



Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

703-356-3312 | umtrinity.org | info@umtrinity.org

January 14, 2024

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

We ask that everyone complete an attendance card found in the pew rack or scan the QR code on page 12 with your phone's camera and click the link to register your attendance today. Don't forget to include **each** family member present.

Prelude (8:30)
Prelude (10:30)

Sarabande from Holberg Suite (Grieg)
I Must Tell Jesus (arr. Lamb)

Jerry Rich
Trinity Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

Clergy

* Call to Worship

Taehwan Roh

God knows each one of us personally and God loves each one of us.

Thanks be to God for such wondrous love!

Come this day into the presence of God.

We come with overflowing hearts!

Celebrate God's mercy and compassion.

Praise be to God who offers us hope. Amen.

* Gathering Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

[UMH 64](#)

Children's Message

Laurie Strollo

Prayers of the People

Taehwan Roh

Offering

Neil Hough

This morning's offering will be received as we pass the offering plates. You may also give online at <http://umtrinity.org/give> and through our app. On the website, scroll down and click on SET UP ONLINE GIVING.

Offertory (8:30)

My Lord, What a Morning (traditional)

Maggie Rabe

Offertory (10:30)

My Lord, What a Morning (traditional)

Chancel Choir

Scripture

Revelation 13:1-4, 16-18

Taehwan Roh

And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads; and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death-blow, but its mortal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshipped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshipped the beast, saying, 'Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?'

Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell who does not have the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. This calls for wisdom: let anyone with understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a person. Its number is six hundred and sixty-six.

Message

A Tale of Two Empires

Neil Hough

Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)

Clergy

* Closing Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

[UMH 529](#)

* Benediction

Neil Hough

* Closing Music

Little Prelude in C (attrib. JS Bach)

Jerry Rich

* Please stand as you are able.

Grow — Pray — Study

Things I'd like to remember from today's message:

Monday, January 15 — Revelation 4:1-5:14

This week's readings cover twelve chapters in Revelation. The powerful images evoke our imaginations and help us understand the contrast between the Kingdom of God and the kingdoms of the earth. The scenes alternate between heaven and earth. In many ways, Revelation is a worship book calling God's people to worship God with the same fervor that God is worshipped in heaven. The good news of Revelation is that God is faithful and that we can trust in God's ultimate victory. Therefore, the primary response to God's goodness — in every age and location — is to worship God.

- When and how do you worship God? Is worship a spiritual discipline and means of grace for you? Or is worship a spectator event to attend?
- Prayer: *God of heaven and earth, you, and you alone, are God. You are Holy and Almighty. Inspire me to worship you every day of my life. Amen.*

Tuesday, January 16 — Revelation 6:1-7:17

The first hearers of Revelation would have understood that they had already experienced, or were experiencing, the terrors envisioned in chapter 6. Chapter 7 is an interlude, which reminds the Church that, in the midst of the horrors of evil, God is faithful and that God's children are saved by the grace of God. Baptism is the sign of God's "seal" (Revelation 7:3). Remember your baptism today. Remember that you are saved by God's grace. Remember that you are "washed ... in the blood of the Lamb" (Revelation 7:14).

- What helps you remember — every day — that you are saved by God's grace through your faith in Jesus Christ?
- Prayer: *Eternal God, thank you for my baptism and my place in your church. Be my shepherd, the center of my life. Strengthen me to live as your child today. Amen.*

Wednesday, January 17 — Revelation 8:1-9:21

The horrible images of plagues, wars, famines, and death in Revelation serve as prophetic reminders of God's judgment. Revelation 8:13 announces "woe" to the inhabitants of the earth — a warning that now is the time to repent of sin and idolatry (Revelation 9:20) and return to God. The warnings of Scripture are meant to cause individuals to look closely at their own lives, confess their sin, and choose (again and again) to serve and follow God.

- As you reflect on the warnings of Scripture, what sin and idolatry do you need to confess and repent today?
- Prayer: *God of grace, I confess that I am easily tempted and seduced by the idols of the world. Forgive me. Save me from the power of sin and death. Amen.*

Thursday, January 18 — Revelation 10:1-11:19

Between the sixth and seventh trumpets there is an interlude that describes the work of God's people — the Church. Following Ezekiel, the prophet (in Revelation 10:8-11) is told to consume the scroll of God's word and share it with the world. (See Ezekiel 2:8-3:3.) Eating the scroll is a way of internalizing God's Word. According to Revelation 10:9 it is bittersweet because God's word can be challenging, even for God's people.

