



**Trinity United Church of Christ**  
**2nd Sunday After Christmas**  
**January 3, 2021 – 10:45 a.m.**

Theme: "The Other Birth Story – The Future"

The Mission of Trinity United Church of Christ: ***We exist to Love people where they are and encourage them to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.***

**TODAY:** If you're doing your worship in a quiet personal setting with this bulletin, then let's worship on as the people of God on the 2nd Sunday after Christmas. Welcome to This "at home" personal worship bulletin. Maybe, you'd like to light a candle as you worship with this bulletin...especially if you have gathered your family with you.

**ZOOM Link for morning worship at Trinity UCC:**  
**10:30 a.m. for informal gathering**  
**10:45 a.m. Worship begins**

**Topic: Sunday Morning Worship -- Trinity UCC, Manchester, MD**  
**Time: Jan 3, 2021 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Every week on Sun, until Feb 14, 2021, 7 occurrence(s)**

**Jan 3, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Jan 10, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Jan 17, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Jan 24, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Jan 31, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Feb 7, 2021 10:30 AM**  
**Feb 14, 2021 10:30 AM**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://zoom.us/j/92339690142?pwd=ZnE2U1owUUZWQkVjTG41UWZ1QjRnZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 923 3969 0142**

**Passcode: 331819**

**One tap mobile**

**+13017158592,,92339690142#,,,,\*331819# US**

**(Washington D.C)**

**+13126266799,,92339690142#,,,,\*331819# US**

**(Chicago)**

**Dial by your location**

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

**Meeting ID: 923 3969 0142**

**Passcode: 331819**

**Find your local number:**

**<https://zoom.us/j/92339690142?pwd=ZnE2U1owUUZWQkVjTG41UWZ1QjRnZz09>**

## WE GATHER

*During this worship, we encourage you to know and to remember that you have created 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      Pastor Hanberry

Gathering Music “Go Tell It on The Mountain”

<https://youtu.be/3rugkxWo6Ek>

TUCC Choir, directed by Cammeron Williams

Call to Worship

Robert Miller

Leader: When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,

**ALL: God is there.**

Leader: When they present Jesus at the temple,

**ALL: God is there.**

Leader: When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,

**ALL: God is there.**

Leader: When Anna recognizes Jesus as the answer to prayer,

**ALL: God is there.**

Leader: This very morning,

**ALL: God is here.**

Leader: In the future we cannot see,

**ALL: God is there.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

Hymn: “O Come O Come Emmanuel”

<https://youtu.be/ikEtkfRSUsU>

Cammeron Williams, Director of Music

Prayer of Renewal (in Unison)

**All: Holy God, we know that you have been present to us throughout all of history, even throughout our own**

histories. We know you will be with us in our future. Yet often we don’t live as if we know that. As Eli recognizes that Jesus is calling Samuel in the Night, we recognize in Jesus’ Way our own wholeness and health, yet we often fail to open our eyes to the message of the dark, much less we fail to follow.

As Anna recognized in Jesus the redemption of her people, we recognize in Jesus God’s saving grace for us, yet we often fail to rejoice and to share this good news.

**All: Forgive us, make us wise and joyful and strong so that we live in the understanding of your never-ending love. Amen.**

## WE ENGAGE WITH THE CHILDREN

You know the names of our children. Indeed, I SEE YOU: Adriana and Mason Alex, Elijah, Gavin and Lexi, Lane, Laci, Lily, Livi, O’Neil & Nathan, Fynn & Benjamin & Nick and Elizabeth. As well as Sam and Jasmine, children of Cammeron Williams. who would normally gather with Pastor Gerry for a time of conversation. Stop and think of each one of them and smile and find delight in them.

## WE PROCLAIM

**Scripture Readings:** Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:10-18 (“and the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory...”)

**Continuing Text:** *“TO COME HOME TO YOURSELF May all that is unforgiven in you Be released. May your fears yield Their deepest tranquilities. May all that is un-lived in you Blossom into a future Graced with love.”*

— John O’Donohue, To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Invocations and Blessings

**Sermon:** “The Future” Pastor Hanberry

**Special Music** “He Reigns” by Kevin Levar

<https://youtu.be/izOCh-YG8Q0>

sung by the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir

## Joys and Concerns

### Brief Order of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

As Communion is served please before worship gather pieces of bread and something to drink (whatever you have, juice, lemonade, etc.) and place it near you before our service begins.

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer and Prayer of Our Savior

**Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Blessing the Consecrated Bread and Pouring the Cup

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Ordination or an Elder and the Installation of Elders and Deacons

#### Affirmation of Ministry

**Pastor:** Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its

members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the world.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

**People: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.**

**Pastor:** There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

**People: The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.**

#### Laying on of Hands

**Pastor:** The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God’s call to ministry in the lives of faithful people and asks the Holy Spirit to confer upon them the gifts of ministry.

All assembled leaders will symbolically place their hands on **MB Brainerd** who is being ordained as Elder.

**Pastor: MB,** you have come forward as a sign of your acceptance of this call to church leadership as Elder. Your presence signifies a readiness on behalf of this church to recognize your service to this church.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for the ministry of Elder in Christ’s church and equip you with everything good to do God’s will. Receive authority to execute the office of Elder in the name of Christ.

