



**Trinity United  
Church  
of Christ  
Second Sunday  
after Christmas  
January 2, 2022  
10:45 a.m.  
In-Person Worship  
FB Live Streaming**

**“What Are We Searching For?”**

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 – Instrumental music performed by  
Cammeron Williams**

**\*A Meditative Call to Worship**                      **Robert Miller**  
***2021 continued to challenge us, Even as vaccines became  
available and restrictions eased, it continued to be a year  
of loss for so many. There were also things last year for  
which we are grateful.***

Take time to remember one good thing that happened last  
year. \_\_\_\_\_

Remember the people who supported and encouraged you  
through the good and hard times last  
year. \_\_\_\_\_

Ask forgiveness for those we have hurt and pray for a way to  
offer them a sign of peace in this new  
year. \_\_\_\_\_

**Litany for the New Year**                      **Pastor Lucy**

Leader: Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring happy bells across the land.

**People: Last year has gone and we let it go!  
Ring out the false ring in the true,  
To honor God who makes all things new.**

Leader: Ring out the grief that saps the mind  
For those that here we see no more;

**People: Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in the hope for humankind,  
In Christ who reigns for evermore!**

Leader: Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;

**People: Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes  
But ring the fuller joys divine.**

**(From Ring Out Wild Bells by Alfred Lord Tennyson)**

**Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: O God, you search us out and know us.  
All that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned.

**All: In your mercy, Lord,  
forgive us and heal us.**

Leader: When we make no room for Christ, and fail to welcome him into our lives,

**All: In your mercy, Lord,  
forgive us and heal us.**

Leader: When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us,

**All: In your mercy, Lord,  
forgive us and heal us.**

Leader: When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,

**All: In your mercy, Lord,  
forgive us and heal us.**

Leader: We turn to you, O Christ,  
perfect union of Spirit and flesh;

**All: We renounce evil;  
We claim your love;  
We choose to be made whole.**  
by Nathan Nettleton

### **Words of Assurance**

O God, who promises forgiveness of sins to all who turn to you in faith: pardon and set us free from all our sins, strengthen us to do your will, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn:** "Music by Cammeron."

### **We Invite the Children to Participate in Children's Time**

*\*Children may come forward\**

A Story

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: Isaiah 60:1-6**

Robert Miller

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12**

Pastor Lucy

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: What Are We Searching For?**

Pastor Lucy

**Special Music:** "Music by Cammeron."

**Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People**

**We Welcome the Children Back to the Sanctuary**

**Invitation to Offering**

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

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**All: Bright Morning Star,  
your light has come,  
and the birth of Jesus  
has overwhelmed us with joy.  
Like the magi of long ago,  
may we be drawn to you  
and offer you such gifts as we are able. Amen.**

### **\*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.

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **Invitation**

Jesus' gospel is a gospel of love and we who follow him are called to live out that love. Jesus invites us to a meal, a simple meal of bread and wine.

"Come" he says, Come to this table, not because you must but because you may, not because you are strong but because you are weak. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you the right, but because you need mercy and help. **COME**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

We thank you Holy One for your gift of creation. We thank you for creating us in your image and declaring that we are good.

We bless you that when we turn away from you, you seek us out and offer us the gift of forgiveness. Then you set us on a new path of life and hope.

We remember and give thanks for all the saints: our Mothers and Fathers of faith who shared the gospel with us, The Prophets, Apostles, and martyrs who gave their lives for the gospel.

We thank you that in time, you sent Jesus to live as one of us.

We are grateful that he never turned away from your vision for the world; a vision of peace through compassion and love. A vision that he followed even to death on a cross.

We bless you that death was not the final word for Jesus. You rose him from the grave and he ascended into heaven to remain with you.

We are thankful that you did not abandon us, but that you sent us your Holy Spirit to be our comfort and guide. And so, we praise you saying,

***"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Glory be to you, O  
God Most High"***

### **We remember and tell the story**

On the night when Jesus was betrayed, he sat at table with his friends. He took bread blessed it, broke it and gave it to them saying,

"This is my body which is broken for you. Do this as often as you need in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper, he took a cup and after giving thanks, said,

"This cup is the new covenant which is written in my blood poured out for you and for many. Drink this cup in remembrance of me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim my life, death, and resurrection until I come again."

Therefore, we are bold to proclaim the mystery of our faith,

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

### **Blessing the Elements**

Place your hands over the bread and cup and say, this prayer:  
***We thank you O God for the simple gifts of bread and wine.  
May they nourish our bodies and renew our spirits to serve  
you until we sit at the heavenly banquet prepared for all  
your saints.***

*Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples.*

***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.***

(Breaking the bread)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us,

**All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia**

*These are the Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance of Christ' gift to us and feed on them in your heart with thanksgiving.*

*You may eat the bread and drink the cup*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving after the Meal**

**Gracious God,**

**we thank you that in this sacrament**

**you assure us of your goodness and love.**

**Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and help us to grow in love and obedience, that we may serve you in the world and finally be brought to that table where all your saints feast with you forever.**

**Hymn:** "Music by Cammeron."

### **WE GO FORTH**

**\*Carrying the Light into the World**

**\* Benediction**

May you love God so much that you love nothing else too much.

May you fear God enough that you need to fear nothing else at all.

**\*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**

Lucy Brady

Cammeron Williams

Robert Miller

MB Brainerd

Deb Persinger

Sandy Sanders

Guest Pastor

Director of Music

Lay Reader

Worship Committee

## **COVID-19 Protocol Trinity UCC**

With Covid-19 cases on the rise, in order to protect the most vulnerable among us, 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.

### **Pastor Jessica's vacation**

Pastor will be on vacation starting December 26<sup>th</sup> thru January 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact Robert Miller for pastoral care 410-374-4455.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Worship Today

#### **Budget Information:**

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

#### **Giving for Christmas Eve: General: \$672.00**

Attendance: 49

#### **December 26: \$1,280.00**

Building Fund/Fundraising: \$90.00          Attendance: 16

*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 – Wednesday, 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:**

**January 9, 2022 – Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord**

**Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

#### **Food Bags for Backpacks 2022 School Year**

Trinity UCC continues 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.



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

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

Pastor: The Rev. Jessica Townsley

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Website – [www.trinityuccmanchester.org](http://www.trinityuccmanchester.org)

Facebook – [www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC](https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC)

Consistory President – Robert Miller

Vice President – Doug Rhoten

Secretary – Karen Haines

Treasurer – Sue Myers

Assistant Treasurer – Debra Miller