- How important is God's Word for you? Are you willing to consume it and share it? Which parts of God's Word are bittersweet for you? Which parts of God's Word are hard to stomach?
- Prayer: *God of Wisdom, thank you for your Word, especially for the Word made flesh — Jesus. Give me courage to consume it, share it, and live it in the world. Amen.*

Friday, January 19 — Revelation 12:1-13:18

The seven churches of Revelation would have recognized the Roman Empire and the Roman Emperors Nero and Domitian in these scenes. They would be challenged to choose which king — King Jesus or the Emperor — they would worship and which empire they would serve. Would their lives reflect the marks of God's Empire (see Deuteronomy 6:8) or the marks of the world's empire? Many of us try to live in both empires (God's and the world's).

- It is difficult to serve God alone in the world today. How might you live more fully in God's Empire — the Kingdom of God — today?
- Prayer: *Almighty God, forgive me when I fail to trust you completely. Give me the endurance and faith I need to worship and serve you alone. Amen.*

Saturday, January 20 — Revelation 14:1-15:8

The Bible often uses the image of human infidelity to describe the unfaithfulness of God's people in their relationship with God. (See Isaiah 1, Hosea 2, and Revelation 17.) *The Book of Revelation* contrasts heaven and earth. The Church is not a whore; it is the bride of Christ. The warnings are meant to lead people to repentance and then to faithfulness. Read and reflect on Revelation 14:11-13. There is no rest for the wicked, but the Saints will rest from their labors.

- How does this image speak to you? Remember that the path to God's rest is described in Revelation 14:12.
- Prayer: *Loving God, thank you for the promise of rest and peace. Give me the faith of Jesus, and faith in Jesus. Comfort me with your everlasting love and grace. Amen.*

Nursery on Sundays

The Nursery is staffed during both Sunday worship services for children 3 years old and under.

This Week on Zoom

Password 1205

Engage Bible Study

Monday at 7 p.m. Contact Jim Wilson for log in link. jaswilson@sloft.com.

Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 894 8087 9762
Tuesdays are hybrid (in-person & on Zoom).
Wednesday at 7 p.m.: Meeting ID: 886 5257 6837

Prayer Group

Wednesday at 9 a.m. Meeting ID: 875 6105 5580

Sermon Series

Revelation: few books of the Bible create more interest, inspire more curiosity, and invoke more fear than this book. But what is the meaning of Revelation? How are we to read it? And how does its message speak to us today? Together we are exploring these questions and more in Pastor Neil's series: ***The Return of the King***.



Pastor's Bible Study Starts January 16 & 17

Join Pastor Neil for a study of the Book of Revelation starting on January 16 and 17. We'll consider how this fascinating book has been read throughout church history and look for its message to us in our 21st century world. No previous Bible Study experience is necessary. Bring your Bible and come ready to learn and grow in your faith. The class will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. (in-person and on Zoom) and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. (on Zoom).

Support The Confirmation Class Project

The 2024 Confirmation Class is organizing a service project where they will assemble Blessing Bags containing food, personal items, and a \$5 McDonald's gift certificate for those in need, especially the homeless or home-insecure in their community. The congregation is invited to contribute to the project by making one-time donations online. If you would like to help, you can go to umtrinity.org/donate and make a one-time gift. Choose "Confirmation" in the dropdown menu under "Fund." The bags cost approximately \$12 each to fill. The goal is to fill 100 bags, and any extra funds will either make more bags or support another mission/service project chosen by the class. Last year, 75 bags were filled. After assembly, the bags will be blessed in a worship service, and the congregation is encouraged to take a bag and help distribute them in the community. The Confirmation Class is commended for their commitment to serving others in Christ's name.

Our Prayer List

Adam, Alan, Alice, Amanda & David, Amber & Brianna, Andi, Andrea, Andrew, Anne, Annie Ruth, Arnold, Audrey, Barb, Barry & Diane, Betty, Bill & Mad-die, Brett, Brian, Bruce, Bud, Catherine, Carol & Rich, Caroline, Carrie, Carson, Cathy, Chris, Christopher, Currie family, Daniel, Daniel & Cindy, Danny, Dara, Dave & Gail, Davey, David & Carol, Darlene & Steve, Desarae, Di Letti family, Donnie, Doris, Doris & Joe, Dudley & Susan, Easley family, Ed, Elaine, Eileen, Ellie, Emmett, Eric, Erica & Roberto, Erik, Evans family, Fran & Tom, Frank, Gabe, Gabrielle, Gary & Lin-die, Garry, Glenda, Geoff, Gray, Greg, Gregg, Ham-mer family, Harriet, Harris family, Harry, Heather, Hefferon family, Helena, Hemingway family, Henry, Holmes family, Hong family, Jack, Jackie, Jan, Janice, Jason, Jean, Jeanette, Jeanne, Jeff, Jenna, Jenny & Michael, Jessica, Jimmy, Joan, Joe & Marie, John, Jomer, Josie, Judi, Judy, June, Karen, Kathy, Kay & John, Kenny family, Krista, Kobi, Lajoie family, Landaverde family, Laura, Leigh, Lejoy family, Leslie, Linda, Lindstedt family, Lisa, Liz & David, Lon, Lon-don family, Long family, Lori, Luana, Lynne, Mack, Macy, Marcia, Marcienne, Marilyn, Maher family, Mark, Marty & Mary, Mary, Matt, Matthias, McClain family, Melissa, Michael, Michelle, Mickey & Ruth, Mike, Moore family, Nancy, Nell, Nina, Niro, Norma, Nor-man, Olivia, Pat, Patty, Paul, Pauline & Merlin, Pearl family, Peg & Dick, Peter, Peter & Laura, Powers family, Prisilla, Rebecca, Sabbagh family, Sally, Saun-dra, Scott, Sheila, Spencer, Skyard family, Stephanie, Stephen, Steve, Sue, Susan, Teresa, Tim, Tom, Tony, Vanna, Vinnie, Wayne, Williams family, and Yancey, travelers, those who mourn, the homeless, racial rec-onciliation in our country, those affected by the opioid epidemic and those working to end it, victims of fam-ine and war, peace and more empathy in the world, protection from gun violence in the world and for its victims and families, those living in war zones, hos-tages, those living with cancer.

