

**Trinity United
Church
of Christ**
**Second Sunday of
Advent**
December 5, 2021
10:45 a.m.
In-Person Worship
FB Live Streaming

“Jesus, the Redeemer of Our Past”

**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 – Robert Miller

Gathering Music – “There is Power” by Yancy
Instrumental music performed by Cammeron Williams

***Call to Worship**

Robert Miller

One: Righteous one! Equitable one!

All: Refining one! Delightful one!

One: Blessed one! Redeeming one!

All: One-of-flesh to save all flesh!

One: Emmanuel, One of Us – praise be your coming!

Call to Confession

Pastor Jessica

Because it is so hard to wait, it is not easy to live through Advent's days.

But watch what God does during this time.

God waits for us to turn from our old ways to find the right paths;

God waits for us to admit what we have done, and failed to do, so, we might be forgiven and graced with new life.

Let us approach the One who waits - for us!

Prayer of Confession

(Unison)

Pastor Jessica

It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Waiting God. There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends, which we would like to forget.

There are those we believe are impossible to love, and so, we don't try.

There are people who live on the edge of our society, and we ignore their cries for help.

Forgive us, God who comes near to us.

When we have lost our way, show us yours.

Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom.

Teach us your truth, so we might be able to keep your

Word, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Words of Assurance

One: God is near us, there is nowhere we can go, that God
Is not.
In the name of the Triune God who is and who was and
who is to come, you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Cammeron Williams and family

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

Reader 2: As we wait, we join the Spirit's work
In spreading peace wherever our lives take us.
And as peace spreads, so does Christ's light.
Today, we light the candle of peace.
As we wait, let us be people of peace.
(Light candle of Peace)

Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Vs. 2

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: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 31 Robert Miller

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:18-23 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 Past" Pastor Jessica

Special Music: "Trust His Heart"

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**

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets,
who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an every-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you and blessed is your son Jesus Christ,
Whom you sent in the fullness of time
To be a light to the nations
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts
and have mercy on those who fear you
from generation to generation.
You put down the mighty from their thrones
and exalt those of low degree.
You will the hungry with good things,
and the rich you send away empty.

Your own son came among us as a servant,
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.
He humbled himself in obedience to your will
and freely accepted death on a cross.
By the baptism of his own suffering, death, and
resurrection
You gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body,
which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of
sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus
Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come
again.**

Pour out your holy spirit on us gathered here
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes again in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion

Prayer After Communion

You have given yourself to us, Lord.
Now we give ourselves for others.
Your love has made us new people.
As a people of love we will serve you with joy.
Your glory has filled our hearts.
Help us to glorify you in all things.

**Hymn: "A Tiny Child Will Come"
by Don Besig and Nancy Price**

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
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Leadership

Jessica Townsley	Pastor
Cammeron Williams	Director of Music
Robert Miller	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: \$1,046.00

Building Fund/Fundraising: \$60.00 Attendance: 23

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

January Newsletters - Monday, December 13

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 12, 2021 – Third Sunday of Advent, 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 15:7-11; Luke 2:8-20

Theme: The Life of Christmas Present

Meeting Dates Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, January 5, @ 7pm

Worship Comm – Tuesday, @6pm

PPR – @7pm

2022 BUDGET MEETING

We will be holding a brief congregational meeting on **Sunday, 12/12/21**, immediately following the church service to vote on the 2022 financial budget.



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.

SCRIP GIFT CARDS

With the holidays approaching, what better time to support Trinity UCC! Use gift cards to make your on-line holiday purchases safer! Plus buy gift cards to give as presents to those that are hard-to-buy-for. With almost 300 retailers you shouldn't have a problem finding what you want.

For the holiday season we will be placing gift card orders on **12/5, and 12/12.**

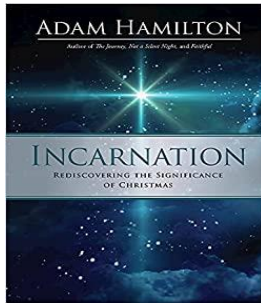
If you haven't participated in the program and would like more information please contact Sue Myers, 443-375-6788, wsmdem@comcast.net

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!



Advent Study: *Incarnation* by Adam Hamilton

Join us Pastor Jessica on Zoom **December 2, 9, and 16th** for a brief Advent study of *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*. We will gather at 7pm for three Thursdays to watch a short video and engage in discussion around the themes of the incarnation. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Jessica by e-mail or phone. A book is not necessary, but can be ordered if you prefer to follow along.

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.

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

