



**Trinity United Church
of Christ
“Epiphany Sunday”
January 5, 2025
10:30 a.m.**

**The Light has Come!
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 Day: “A person’s a person, no matter how small.” ~Dr. Seuss~

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

Words of Welcome Pastor Katie

Announcements, Joys and Concerns Pastor Katie

***Call to Community**

MB Brainerd

One: We gather as a community of faith in God’s revolutionary world of love.

All: **We gather to celebrate that no darkness can extinguish light, to remember that love will always be more powerful than death, and to trust that peace will always be stronger than violence.**

One: We gather as a people of faith in the light of God’s world.

All: **Let us celebrate God’s enduring love!**

***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: “As with Gladness Those of Old”**

#159 NCH (verses 1-3)

Welcome New Members

Welcome and Introduction of New Members

Our Covenant Together

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)*

Congregational Leader: 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

A Story for the Child in All of Us

***Gloria, Gloria (Taizé)**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6 MB Brainerd

"Arise, shine! Your light has come!

Second Lesson Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor Katie

The arrival of the Magi

The Message *Seeking the Light* Pastor Katie

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Blessing our Reverse Advent Donations

***Choral Response: "In the Bleak Midwinter"**

#128 NCH (verse 4)

***Blessing Our Gifts**

All: God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to continue your work in a dark world. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see and be brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness. Amen.

Installation of 2025 Consistory

Greeting

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth. To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Introduction

Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. Christ is like a single body, which has many parts. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness. All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

Presentation

These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us as our church officers and Council. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

Sandy Sanders, Sue Myers, Doug Myers, Marge Bailey, Hannah Matthews, Deb Persinger, Moriah Marr, Shana Clark

Covenant

addressing the people being affirmed

Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for service as an officer of the congregation and/or Consistory member in the ministry of this church, whether gathered or scattered.

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

I am.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

I do, relying on God's grace.

Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

All who are able stand.

***Congregational Response**

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

Laying on Of Hands

The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men and asks the Holy Spirit to confer upon them the gifts of ministry. We lay hands upon you, Shana Clark and Moriah Morr, as you embark on a new calling for this congregation.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for the ministry of elder in Christ's church and equip you with everything good to do God's will. Receive authority to execute the office of elder in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Prayer

Let us pray,

Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name.

Amen.

Declaration

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, I rejoice to announce: You are hereby installed in your respective positions.

Greeting of Christian Love

In accordance with the faith and order of this church, I extend to you the greeting of Christian love.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

One: May God be with you

All: And also with you.

One: Lift your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the God we love.

All: We freely give God thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

The Proclamation

All: Christ has died Christ is risen Christ will come again.

The Shared Meal

***Hymn of Preparation: "Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts"
#329 NCH (verses 1, 3, & 5)**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We have been fed, Holy One, by your presence.
We have been led, Eternal One, by your light.
May we bask in this glow

Now and forever more. Amen

Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn: "Arise, Your Light Is Come" #164 NCH

WE DEPART IN PEACE

*Benediction

Prelude to Service: Instrumental music

Worship Notes and Resources

Sources: adapted from Cheryl Lawrie and posted on **[hold this space]**. <http://holdthisspace.org.au/>, Christmas 1 or 2—
December 27 or January 3 - United Church of Christ (ucc.org),
sanctifiedart.org, Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>
The music in our worship is reproduced via our One License number: A-725765.

Leadership

Katie Penick
Hannah Matthews
MB Brainerd
Deb Persinger
Sandy Sanders
Hannah Matthews
MB Brainerd

Pastor
Director of Music
Lay Reader
Worship Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at Trinity UCC for next week:

January 12 – Baptism of Christ Sunday

First Lesson – Isaiah 43:1-7

Second Lesson - Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Message – Backwards Baptismal Promises

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

February Newsletters - Monday, January 27

Meeting Dates by Zoom

Consistory – January 8 @ 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: \$2,095.43 Attendance: 31

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:

Lucy Brady
Carolyn Brooks, Jeff Brooks mom
Jeff Brooks and family by Leslie Brooks
Mike Brooks, cousin of Jeff Brooks
Janie Dell, friend of Karen Price
Joanna Garber
Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity
Meg Grim, daughter of Pastor Katie
Bonnie and Norman Greenholtz
John Hansen
Janet Kelly
Ash Van Nuys
Leah, friend of Donna Alban
Kathy Peters and family
Mary and George Pietsch
Wendi Saltsman, friend of Belva LaMotte
Mary Shaffer
Jean Simmons
Becky Smith, niece of Karen Price
Gina Tollini
Rev. Debra Wilcox
Family of Judi Wilcox
Shirley Wood



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



“the stories of our faith.”

Tuesday Bible Study at 10 am

also

Sunday Morning Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

@Trinity and by Zoom

Zoom links are available for all Bible Study



Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen emergencies, the decision to close the church will be made two hours before worship/meetings/workday begin. You can find out whether or not the building will be open in the following possible ways:

1. Calling the church at 410 374-2727 (The voice mail message will reflect the decision to close or remain open.)
2. Checking your email. (Those with email will receive a message.)
3. Receiving a call through the phone tree

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 – trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net

Website – www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Vice President – Sandy Sanders

Secretary – Leslie Brooks

Treasurer – Sue Myers

