

# Trinity United Church of Christ "Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost" November 17, 2024 10:30 a.m.

### A Service of Poetry and Song, guided by the work of Mary Oliver In-Person Worship FB Live Streaming

### A Season of Peace

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 "Tell me what you plan to do with your one wild and precious life." ~Mary Oliver~

### 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 based on Praying Moriah Marr

One: It doesn't have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, this isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak

### \*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.

A moment of affirmation Moriah Marr

\*Opening Hymn:

"Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands" verses 1-3 & 5

#### **Call to Reconciliation**

One: As we gather in worship, let us take this moment to consider our needs for transformation and forgiveness. I invite you to quietly reflect on our need for grace.

~silence is kept~

### Prayer of Brokenness based on Thirst

Pastor: Another morning and I wake with thirst for goodness I do not have.

Reader: I walk out to the pond and all the way God has given us such beautiful lessons.

Pastor: Oh Lord, I was never a quick scholar but sulked and hunched over my books past the hour and the bell; grant me in your mercy a little more time.

Reader: Love for the earth and love for you are having such a long conversation in my heart.

All: Who knows what will finally happen or where I will be sent, yet already I have given a great many things away, expecting to be told to pack nothing, except the prayers which, with this thirst, I am slowly learning.

### Words of Blessing based on Lead

One: I tell you this: to break your heart by which I mean only that it breaks open and never close again to the rest of the world

### A Story for the Child in All of Us

Children are dismissed for Children's Church

\*Gloria, Gloria (Taizé)'

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**First Reading** Philippians 4:4-9 Moriah Marr Rejoice in the Lord always!

**Second Reading** When I am Among the Trees Moriah Marr

**Third Reading** Matthew 25:31-46 Pastor Katie The Judgement of the Nations

The Message Restorative Justice Pastor Katie

\*Special Music "Morning Has Broken" performed by Claire Anthony

### Invitation to Generosity based on Red Bird

One: It is a serious thing just to be alive on this fresh morning in this broken world. We give because we have been given so much and we are called to bring healing to broken places.

### Blessing of the Foodbags/Snacks

## \*Choral Response "Sanctuary" #482 (Worship & Rejoice) (REPEAT)

### \*Blessing Our Gifts The Gift

One: Be still, my soul, and steadfast.

Earth and heaven both are still watching though time is draining from the clock and your walk, that was confident and quick, has become slow.

All: So, be slow if you must, but let the heart still play its true part.
Love still as once you loved, deeply and without patience. Let God and the world know you are grateful.
That the gift has been given.

The Suffrages Based on Six Recognitions of the Lord

One: I know a lot of fancy words. I tear them from my heart and my tongue.

All: Then I pray.

One: Lord God, mercy is in your hands, pour me a little. And tenderness too.

All: My need is great. Beauty walks so freely and with such gentleness...

One: When I first found you I was filled with light, now the darkness grows and it is filled with crooked things, bitter and weak, each one bearing my name.

All: I have always known you are present in the clouds, and the black oak I especially adore, and the wings of birds.

One: But you are present too in the body, listening to the body, teaching it to live...

All: We do not do this easily. We have lived so long in the heaven of touch, and we maintain our mutability, our physicality, even as we begin to apprehend the other world.

One: Slowly we make our appreciative response.

All: Slowly appreciation swells to astonishment.

One: I thirst and am given water.

All: My eyes thirst and I am given the white lilies on the black water.

One: My heart sings...

All: but the apparatus of singing doesn't convey half what it feels and means...

One: There is everywhere the luminous sprawl of gifts...

All: ...the hospitality of the Lord and my inadequate answers...

One: We enter the dialogue of our lives that is beyond all understanding or conclusion.

All: It is mystery. It is love of God. It is obedience.

One: Oh, feed us this day, Holy Spirit, with the fragrance of the fields and the freshness of the oceans which you have made, and help us to hear and to hold in all dearness those exacting and wonderful words of our Lord Christ Jesus, saying: Follow me.

### The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn: "When I Am Among the Trees" (Text based on poem When I am Among the Trees, by Mary Oliver)

### GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!

\*Benediction based on Evidence

One: sometimes I need only to stand wherever I am to be blessed. Go out this day and be a blessing for others!

