



Trinity United Church of Christ

March 26, 2023

10:45 a.m.

5th Sunday in Lent
In-Person Worship
FB Live Streaming

“Modeling Empathy”

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: “When Peace Like a River” (NCH 438)

***Call to Worship**

MB Brainerd

L: Lazarus, though dead, was called to life by Jesus.

P: May we be called to the light of righteousness.

L: As others witnessed this resurrection, they believed in Jesus.

**P: May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to
conquer our fears and doubts.**

L: Praise be to God who has given us Jesus.

P: Praise be to Jesus who has given us life. AMEN.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison) (based on Psalm 130)

**Out of the depths of despair,
we cry to you, O God.**

**We are lost in a world
of pain and suffering.**

**When we put all our trust in weapons of war,
we find no peace.**

**When we put all our faith in our own resources,
we come up short.**

**When we put all our hope in the health of our bodies,
we suffer pain and find no healing.**

Come to us, O God.

Forgive our doubts and fears.

**Heal our brokenness,
that we may rejoice in your steadfast love. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

One: There is forgiveness and healing with God.

God’s steadfast love

**has the power to redeem our brokenness
and make us whole.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, who raised Lazarus,
you are forgiven.**

All: Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

Children's Hymn:

A Time for Discovery

WE PROCLAIM

First Reading: Psalm 130 MB Brainerd

Gospel Reading: John 11:17-35 *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: Where is the Empathy? *Pastor Jessica*

Affirmation of Faith: MB Brainerd

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

Blessing of the Food Bags

Announcements Pastor Jessica

Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (NCH 423)

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
MB Brainerd	Lay Reader
Deb Persinger	Worship Committee
Sandy Sanders	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for next week:

April 2, 2023 – Palm/Passion Sunday

Scriptures: Zechariah 9:9-10; Mark 11:1-11
Theme: Shaping Revolution

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: \$785.00

Attendance: 22

Building Fund/Fundraising: \$60.00

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

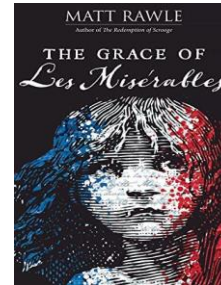
Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
May Newsletters - Monday, April 24

Meeting Dates Zoom

PPR – Wednesday, March 29 @ 7pm
Consistory – Wednesday, April 5 @ 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 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



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