**People: Amen.**

#### Covenant

**Pastor: (MariBeth Brainerd, Leslie Brooks, Karen Haines, Belva LaMotte (re-elected), Debra Miller, Robert Miller, Sue Myers, Doug Rhoten)** It is an honor to be entrusted with

responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered. Having duly considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve, with the help of God, in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

**Deacons and Elders: I am.**

**Pastor:** Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

**Deacons and Elders: I do, relying on God's grace.**

**Pastor:** Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our leaders. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

**Congregational Response: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you, that together we may be faithful to our call as Christ's church.**

### **Commission and Blessing**

**Pastor:** Let your lives testify to the goodness of God. Give God glory and majesty and power.

**All: We are witnesses from this beloved community. May we all respond to God's call to embrace others in Christ's name. Amen.**

### **Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory:** *Please remember to send in your offering by mail, or give to our on-line giving button on the website <https://www.trinityuccmanchester.org>.*

### **Doxology as a Reading**

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**

### **WE GO FORTH**

### **Gratitude Prayer**

### **Benediction**

**Worship Notes and Resources:** The liturgy for today is adapted by Pastor Hanberry from various sources of Progressive Church liturgy materials.

The music in our worship today is reproduced via our CCLI License number: 2809801

### **Worship Leadership**

Gerry C. Hanberry  
Cammeron Williams  
Robert Miller  
Pat Hanberry  
MB Brainerd  
Deb Persinger  
Sandy Sanders

Interim Pastor  
Director of Music  
Lay Reader  
Zoom Associate  
Worship Committee

### **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

FOR AS LONG AS WE ARE NOT MEETING IN THE CHURCH FACILITIES, WE WILL GIVE YOU NEWS (normally posted in our monthly Newsletter) IN THIS EXTENDED SECTION OF THE BULLETIN...(for the time being we will not publish a regular monthly newsletter).

### **Budget Information:**

Amount needed from all sources each week to meet our budget: \$2,436.00.

Giving for last week: General: \$1,955.00

Building Fund: \$560.00                      Attendance: 26 by zoom

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

Prayers are needed for our country at this difficult time and all those in need.

### **Submission Dates for Bulletins/Newsletter**

Sunday Worship bulletin and Weekly Newsletter – Wednesday

### **Meeting Dates Zoom**

Pastoral Search Committee – Mon. January 4 @ 7 pm

Consistory – Mon. January 6 @ 7 pm

Choir – Thurs., January 7 @ 7 pm location/format TBA

Bible Study – Book of Acts – Wed. January 13 @ 7pm

Racial Justice Group – Mon. January 18 @ 7 pm

### **Worship at Trinity UCC via ZOOM.com for the Next TWO Weeks:**

#### **January 10, 2021 – The Baptism of Christ**

**Theme:** “Being the Church in Transition”

**Scriptures:** Acts 19:1-7 & Mark 1:4-11

**Sermon:** “Being the Church – Baptism: Where it All Begins”

#### **January 17, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**

**“Come and See – Seeing in the Dark”**

**Theme:** “Who’s Afraid of the Dark?”

**Scriptures:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10 & John 1:43-51

**Sermon:** “I Am...Afraid of the Dark”

## **The Season of Epiphany – 2021**

### **“Come and See: Seeing in the Dark”**

A Five-Sunday Sermon Series about Living In Dark Days and Nights of Our Lives

#### **Overview:**

For some people today, even those who profess Christ and seek to follow Jesus, the ‘Dark’ is an enemy, an ever-challenging space to encounter.

The profound, encouraging, and challenging words of the Psalmist in Psalms 139:12

*(“...even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright*

*as the day, for darkness is as light to you.”)*

can both invite us to open ourselves to god’s light when we are afraid in the dark and ‘smack’ us gently to awaken our spiritual gifts and resources that allow us to see God’s ‘safety-net’ in the night.

This five-sermon series will challenge and inspire us to “Come and See God;” to allow God to soothe our fears in the darkness; and to discover how the light can add brilliance and vitality to our lives.-- Pastor Gerry Hanberry

#### **January 17, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**

**“Come and See – Seeing in the Dark”**

**Theme:** “Who’s Afraid of the Dark?”

**Scriptures:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10 & John 1:43-51

**Sermon:** “I Am...Afraid of the Dark”

#### **January 24, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**

**“Come and See – Seeing in the Dark”**

**Theme:** The Fear of the Lord

**Scriptures:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10 & Mark 1:14-20

**Sermon:** “We Really Don’t Fear the Lord; It’s More Like Honoring God”

**January 31, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**  
**"Come and See – Seeing in the Dark"**

Theme: The Emotions of the Night

Scriptures: Mark 1:21-28 (The Man with an Unclean Spirit)

Sermon: "Why Won't God Turn on the Lights?"

**February 7, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**  
**"Come and See – Seeing in the Dark"**

Theme: The Dark Night of the Soul

Scriptures: Isaiah 40:21-31 & Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: "Jesus Praying in the Dark"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

**February 14, 2021 -- The Epiphany Season:**  
**"Come and See – Seeing in the Dark"**

Theme: Working With Darkness --Transformed by the Lightness and the Darkness

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 & Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: "What I Learned from the Dark"

***To become the dark, go dark.  
Go without sight,  
And find that the dark, too, blooms and sings  
--Wendell Berry***

**REMINDER TO WATCH CHRISTMAS EVE...IF YOU DIDN'T WATCH CHRISTMAS EVE NIGHT AND STILL WANT TO WATCH THE SERVICE:**

**December 24 – Christmas Eve 6:30 p.m.**

**BROADCAST Two Ways:**

- ✓ **ON FaceBook: Manchester Trinity United Church of Christ. Christmas Eve 12-24-20**
- ✓ **Website: [www.TrinityUCCManchester.org](http://www.TrinityUCCManchester.org) and at the top right hand corner click on the YouTube icon and you will find the Christmas Eve service.**

**Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information**

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Consistory President – Robert Miller

Vice President – Doug Rhoten

Secretary – Karen Haines

Treasurer – Sue Myers

Assistant Treasurer – Debra Miller