Mission Trip Information Meeting

Thursday, January 25
7 p.m.
Chapel

Trip Dates: March 2 - 7

- Activities at The Leadership Center in Honduras
- What it will be like for our 6 days on this beautiful rural campus.
- Learn how we can support the 56 students while we are there.
- Travel and logistics information and what to bring.

No commitment is required. Come to learn more and con-sider if God is calling you to serve in Honduras for a week!

Highlights from E-News

If you're not receiving our Friday e-mail, please send your email address to info@umtrinity.org

Book Chat

Meets Tuesday, **February 13** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome: <http://umtrinity.org/education/adults>.

Children's Ministries

Children's Worship Folders are available during worship services and are categorized by age and reading ability. Please return your folder to the used bin so it can be replenished.

Children's Worship (ages 4 - 4th grade) and **Club 56** (grades 5 & 6) meet during the 10:30 service following the Children's Message.

Fellowship

To provide snacks during Fellowship, sign up on the white board on the coffee bar. Contact Alesha Luxon, alesha.luxon@gmail.com.

Mission Trip: March 2024

Exciting news! Join our team on a trip to The Leadership Center in rural Honduras from March 2 to March 7, 2024. You'll join Chris and Dan Moore, who will be serving there for three weeks. For details, contact Chris Moore (christinecmoore@gmail.com, 571-215-2948) or Dan Moore (703-980-5050, danmoore53@gmail.com). Want to learn more? Come to the information meeting on **January 25 at 7 p.m.** in the Chapel. No commitment necessary to attend this meeting.

Preschool Enrollment Open

Enrollment for 2024-25 is open. For details, please visit umtrinity.org/preschool.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

This year's pancake supper will be in Langley Hall on Tuesday, Feb 13, 5 - 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person; \$25 per family PLUS two (2) or more cans of food for Trinity Youth's SHARE the Love collection to benefit SHARE of McLean. If you are a "Pancake cooking/flipping aficionado," or cook a mean-sausage, or can set-up/clean-up, please let Jim Wilson know. Many volunteer hands make the event a real success. Contact Jim Wilson at jaswilson@sloft.com.

Ushers Needed

Ushers are needed each Sunday. If you would like to volunteer please sign up at umtrinity.org/ushers.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

Next youth meeting: Jan. 21

February 3, 12:30-2:30: Laser Tag at Trinity

February 23-25: Youth Retreat at Skycroft Conference Center. We'll join youth from Chesterbrook and Cherrystone for a spiritual weekend exploring **Our Story** and getting to know each other all while have loads of fun! Cost is \$195 per person, which includes room, meals and facilities.

Contact Catherine Wethington, umtrinityyouth@gmail.com. Scan the QR code at the right to register for 2023-24 youth activities.



Coming Up

January

15 Office Closed
16 Spire assembly
16 Trustees
20 Christ House
25 Mission Trip Informational

February

4 Martha's Table
5 Crafts for a Cause
13 Book Chat
13 Pancake Supper
14 Ash Wednesday
17 Christ House
19 Office Closed
19 Crafts for a Cause
23-25 Youth Retreat

March

2-7 Mission Trip to Honduras



Attendance: Please complete a pew rack attendance card or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and click the link.

Don't forget to include the first name of each family member present as well as surname.



Trinity Church Staff

Neil Hough
Taehwan Roh
Harriet Latta
Jose Nuñez
Jerry Rich
Emily Yosmanovich
Catherine Wethington
Laurie Strollo

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Facilities Manager
Director of Music
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Director of Children's Ministry

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Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Worship is live streamed on Sundays from the Chapel at 8:30 a.m. and from the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. on YouTube: youtube.com/UMTrinity. The Celtic Service can be seen on the last Sunday of the month at 5 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook.