374-2727.

Please notify church of any hospitalizations in the congregation.

Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information

Interim Pastor—the Rev. Dr. Gerry Hanberry
Cell: 301-788-6546 (preferred phone for the pastor)
E-mail: pastortucc@comcast.net

Church Office 410-374-2727
Church e-mail – trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net
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Facebook – www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

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E-mail: cammeron.williams86@gmail.com

Consistory President – Robert Miller
Vice President – Doug Rhoten
Secretary – Karen Haines
Treasurer – Sue Myers
Assistant Treasurer – Debra Miller

