



**Trinity United Church
of Christ
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Longing for Wholeness
March 22, 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: "Whatever God does, the first
outburst is always compassion. ~Meister Eckhart~

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.

Congregation stands when you see an asterisk

Words of Welcome Pastor Katie

Prelude: Instrumental Music

Announcements, Joys and Concerns Pastor Katie

***Call to Community**

Marge Bailey

One: Breath of Life, you animate us.

**Many: We come before you are seeking revival from
within.**

One: Holy One, when you speak, great things happen.

Many: Empower us to make great things happen.

One: Source of All Blessings, you bring good things to life.

Many: We desire to bring good things to life too.

***Prayer for Peace: Stone**

One: In this season of Lent we reflect on our journey of faith
with Christ, remembering that death no longer has a hold on
us. Through Christ we are freed from the cold stone of the
tomb and know the warm embrace of the light of life. We light
this candle on this fifth Sunday of Lent, remembering God's
redeeming grace, and that new life comes out of death. We
remember the former covenant written on stone, and the new
covenant, written on our hearts, that we are God's children,
and God's promise is life forevermore.

Light five candles

**All: As the days lengthen, dear God, may we remember
that spring comes only after a long winter, that new life,
eternal life, comes only after passing through death. 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: “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” #433 NCH**

Modern Testimony Inspired by Psalm 48,
Longing for Justice — Merryl Blair, Australia

One: Our God, we come to you in longing.
We have a deep desire for justice:
in our international policies,
in our local politics,
and in our personal relationships.

**Many: We long for leaders with vision,
leaders who place common good above political gain,
who look beyond the next election
to a healthier, more sustainable world for generations
to come.**

One: Even within your church, our God,
we have often felt let down by leadership
that seems to put numbers above deep and growing
relationship with you.

We long for your justice, your reign over all the earth.

**Many: But even as we imagine your regal presence
amongst us,
we are confronted instead with a small baby;
with a fellow traveler on the way of life,
with a man dying on a cross.**

One: And the truth comes home to us:
in dwelling among us,
you have given us the task of vision and of justice.

**Many: Give us the strength and commitment we need
to work towards your reign on earth, as it is in heaven.
Let the joy of your justice flow through us,**

**in our ethical choices,
in our questions to our leaders,
in our demands for just relationships beyond our own
immediate selfish needs.**

One: May the vision of your just reign
continually lift our eyes and our hearts higher,
so that we may never be satisfied with less than
the beauty of your vision for all creation.

~silence is kept~

Growing Disciples

***Jesus Remember Me Taizé (REPEAT)**

Children are dismissed for Children’s Church

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Ancient Testimony Ezekiel 37:1-14 Marge Bailey
The dry bones of Israel

***Choral Response** “Thy Word” (sing through 3x)

Ancient Testimony John 11:1-45 Pastor Katie
The raising of Lazarus

The Message *When God is late* Pastor Katie

***Hymn of Grace: “Sweet Hour of Prayer” #434 LC**
(requested by Belva LaMotte)

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Invitation to Generosity

***Choral Response of Thanksgiving: Doxology #778**

***Blessing Our Gifts**

All: Divine Sustainer, receive this offering that we gladly give. May it be used to revive and restore those in need. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn: “Lift High the Cross” #198 NCH**

MOVING TOWARDS PEACE ON EARTH!

*** Benediction**

Prelude to Service

***Carrying the Light into the World**

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!

PLEASE NOTE OUR EMAIL ADDRESS HAS

CHANGED TO: officetuccmd@gmail.com

Worship Notes and Resources

Adapted from Microsoft Word - <https://stillpointsa.org.au/>,
Lenten Candle Lighting Liturgy Year A, Lent 5A - March 26 -
United Church of Christ Psalm 48, Longing for Justice — Merryl
Blair, Australia | Worship Words
The music in our worship is reproduced via our One License
number: A-725765.

Leadership

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

Improvement Offering Today!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for March 29, 2026

Ancient Testimony Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord!

Ancient Testimony Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem

The Message *From the Manger to the Cross*

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

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: \$991.14 Attendance: 28

Care Fund/Building: \$35.00

We offer various ways to give – cash, checks, or on-line at our website 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

Joanna Garber

Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity

Meg Grim, daughter of Pastor Katie

Paul Matthews, Hannah's father

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

Please look over the prayer list to see if there are any updates that need to be made. Thank you!



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



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 29 (Palm Sunday)** with fellowship to follow worship!

DROP IN YOGA

Starting April 11 @ 9a.m.

See the flyer for more information



Game Time! Saturday, June 6th at 6pm

The Frederick Keys vs.

The Hudson Valley Renegades

Tickets are \$11. Fireworks display following the game.

Contact Sandy Sanders 443.974.6723 if you would like to join the group from Trinity UCC who will be attending.

Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information

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

E-mail: pastorkt143@gmail.com

Church Office 410-374-2727

Church e-mail – officetuccmd@gmail.com

Website – www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

President – Sandy Sanders

Vice President – Hannah Matthews

Secretary – Shana Clark

Treasurer – Sue Myers

