



**Trinity United Church
of Christ
Palm Sunday
Longing for Wholeness
March 29, 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: "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness." ~Desmond Tutu~

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

Announcements, Joys and Concerns Pastor Katie

Prelude: Instrumental Music

***Call to Community**

MB Brainerd

One: We come today, waving branches of hope, remembering a story that began long before us— a story of liberation, courage, and love.

**Many: We join the crowd, shouting Hosanna!
Save us, O God, from fear, from injustice, from despair.**

One: The road to Jerusalem is lined with joy and risk, with celebration and challenge.
We know that following Jesus will lead us into places where love confronts power.

**Many: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of Love!
Blessed is the One who turns the world upside down!**

One: Come, beloved community—
Let us worship the One who calls us to justice, to mercy, and to life abundant.

**Many: Hosanna in the highest!
Let us gather together with open hearts and willing hands.**

***Prayer for Peace: Wood**

One: In this season of Lent we reflect on our journey of faith with Christ, remembering that long ago God planted the Tree of Life, and yet it is on a tree that Christ is crucified. We are again reminded that life comes out of death, and we are promised that death does not have the final word. We light this candle on this Palm Sunday, the last Sunday of Lent, remembering God's faithfulness through the cross upon which our Lord was crucified, that death will be no more, mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for Christ triumphs over death.

Light six candles

All: As the days lengthen, dear God, may we remember that you are the one who calls life out of death, that you are the Lord of our lives. In the name of Christ, may we have the strength found in him to journey towards the cross. 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: "Weave" #495 in Chalice.**

Rosemary Crow (repeat)

Modern Testimony author unknown

Branches in the Sunlight

The road is dust, yet blooms with song,
as palms sway green in the morning air;
feet press the earth, the crowd moves along,
hope like a fragrance rising there.

A colt steps gently, eyes wide with peace,
its burden light, yet crowned with grace;
the murmured prayers will never cease,
though shadows wait in another place.

Hosannas lift like wings of flame,
the sky itself leans down to hear;
and in each heart, a whispered name
turns trembling faith to something clear.

For on this path, both joy and cost
are twined like branches in the hand—
the One who comes will not be lost,
but sow His love through all the land

~silence is kept~

Growing Disciples

Welcome New Members

Welcome and Introduction of New Members

Our Covenant Together

One: Do you seek to grow in God's transforming love, as you follow in the Way of Jesus? *(I do)*

Are you open to the movement of the Spirit in your life? *(I am)*

Will you join with us as a church, as we seek follow God's direction in our midst? Will you welcome and respect each person's freedom to interpret God's Truth, as God gives them each light and wisdom. *(I will with the help of God)*

Will you participate in the life and mission of this diverse and inclusive community of God's people, praying and working with us in ministry together? Will you share regularly with us in the worship of God and financial support of our ministries? Will you offer your talents to our work, as the Spirit leads us to serve the community and the world? *(I will with the help of God)*

Affirmation of the Congregation:

All: We welcome you with joy! As partners in the common life of this congregation, we pledge to you our friendship and prayers as we grow together in God's transforming love. We give thanks that you join us now, as fellow seekers and servants!

A Litany of What We Believe

One: Our vision for our church is:

All: Our church will grow into a vibrant and diverse community of Christians that welcomes and seeks out people from all walks of life. That supports the spiritual, physical and emotional needs that challenge the community and its members.

One: The mission God sends us out to do is:

All: We exist to LOVE people where they are and encourage them to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

One: As followers of Christ, we share these Core Values: We Love God

All: “You shall love the Lord God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39 NRSV)

One: We Show Compassionate Love of Everyone

All: “Love one another, as Jesus calls us to love everyone, saying, ‘ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.’” (John 13:34)

One: Wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome with open arms and open hearts!

All: Amen

Welcome to the Community

*Jesus Remember Me Taizé (REPEAT)

Children are dismissed for Children’s Church

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

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

O give thanks to the Lord!

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

Ancient Testimony Matthew 21:1-11 Pastor Katie

Jesus enters Jerusalem

The Message *From the Manger to the Cross* Pastor Katie

*Hymn of Grace: “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty” #215 NCH

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Invitation to Generosity

*Choral Response of Thanksgiving Doxology #778

*Blessing Our Gifts

All: Bless these offerings, O God, and bless each giver. May our giving reflect the spirit of Palm Sunday — joyful, generous, and surrendered to Your will. Help us to follow Christ not only in moments of celebration, but also in the humble, faithful steps of discipleship. Hosanna in the highest! Amen

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

*Closing Hymn: “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” #213 NCH

MOVING TOWARDS PEACE ON EARTH!

* **Benediction** (by Jan Richardson)

One: Blessed is the one
who comes to us
by the way of love
poured out with abandon.

**Many: Blessed is the one
who walks toward us
by the way of grace
that holds us fast.**

One: Blessed is the one
who calls us to follow
in the way of blessing,
in the path of joy.

Beloved, your strength may fail but God’s hand never will!

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 <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>

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

Leadership

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

Join us downstairs for fellowship following worship today!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for April 2026

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

Light meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm

Traditional Tenebrae service with communion at 6:30

Easter Theme

Aftershock: the tremors of resurrection

Easter Sunday – April 5

Jeremiah 31:1-6 *Joy at God's people restored*

Matthew 28:1-10 *Proclaim the resurrection*

Message *The Quiet Trembling of New Creation*

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

May Newsletters - Monday, April 27

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: \$978.87

Attendance: 29

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

Josie Wilson

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.

Sunday Morning Bible Study resumes on **April 12th at 9:30 am**. We will read *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Barbara Essex. We will reclaim the stories of women not that different from ourselves: Eve, Lot's wife, Rebekah, Tamar, Potiphar's wife, Delilah, Jezebel, Job's wife, Gomer, Herodias, the woman caught in adultery, and Sapphira. Please let Pastor Katie know if you are interested.



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.

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: pastort143@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

