



**Trinity United Church  
of Christ  
Second Sunday of Lent  
Longing for Wholeness  
March 1, 2026  
10:30 am**

**In-Person Worship  
FB Live Streaming**

**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.***

***Meditation of the Week*** “*Love is the name for our  
pursuit of wholeness, for our desire to be complete.*”  
~Plato~

**WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD**

**Gathering**

*Feel the Spirit of the community.* Worship is a time of both shared community and private conversation with God. Let us all come to this sacred space to enjoy both the loving fellowship of our common faith and the prayerful quiet that will allow us all to draw closer to God.

**Prelude: Instrumental Music**

**Words of Welcome** Pastor Katie

**Announcements, Joys and Concerns** Pastor Katie

**\*Call to Community**

Sue Myers

One: Friends of God, believe this –  
God loved the world,  
God loves the world,  
we are the beloved!

**Many: May the truth of this great love story,  
shine through our worship today,  
and renew our sense of calling.**

One: So come, with your tiredness,  
your frustrations and your discouragements;  
come with your doubts, your fears,  
and your longings;  
come, to discover yet again  
how Jesus reveals God’s love and mercy.

**Many: Come, in friendship to God  
and to each other,  
and in friendship to the world,  
to listen for God’s Word to us,  
to offer our prayers,  
and to renew our calling.**

One: Friends of God, Let us gather together in Christ!

**\*Prayer for Peace: Earth**

One: In this season of Lent we reflect on our journey of faith with Christ, remembering that Christ has offered us new life here on earth, that God so loved the world that he sent his Son, so that the world might be saved through him. While we await the heavenly kingdom, we prepare for God’s reign on earth. We light this candle on this second Sunday of Lent, remembering God’s assurance of new life through the signs of spring in the earth..

*Light two candles*

**All: As the days lengthen and bulbs are preparing deep in the earth, dear God, may we be ready for what you are preparing to grow in us. Nourish us so that we might bear spiritual fruit. In the name of Christ, with whom we journey towards the cross, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

One: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

**Many: And also with you**  
*Pass a sign of God's Peace to one another.*

**\*Opening Hymn: "We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle"  
#501 NCH (Tune: #500)**

**Ancient Testimony** Psalm 121

*From where does my help come?*

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

My help comes from God, the maker of heaven and earth.

**Many: God will not let your foot be moved and God who watches over you will not fall asleep.**

One: Behold, God who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;

**Many: It is God who watches over you; God is your shade at your right hand, So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

One: God shall preserve you from all evil; it is God who shall keep you safe.

**Many: God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore..**

~silence is kept

**Growing Disciples**

**\*Jesus Remember Me Taizé (REPEAT)**

Children are dismissed for Children's Church

***WE HEAR GOD'S WORD***

**Ancient Testimony** Genesis 12:1-4a Sue Myers

*God's blessing on Abram*

**\*Choral Response** "Thy Word" (sing through 3x)

**Ancient Testimony** John 3:1-17 Pastor Katie

*Christ's mission to save the world*

**The Message** *Blessings!* Pastor Katie

***WE RESPOND IN LOVE***

**Invitation to Generosity**

**\*Choral Response of Thanksgiving**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (verse 2)  
88 (Voices Together)

**\*Blessing Our Gifts**

**All: Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, your own Son, Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.**

***SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION***

**\*Hymn of Preparation "We Come To This Table"**

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (tune: #420 KREMSEK)

**Invitation**

**Prayer of Communion**

**Share the Meal**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**All: Divine Light of Our Journey-** In a spirit of gratitude we give thanks for this time at your Holy Meal. This time at the Table filled us with strength, Knowing that as we continue on this Lenten journey, We will find your peace surrounding us. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn: "Lord of the Dance"

## ***MOVING TOWARDS PEACE ON EARTH!***

### \* Benediction

**One:** Friends, go forth with the courage of God to guide you into those places of restlessness and uncertainty. For we are called to go...

**Many: From our places of comfort.  
From our certainties and complacency.  
From our old life and into the new.**

**One:** May the call of God not just call us from but toward a love so compelling that we are willing to trust our whole self into the embrace of the Creator, into the abiding love of Christ, and into the sacred dance of the Holy Spirit.

**Many: We go forth in the peace of Christ. Amen!**

## Prelude to Service

\*Carrying the Light into the World

## ***GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!***

## Worship Notes and Resources

Adapted from Microsoft Word - <https://stillpointsa.org.au/>,  
Lenten Candle Lighting Liturgy Year A, [A Communion Liturgy for Lent | Michelle L. Torigian](#), [Inclusive Psalter congregational use Lent 2A - March 5 - United Church of Christ](#)

The music in our worship is reproduced via our One License number: A-725765.