\*Carrying the Light into the World

\*Prelude to Service:

Instrumental music by Hannah Matthews

### **Worship Notes and Resources**

Adapted from Mary-Oliver-Evensong.pdf

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### **Leadership**

Katie Penick Pastor

Hannah Matthews Director of Music Moriah Marr Lay Reader

Deb Persinger Worship Committee

Sandy Sanders Hannah Matthews MB Brainerd

# Please join us for Fellowship following Worship today!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Worship at Trinity UCC for next week:**

Caregiver Appreciation Sunday - November 24, 2024

First Reading Ruth 1:8-18 Ruth's commitment to Naomi

**Second Reading** Mark 12:38-44 The widow and the judge

The Message

### **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 December Newsletters - Monday, November 18

### **Meeting Dates by Zoom**

Consistory – December 4 @ 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: \$1,318.45 Attendance: 28

Care Fund/Building: \$35.00

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:**

Carolyn Brooks, Jeff Brooks mom

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

Meg Grim, daughter of Pastor Katie

Bonnie and Norman Greenholtz

John Hansen

Ash Van Nuys

Freeman Palmer, CAC Conference Minister

Kathy Peters and family

Mary and George Pietsch

Leah, friend of Donna Alban

Wendi Saltsman, friend of Belva LaMotte

Mark Seal, son of Deb and Robert Miller

Ken Plummer

Jean Simmons

Becky Smith, niece of Karen Price

Gina Tollini

Rev. Debra Wilcox

Family of Judi Wilcox

**Shirley Wood** 

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





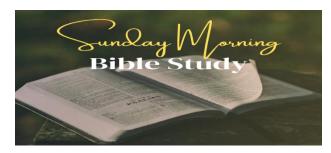
### TRINITY T-SHIRT ORDERS

We are taking orders for our newly designed t-shirts! Contact Sandy Sanders to place an order or with any

questions @ 443-974-6723

SIZING: Adult Sizes: S M L XL XXL

Youth Sizes: S M L XL



# Adult Sunday School 9:15 a.m. @Trinity and by Zoom

Studies that combine scripture and poetry

November – "Wendell Berry and the Poetry of Sabbath"

**December** - "The Poetry of Advent: An Advent Companion to Mary Oliver's 'Devotions.'"

Zoom links are available for all Bible Study

Hurricane Relief – we are continuing to accept donations for Hurricane Relief through the month of November.



Tuesday Bible Study at 10 am – focus on Proverbs: the Beginning of Knowledge In person and zoom



### **Book Club returns for Advent!**

We will read *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* by Will Willimon

From the book cover: "In Advent, we celebrate and anticipate the earth-shaking, life transforming good news that God is coming to us. Watch out. Get ready. God is on the way!"

Please let Pastor Katie know if you are interested.

<u>Please pick up the flyers for Decorating for Christmas and Reverse Advent Calendar in the Narthex.</u>



### **Trinity UCC Christmas Giving Tree**

The holiday season is fast approaching; TUCC has plans to assist with help for families again this year. NESAP will be providing us with the needs of at least one family with younger children. Once we receive the information, we will have gift tags available for our congregation beginning **Sunday**, **November 17**<sup>th</sup> with gift ideas for you to purchase, wrap and bring into church. NESAP recommends the cost of each gift should be around \$30.00. Please return wrapped gifts by **December 15th**. Place the gift tag you removed from the tree on the gift.

TUCC is a small and mighty church, and our congregation always finds a way to help families in need and for that we are blessed and thankful for bringing smiles and comfort to others during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Season. God Bless and thank you once again for your support. Contact Sandy Sanders with questions 443-974-6723.

### 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

### WHEN I AM AMONG THE TREES by Mary Oliver

When I am among the trees,
especially the willows and the honey locust
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,
they give off such hints of gladness.

I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself, in which I have goodness, and discernment, and never hurry through the world but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves and call out, "Stay awhile."

The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, "It's simple," they say,

"and you too have come
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled
with light, and to shine."

