



**Trinity United
Church
of Christ
Fourth Sunday of
Advent
December 19, 2021
10:45 a.m.
In-Person Worship
FB Live Streaming**

“Accepting the Invitation”

**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.***

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!***

Prelude: Instrumental Music Performed by Cammeron Williams

Welcome and Announcements – Marge Bailey

Gathering Music – Instrumental music performed by Cammeron Williams

***Call to Worship** Marge Bailey

One: May your unfailing love come to us, Lord,
your salvation, according to your promise.

All: God first loved us!

One: This is how God showed God’s love among us:
God sent his one and only son into the world
that we might live through him.

All: We love because God first loved us!

One: You, lord, are forgiving and good,
abounding in love to all who call you.

All: We respond with love.

One: Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and loved,
clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness, and patience.

All: We are saved because of love!

Opening Prayer Pastor Jessica

In this Advent season we await the coming of Christ.
Light of the World, come,
Come to the oppressed and exploited,
Come to the despised and rejected,
Come to all in whom the divine image is distorted.

We wait in joyful expectation.

Come not as a man of power, but in love and
compassion,

Come to the outcast – like the shepherds in the fields,
Come to foreigners – like Magi watching from afar,
Come to rich and poor, young and old, male and female,

We wait in hopeful anticipation.

Come to bless all creation with your love,

Come to bring salvation on the earth,

Come to rule with justice and in peace.

Come Light of the World, illuminate our path.

We wait with all the peoples of the earth,

Light of the World, we welcome your coming.

Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *Robert Miller and Family*

Reader 1: Advent is a time of waiting.
 We wait in hope.
(*Light first candle*)

Reader 2: We wait in peace.
(*Light second candle*)

Reader 1: We wait in joy
(*Light pink candle of joy*)

Reader 2: As we wait, we are filled with love: love for God,
love for others, and, yes, love for ourselves. We love because
God first loved us. God loved you so much that God sent God's
so, Jesus Christ, into this world to save you. Nothing can satisfy
our longings except God's love.

Reader 1: Today, we light the candle of love.
(*Light the candle of love*)

Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Vs. 4

A Time for Discovery

Children may come forward

Children's Church

*Pastor: Now receive the blessing from your church family
who loves you:*

Congregation: The Lord be with you...

Children: And also, with you.

Children are invited to go to Christian Education Classroom

WE PROCLAIM

First Reading: Romans 8:4-8 Marge Bailey

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:29-30 Pastor Jessica

One: For the Word of God in Scripture
 For the Word of God among us
 For the Word of God within us

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon: "Christmas Future" Pastor Jessica

Special Music: "I Will Sing Promises"

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

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**

Blessing of the Foodbags

Hymn: Revelation 19

WE GO FORTH

*Carrying the Light into the World

*Benediction

*Postlude:

Instrumental music performed by Cammeron Williams

Worship Notes and Resources:

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

Leadership

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jessica Townsley | Pastor |
| Cammeron Williams | Director of Music |
| Marge Bailey | Lay Reader |
| MB Brainerd | Worship Committee |
| Deb Persinger | |
| Sandy Sanders | |

Trinity UCC Covid Protocol

With Covid-19 cases on the rise, primarily due to the new Delta variant, in order to protect the most vulnerable among us, including children who cannot yet be vaccinated and those who are immunocompromised, we strongly urge everyone to **wear a mask inside the building at all times**. We appreciate everyone's understanding, and thank you, as we try to safely navigate through these uncertain and unpredictable times due to this pandemic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Today

Budget Information:

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

Giving for last week: General: \$1,525.00

Building Fund/Fundraising: \$80.00 Attendance: 26

Please give in the various ways we offer for you to give your financial offerings to Trinity. We are lagging in our giving and hope that we can re-gain the generous level of giving we are accustomed to receiving.

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 – Wednesday
February Newsletters - Monday, January 17

Meeting Dates Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, January 5, @ 7pm
Worship Comm – Tuesday, January 18, @ 6pm
PPR – January 26, @ 7pm

Announcement:

Join Pastor Jessica on "Facebook LIVE" each **Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m.** for a short devotional or thought for the day and prayer time together.

Worship at Trinity UCC for the Next Week:

December 21, 2021 – Longest Night Service

Theme: Blue Christmas

May take place via Zoom only

December 24, 2021 – Christmas Eve, 6:30 p.m.

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20

Theme: O Holy Night

Holy Communion



Redemption of Scrooge Worship Series

Beginning November 28, join us each Sunday during Advent as we journey through the Charles Dickens' classic *A Christmas Carol*. We will discuss its how themes from this beloved Christmas story intersect with our own holy scriptures.

Food Bags for Backpacks 2021-2022 School Year

Trinity UCC has restarted our Food Bags for Backpacks donation program for Manchester Elementary School. Trying to be as careful as possible, we will once again just ask for Monetary Donations. Please mark "Food Bags" on any checks or giving envelopes that you wish to go to this program. Thank you, your support is greatly appreciated.

A Time for Discovery: Christmas Around the World

Join us each Sunday in Advent for a very special "Time for Discovery." Pastor Jessica will offer a special moment in worship during which we will talk briefly about how children in other countries celebrate Christmas! During this time, we will have a special gift for each of our children to mark the Advent and Christmas seasons. You don't want to miss it!



Please pick up your 2022 church envelopes in the Sunday school room.



The Christmas Fund Offering- December 19th

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!



Longest Night at Trinity UCC

The Longest Night worship service (some churches call it Blue Christmas) originated years ago in churches around the world. The purpose of the service is to acknowledge our need for healing and hope when grief, illness and discord are present in our lives.

This simple service which will be held on Tuesday, **December 21 at 6:30 pm via Zoom**. Pastor Jessica will lead a meaningful service which will include silence, quiet music, and words to ponder. Maybe you won't attend for yourself alone, but will bring a friend with you as well? An email with the Zoom link will be e-mailed prior to the 21st.

First Sunday after Christmas Worship Concert



Join us during worship on **December 26th** for a very special musical service! Our music director, Cammeron Williams, has gathered extraordinary singers and musicians to perform a pre-recorded holiday concert like no other before seen at Trinity UCC. We hope you will join us to see these performances in their entirety!

Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information

Pastor: The Rev. Jessica Townsley

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Website – www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook – www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Consistory President – Robert Miller

Vice President – Doug Rhoten

Secretary – Karen Haines

Treasurer – Sue Myers

Assistant Treasurer – Debra Miller