## Leadership

Katie Penick	Pastor
Hannah Matthews	Director of Music
Sue Myers	Lay Reader
Deb Persinger	Worship Committee
Sandy Sanders	
Hannah Matthews	
MB Brainerd	

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Worship at Trinity UCC for March 8, 2026**

#### **March 8 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Modern Testimony**      Genesis 17: 1-7  
*Life Goes On*, Howard Thurman

**Ancient Testimony**      *Water in the wilderness*

**Ancient Testimony**      John 4:5-42  
*The Samaritan Woman at the Well*

**The Message**      *The Living Waters Flow*

### **Scrip Gift Cards**

Please consider taking part in this program.  
Orders go in the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.  
See Sue Myers for more information, 443-375-6788 or  
[wsmdem@comcast.net](mailto:wsmdem@comcast.net)

### **Submission Dates for Bulletins/Newsletter**

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday  
**April Newsletters - Monday, March 23**

### **Meeting Dates by Zoom**

Consistory – Wednesday April 1@ 6 pm  
Worship Comm – Third Thursday of each month @ 3:30.  
**Pastor Katie Sabbath Day will be on Fridays! She will not be available on that day. If there is an emergency text, her @ 240-418-8028**

### **Budget Information:**

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

**Giving for Last Week: \$802.54                  Attendance: 20**

**Care Fund/Building: \$35.00**

***We offer various ways to give – cash, checks, or on-line at our website [www.trinityuccmanchester.org](http://www.trinityuccmanchester.org). Your generous giving allows us to continue our ministries.***

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concerns**

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

#### **Prayer requests:**

Carolyn Brooks

Annie Durnell

Family Baptist Church

Joanna Garber

Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity

Meg Grim, daughter of Pastor Katie

Sandy Hall, sister of Deb Miller

George Harman, nephew of Karen Price

Jerry Krebs, friend of Deb Persinger

Michael Kulp

Gloria Nethkin

Ash Van Nuys

Jennifer Penick

Gordon Persinger

George Pietsch

Marc Pulido

Leah, friend of Donna Alban

Beth Robert

Jean Simmons

Becky & Willy Smith, niece of Karen Price

Dan and Terry Smith

Randy Smith

Kathleen Stevens

Gina Tollini

Ronnie Williams

Nora Renee Winters

Shirley Wood

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study **Thursday's at 6:30 PM** and will be alternate Thursday's meeting both in person and remotely.



**Sunday Morning Bible Study  
at 9:30 a.m. @Trinity and by Zoom  
Zoom links are available for all Bible Study**



**Bedtime stories on Wednesday at 7 pm.**

### **Lenten Challenge**

Declutter and help our neighbors! During Lent this year, we want to de-emphasize ourselves and emphasize our dependence on God. Almsgiving (materially giving to those in need) is one of the three pillars of Lent (the other two pillars are prayer and fasting). We can give in ways other than money. This year, we are calling Trinity members and friends to give up things around the house that we do not need. We can detach from "stuff" while helping others.

Here's the challenge: During the 40 days of Lent (every day but Sundays), find one thing each day you no longer need. It can be a kitchen item, clothing, a bike, etc. Go through your closets, drawers, basement and garage. We also will accept non-perishable foods. All donations will be blessed on Easter Sunday and donated to NESAP.

As we clear out our closets, we can also clear our minds. As we declutter, we can think about and pray for those who will be blessed by our donations.

## **New Members**

New members will join on **March 28 (Palm Sunday)**  
With fellowship to follow worship!

## **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 will be notified by a text message or phone call if the church will not be opened.

## **Media Help Wanted**

The media team is looking for persons to assist with the live stream of our Sunday services on the church's Facebook page.

You do not need to commit to every Sunday. Our current operators, Karen & Elwin will provide training and support.

Please see Sandy Sanders, Karen Haines or Elwin Wagner for more information.

Thank you in advance for considering to help with this valuable piece of our worship service.

Please pass on to any one you know in High School who may need community service hours.



## **2026 Schedule**

	<b>Friday 7pm</b>	<b>Saturday 6pm</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley Renegades</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley Renegades</b>
	<b>19<sup>th</sup> Hub City Spartanburgers</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Hub City Spartanburgers</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Brooklyn Cyclones</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Brooklyn Cyclones</b>
	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Jersey Shore Blueclaws</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Jersey Shore Blueclaws</b>
	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Wilmington Blue Rocks</b>	
<b>August</b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wilmington Blue Rocks</b>
	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Bowling Green Hot Rods</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Bowling Green Hot Rods</b>
	<b>28<sup>th</sup> Asheville Tourists</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> Asheville Tourists</b>

**Tickets are \$11 each for a group of 10+  
Please contact Sandy Sanders 443.974.6723 if interested in attending a game and inform Sandy which date(s) are best for you. These tickets go fast so please let Sandy know asap.**

March 7, 2026



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

Pastor: the Rev. Katie Penick    Cell: 240-418-8028

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Facebook - [www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC](http://www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC)

President – Sandy Sanders

Vice President – Hannah Matthews

Secretary – Shana Clark

Treasurer – Sue Myers

