

# Trinity United Church of Christ

"Sixth Sunday of Easter" May 5, 2024 10:45 a.m.

In-Person Worship FB Live Streaming

## Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God? Abiding in Love

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 Day "My longing for truth was a single prayer." ~Edith Stein (St.. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross)

#### WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

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 Performed by

**Hannah Matthews** 

Words of Welcome Pastor Katie

Announcements, Joys and Concerns Pastor Katie

#### \*Call to Community

**Sue Myers** 

One: The Spirit is coming to bless us with a new song.

All: Let our joy be complete.

One: Gifts for the good of all, poured out on all to teach us a

new song.

All: Love one another.

One: Strangers and neighbors, foreigners and family will join in

a new song.

All: No longer servants but friends!

One: Come, let our worship make a joyful noise.

All: Rejoicing in the friendship of God.

#### \*Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you

Pass a sign of God's Peace to one another.

\*Opening Hymn: "Morning Has Broken" (#53 Chalice)

First Reading Psalm 98 (The Inclusive Bible) Sue Myers

One: Sing a new song to God who has worked wonders, whose right hand and holy arm has brought deliverance.

All: God has made salvation known and shown divine justice to the nations and has remember in truth and love the House of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God!

One: Shout to the Most High, all the earth, break into joyous songs of praise!

All: Sing praise to God with harp and melodious singing!
With trumpets and blast of shofar, with a shout to God,
Ruler of All.

One: Let the sea and all within it thunder; the world and all its peoples

All: Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy before God who comes to judge the earth, who will rule the world with justice and its people with equity.

~silence is kept

A Story for the Child in All of Us

#### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**Second Reading** 1 John 5:1-16 Sue Myers All who believe are children of God

**Third Reading** John 15:9-17 Pastor Katie Becoming Friends

The Message Pay it Forward Pastor Katie

#### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

**Invitation to Generosity** 

\*Choral Response "God, We Thank You for Our People" (#376NCH) (verse 1)

\*Blessing Our Gifts

All: O God, Source of All Blessings, may each gift given be a reflection of our love and be used to spread the Good News of your never-ending, transformative love. Abide in these gifts, O God, so that they bear lasting fruit. Amen.

#### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Hymn of Preparation "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (#506 NCH)

#### **Setting the Table**

One: Grain is gathered from the field; threshed and milled for flour.

All: We are formed from the grain of God's harvest.

One: Flour is mixed with water to produce dough.

All: The water of baptism unites us.

One: Yeast is added to transform the mixture.

All: The vision of God's realm draws us onwards.

One: Oil softens the dough and makes a new texture.

All: The Holy Spirit anoints us as the body of Christ.

One: A little salt improves the taste.

All: Jesus calls us to be the salt of the earth.

One: The bread is kneaded and shaped, molded and baked.

All: It is God who makes us a Holy Communion.

One: Grapes are harvested and crushed for juice.

All: You are the vine, we are the branches, O Christ.

One: Juice and skins are mixed with yeast for fermentation.

All: God's reign is coming. God's hope is here.

One: There is a time of waiting; then a time of pressing.

All: God's new life presses forth through the sediment of our lives.

One: And finally, the feast is here!

All: Let us celebrate the feast of our life in God.

The Story

The Meal

**The Prayer** 

All: O Jesus, our beloved Savior, we thank you for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast. May we know that we have been fed with love and grace, and may we follow you out in the world as beloved friends. Filled with your Spirit, may we share your promises of hope and peace with our sisters and brothers, as we also share the prayer that you taught us...

The Lord's Prayer.

#### Go Forth in Peace & Serve!

\*Closing Hymn: "Love Is the Touch of Intangible Joy "
Lyrics by Alison M. Robertson

\*Benediction

\*Carrying the Light into the World

\*Prelude to Service:

**Instrumental music by Hannah Matthews** 

<u>Worship Notes and Resources</u>: Adapted from: Friends of God: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain. Posted on the United Church of Christ's <u>Worship Ways</u> archive, Communion Liturgies - enfleshed.

The music in our worship is reproduced via our CCLI License number: 2809801

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#### 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 next week:**

Ascension Sunday - May 12, 2024

Acts 1:15-17 Luke 24:44-53

The Message Growing in God

#### **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

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

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday June Newsletters - Monday, May 20

#### **Meeting Dates**

Consistory – Wednesday, June 5 @ 7pm Worship Comm – Third Thursday of each month @ 3:30.

#### **Budget Information:**

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

Giving for last week: \$1,160.60 Attendance: 31

**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.

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

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

#### **Prayer requests:**

Jeff Brooks and family by Leslie Brooks

Mike Brooks, cousin of Jeff Brooks

Janie Dell, friend of Karen Price

Lisa Frederick

Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity

Matt Goon, cousin of Karen Price

Bonnie and Norman Greenholtz

James Penick, Pastor Katie's father

Mary and George Pietsch

Leah, friend of Donna Alban

Carol Sheffler, friend of Belva LaMotte

Martha Tallent, Pastor Katie's Godmother

Robert Yeoman, friend of Pastor Katie

### **Book Study!**

If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When *New York Times* bestselling author Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she embarked on a journey to better understand what the Bible is and how it's meant to be read. What she discovered changed her--and it can change you, too.

Evans knew firsthand how a relationship with the Bible can be as real and as complicated as a relationship with a family member or close friend. In *Inspired*, Evans explores contradictions and questions from her own experiences with the Bible, including:

- 1. If the Bible was supposed to explain the mysteries of life, why does it leave the reader with so many questions?
- 2. What does it mean to be chosen by God?
- 3. To what degree did the Holy Spirit guide the preservation of these narratives, and is there something sacred to be uncovered beneath all these human fingerprints?
- 4. If the Bible has given voice to the oppressed, why is it also used as justification by their oppressors?

Drawing on the best in biblical scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, and even a short screenplay.

We will gather by Zoom on Tuesdays at 7 pm. Our final meeting will be in person.

Meetings:

Tuesday, May 7 – 7 pm

Tuesday, May 14 – 7 pm

Tuesday, May 21 - 7 pm

We will finish the book study in June date TBA

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On **Sunday May 19** Trinity will welcome new members. Anyone who is interested please see Pastor Katie.

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

Pastor: the Rev. Katie Penick

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Website - www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Consistory President – Elwin Wagner Vice President – Sandy Sanders

Secretary – Leslie Brooks Treasurer – Sue Myers

