



Trinity United Church of Christ

February 26, 2023

10:45 a.m.

1st Sunday in Lent
In-Person Worship
FB Live Streaming

“Received Grace”

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

*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

Welcome

Pastor Jessica

Gathering Music: “Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days”
(NCH #211) all verses

*Call to Worship

Robert Miller

One: God of the Sahara and the Amazon, Maker of dry places
and wetlands.

**Many: We come before you with parched hearts for living in
this world has made them so.**

One: Generous Provider, you give us each day what bread we
need to nourish our bodies, minds, and souls.

**Many: We trust in you for our every need, knowing you love
us as no other.**

One: Holy One, your ability to renew us is unmatched.

Many: You renew us from within and without.

One: Ancient of Days, you held us in the beginning, and you are
holding us now.

Many: We reach out to you and draw as close as we can.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Jessica

One: Let us confess our sins before God.

In this wilderness season of Lent, O Holy One, we come to you
with contrite hearts.

When we have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind and
strength,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have ignored the suffering of the stranger,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have contributed to the plight of the poor,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have not visited the prisoner,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have been unforgiving,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we have oppressed others and refused to welcome
the refugee,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: For all the times we have missed the mark,

**All: We seek your forgiveness, Gracious and loving God.
Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: In the image of a gracious, compassionate, and just God, you are made. In the shadows of the wilderness, you are not alone. In the name of the blessed and holy Trinity, you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

Children's Hymn: "Even When"
by Yancy and the Little Praise Band

A Time for Discovery

WE PROCLAIM

First Reading: 1 Cor. 1:18-25 Robert Miller

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11 *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: The Long Game of Being Saved *Pastor Jessica*

Apostle's Creed (unison)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Offering

***Doxology (sung)**

**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 Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Announcements

Pastor Jessica

Hymn: "Amazing Grace" (NCH #547) all verses

WE GO FORTH

*Carrying the Light into the World

* Benediction

* Postlude Instrumental music

Worship Notes and Resources:

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

Leadership

Jessica Ashcroft-Townsley

Pastor

Robert Miller

Lay Reader

Deb Persinger

Worship Committee

Sandy Sanders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for next week:

March 5, 2023 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; Luke 16:1-15

Theme: Understanding Justice

**Communion will be celebrated*



Scrip Gift Cards

Please consider taking part in this program.

Orders go in the 1st Sunday of the month.

See Sue Myers for more information, 443-375-6788 or

wsmdem@comcast.net

Budget Information:

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

Giving for last week: \$1.505.00

Attendance: 24

Building Fund/Fundraising: \$260.00

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.

Submission Dates for Bulletins/Newsletter

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday

April Newsletters - Monday, March 27

Meeting Dates Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, March 1 @ 7pm

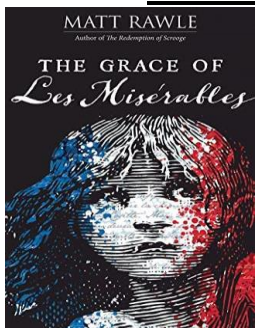
Worship Comm – Wednesday, March 22 @ 6pm

PPR – Wednesday, March 22 @ 7pm

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

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

Lenten Worship Series and Bible Study!



Join us throughout the season of Lent for a study of *The Grace of Les Misérables* based on the book by Matthew Rawle.

- Our bible study group will meet **Thursdays March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30** at 7pm via Zoom and close our study after worship on Palm Sunday (**April 2**) IN PERSON with a meal following worship.

If you would like a book, please see Pastor Jessica and she will be happy to get one for you.



Faithful Five

Periodically, Pastor Jessica's "Faithful Five" devotional time will be shared via our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Trinity UCC Covid Protocol

Masks are now optional while inside the building.

If you are sick, please care for others by wearing a mask and/or keeping a distance.

We appreciate everyone's understanding!



Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen emergencies, the decision to close the church will be made two hours before worship/meetings/workday begin. You can find out whether or not the building will be open in the following possible ways:

1. Calling the church at 410 374-2727 (The voice mail message will reflect the decision to close or remain open.)
2. Checking your email. (Those with email will receive a message.)
3. Listening to WBAL 1090 AM
4. Receiving a call through the phone tree



Get Involved in Worship

As COVID numbers continue to decline and we feel safer in worship, we are seeking more volunteers to serve in various roles.

If you are interested in serving as a **lay reader, media operator, greeter, usher, or helping with children's church**, please let Pastor Jessica know.

Even if you are unable to make it to worship in person, there are ways you can **serve as a reader from home**. Many hands make much lighter work for everyone!

Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information

Pastor: The Rev. Jessica Ashcroft/Townsley

Cell: 240-285-9357

E-mail: Jessica Townsley (pastortucc@comcast.net)

Church Office 410-374-2727

Church e-mail – trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net

Website – www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook – www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Consistory President – Robert Miller

Vice President – Doug Rhoten

Secretary – Debra Miller

Treasurer – Sue Myers

Assistant Treasurer – Debra Miller

