

**Trinity United Church
of Christ
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Aftershock: the Tremors
of Resurrection
May 3, 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: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing
frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience
achieves everything.” ~St. Teresa of Avila~*

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

Why We Are Here

*Today we gather with the wisdom of St. Teresa of Ávila and
the promise of Jesus in John 14:1–14. In a world where
many hearts are troubled, we come to remember that God
prepares a dwelling place not only beyond this life but within
us now—a spacious, holy center where peace can take root
and courage can rise. We come to open the doors of our
hearts, to rest in God’s presence, and to be renewed as
people who carry Christ’s peace into the world. Welcome to
worship; welcome home.*

Words of Welcome Pastor Katie

Prelude: Instrumental Music

***Call to Community**

Pastor Katie

One: Holy One, you who dwell not in distant heavens but in
the deep chambers of the soul— You call us to awaken,
to enter the inner room where Your love burns bright.

**Many: We come seeking the God who is closer than
breath, the God who invites us to courage, honesty,
and holy freedom**

One: Indwelling God, you who are our interior castle and our
wide-open horizon— draw us into Your transforming love.

**Many: Let us open the doors of our hearts. Let us step
into the spaciousness of Your presence. Let us
gather with the God who makes a home in us.**

Prayer of Peace

One: Indwelling God, you make your home in the deepest rooms of our hearts. Breathe your peace into us today. When the world trembles with violence, when nations rage and neighbors fear one another, draw us into the still center where your love whispers, *“Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you.”* Not as an escape from suffering, but as a grounding in Your unshakeable presence.

Holy Friend, teach us the peace Teresa knew— a peace born of courage, a peace that rises from trust, a peace that refuses to surrender to despair. Make our hearts spacious enough to hold the pain of the world without being overwhelmed by it. Make our hands strong enough to build justice where there is none. Make our voices bold enough to speak truth with tenderness. Make our lives radiant enough to reflect Your peace into every place of conflict, every home of sorrow, every heart that longs for rest.

God of the Interior Castle, open in us the rooms where compassion is born, where mercy takes root, where hope is rekindled. Let your peace begin in us, flow through us, and extend beyond us until all creation rests in your love. 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: “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” #249 (Chalice)

Prayer of Brokenness

All: Indwelling God, we confess that we often live on the surface of our lives, afraid to enter the deeper rooms where You wait for us. We confess the ways we have avoided truth, resisted transformation, and clung to fears that keep us small.

Forgive us for forgetting that You delight in us. Forgive us for doubting that Your love is strong enough to heal what hurts and reshape what is broken.

Lead us back to the center, where Your mercy meets our longing and Your love makes us whole.

~silence is kept~

Word of Blessing

One: Hear the good news: The God who dwells within you is patient and tender, slow to anger and rich in compassion. We rise again and again because grace meets us in every room of our lives.

All: Thanks be to God, who makes all things new.

Growing Disciples

Children are dismissed for Children's Church

*Gloria, Gloria (Taizé)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Marge Bailey

One: God of holy fire and gentle whisper, as we turn to Scripture, open the rooms of our hearts we have kept locked. Let your word move through us like living water, refreshing, cleansing, and awakening us to your presence within. Amen.

Ancient Testimony

Acts 7:55-60

Marge Bailey

Martyrdom of Stephen

***Choral Response "Thy Word"**

Ancient Testimony

John 14:1-14

Pastor Katie

The Way, the Truth and the Life

Message *Where Your Heart Finds Its Home* Pastor Katie

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Invitation to Generosity

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

***Blessing Our Gifts**

All: Indwelling God, receive these gifts and receive our hearts. As You make Your home within us, let these offerings become signs of Your peace, Your justice, and Your love in the world. Use them—and use us—to open new rooms of hope for all Your people. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

***Hymn of Preparation "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" #528 (Church Hymnary)**

The Story

The Meal

The Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory" #436NCH (verses 1, 2, 4 & 5)**

MOVING TOWARDS PEACE ON EARTH!

Sending Forth

One: Go forth as people who carry God within— people of courage, honesty, and holy joy.

Many: We go to love boldly, to serve generously, and to live from the spaciousness of God's presence.

One: May the God who was Teresa's fire and freedom be your strength and your song.

All: Amen.

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 St. Teresa of Avila by herself, Penguin Books 1989

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	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for May 10, 2026

Theme - Aftershock: the Tremors of Resurrection

Modern Testimony “*The Journey*” by Mary Oliver

Ancient Testimony John 14:15-21

The promise of the Spirit

Message

Guest Preacher: Rev. Sheresa Simpson Rice

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

June/July Newsletters – Tuesday, May 26

Meeting Dates by Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday May 6 @ 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: \$1,689.11 Attendance:24

Care Fund/Building: \$55.00

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

Keith Freckick, friend of Donna Alban

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

Nancy Nicora, friend of Donna Alban

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

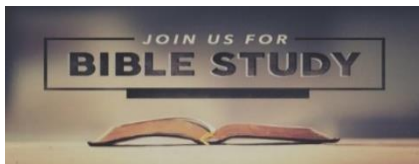
Dan and Terry Smith
Randy Smith
Kathleen Stevens
Finley Maven Snyder, granddaughter of Karen Price
Gina Tollini
Rev. Debra Wilcox
Ronnie Williams
Josie Wilson
Nora Renee Winters
Shirley Wood

Let's take care of God's creation.

If you have any extra mugs/cups at home, please bring them to the church kitchen. We will keep these for fellowship to avoid purchasing more disposable items.

**Pastor Katie will be on vacation
May 22-27.**

**Rev. Lucy Brady and Rev. Debra Peters
Wilcox are available during emergencies.**



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 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.

DROP IN YOGA

**May 16, & 30 Saturdays @ 9a.m.
See the flyer for more information**

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

