



Trinity United Methodist Church



Healing of the Man Born Blind, El Greco
Oil on canvas, Greek, 1567

*He told me to go
and wash
So I went
and washed
and I then I could see*

John 9:116

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101
703-356-3312 | umtrinity.org | info@umtrinity.org

March 15, 2026

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



Welcome to Trinity Church! We are grateful you are here. We'd appreciate it if you would complete an attendance card found in the pew rack (or scan the QR code on page 5 with your phone's camera and click the link) to register your attendance today - and do include each family member present.

Prelude

Philip Keirstead

Welcome

* Call to Worship

Come into the light of God.

Christ's brightness will guide our way.

Come into the wisdom of God.

The Spirit's insight will reveal new truths.

Come into the praise of God,

Worship opens new doors in our hearts.

* Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

[UMH 400](#)

Prayer of Preparation

Christ our Healer,

we want to see and be seen fully.

We long to heal and be healed fully.

We yearn to love and be loved fully.

Yet, these desires seem beyond our reach
when our minds are set on earthly things.

Set our minds instead on you.

Open the eyes of my heart, O God.

Help us see more clearly, think more openly,

feel more deeply, and love more abundantly.

(A moment of silent prayer.)

Help us perceive the possibilities of fullness,
of shalom, of your realm on this earth.

Then guide us to help live into the reality
you open to us. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Laurie Strollo

Prayers of the People

Our prayer will conclude with:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

*Our offering is received as we pass the plates, but you may also give online at
<http://umtrinity.org/give> or through our app.*

Offertory

Gracious Spirit (Scott)

Catherine Wethington (8:30)
Chancel Choir (10:30)

Reading from the Scriptures

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 35-39

Howard Chatham (8:30)
Nancy Umstott (10:30)

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

(Continued on page 2)

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided. Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet."

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

This is the Word of God, for us, the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message	<i>Are We Really Seeing?</i>	Taehwan Roh
Communion (8:30)		
* Closing Hymn	<i>Open My Eyes, That I May See</i>	UMH 454
* Benediction		
* Postlude		Philip Keirstead

(At the conclusion of our service, you are welcome to depart or to remain seated to enjoy the Postlude.)

* Please stand as you are able.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

	<p>Sunday, March 29 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>We begin Holy Week by celebrating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with palms and shouts of "Hosanna," then turn to the story of his suffering and sacrifice. The service moves from joy to solemn remembrance, preparing us for the journey to the Cross.</p>
	<p>Thursday, April 2 Change of time and format! 6 p.m.</p> <p>Come and enjoy a potluck supper together, as we worship around tables in the Fellowship Lobby, and explore how Christ's gift of forgiveness and example of humble service open for us a new way to befriend others..</p>
	<p>Friday, April 3 7 p.m.</p> <p>A day of deep reflection on Christ's suffering and crucifixion. Through Scripture, prayer, and silence, we remember the depth of God's love shown in Jesus' sacrifice. This service will include readings and moving music led by the Chancel Choir.</p>
	<p>Sunday, April 5 7 a.m. Sunrise Service 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>We rejoice in the good news of the Resurrection and the promise of new life! The day begins with our Sunrise Service at 7 a.m., followed by festive worship at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to celebrate the hope and joy of Easter!</p>

Grow — Pray — Study

Our weekly devotional is available at <https://bit.ly/TrinityGPS>



Monday, March 16 — John 9:1–41

John 9 tells a long and complex story about a man born blind whose life changes after encountering Jesus. At first, the story appears to focus on physical healing. Yet as the chapter unfolds, the attention slowly shifts from the miracle itself and toward the reactions of the people around him. Neighbors question the event, religious leaders debate it, and even the man's parents respond cautiously out of fear.

As the story continues, the man who once lived in darkness gradually becomes the one who sees most clearly. His understanding grows step by step while others remain trapped in certainty and suspicion. Lent invites us to read this story not only as history but also as reflection. Sometimes spiritual sight develops slowly, and God may be opening our eyes in ways we do not immediately recognize.

- Where in your life might God be inviting you 'to look again' or see differently?
- What helps you remain open to insight when understanding does not come immediately?
- **Prayer:** God of light, you see far more than I can see. Open my eyes patiently and help me recognize the ways you are already at work in my life. Amen.

Tuesday, March 17 — 1 Samuel 16:1–13

When Samuel arrives to anoint a new king, he expects the strongest and most impressive candidate to be chosen. Yet God reminds Samuel that human beings tend to judge by outward appearance while God looks at the heart. The one chosen is David, the youngest son, the one who was not even called in from the field at first.

This moment reveals how easily human perception can be shaped by visible qualities such as strength, reputation, or status. God's vision operates differently. God notices potential where others see insignificance and recognizes faithfulness where others overlook it. Lent encourages us to reconsider how we evaluate people and situations, trusting that God's work often begins in places that seem ordinary or unnoticed.

- When have your first impressions about someone later proven incomplete or mistaken?
- How might you practice seeing people more patiently this week?
- **Prayer:** Seeing God, teach me to look beyond appearances. Help me recognize the deeper worth and possibility you place within every person. Amen.

Wednesday, March 18 — Psalm 23

Psalm 23 portrays God as a shepherd who leads through both peaceful pastures and shadowed valleys. The image reminds us that life with God includes seasons of rest and seasons of uncertainty. The shepherd's role is not simply to remove difficulty but to guide and remain present along the path.

When people walk through darker valleys, it can be difficult to see clearly what lies ahead. Yet the psalm suggests that spiritual vision is not always about predicting the future. Instead, it grows through trusting the one who leads the journey. Lent invites us to slow down and rediscover that trust, even when the direction of the path is not fully visible.

- Where in your life do you most need guidance right now?
- How does remembering God's presence change the way you face uncertain situations?

- **Prayer:** Shepherding God, when my path feels unclear, remind me that you are guiding each step. Help me trust your presence even when the future is not fully visible. Amen.

Thursday, March 19 — Ephesians 5:8–14

In this passage Paul speaks about moving from darkness into light. The language describes a transformation that affects not only belief but the way people live each day. Walking in the light means allowing truth to shape decisions, relationships, and priorities.

Light has a revealing quality. It helps people recognize both what is life-giving and what may need change. During Lent many Christians intentionally pause to reflect on habits, assumptions, and patterns that shape daily life. This reflection is not meant to create guilt but to allow God's light to guide renewal and growth.

- What patterns or habits in your life deserve thoughtful reflection right now?
- Where might God's direction be inviting you to grow or change?
- **Prayer:** God of truth, shine your light on the paths I walk each day. Where I need wisdom or courage, guide me toward choices that reflect your life-giving presence. Amen.

Friday, March 20 — Mark 8:14–30

In Mark 8, the disciples struggle to understand what Jesus is doing and teaching. Even after witnessing miracles, they still misinterpret situations and miss deeper meaning. Jesus eventually asks them a direct question about who they believe he truly is, inviting them to move beyond confusion toward greater understanding.

This passage reminds us that spiritual insight often develops gradually. Faith is not simply about having all the answers immediately. It involves learning, questioning, and slowly recognizing the presence and work of God. Lent provides space for this kind of patient growth, where deeper clarity emerges through reflection and honest conversation with God.

- What questions about faith or life are you currently holding?
- How can curiosity and reflection become part of your spiritual growth?
- **Prayer:** God of wisdom, meet me in my questions and uncertainties. Lead me toward deeper understanding as I continue learning to follow your way. Amen.

Saturday, March 21 — Luke 18:31–43

As Jesus approaches Jericho, a blind man sits beside the road calling out for mercy. While others try to silence him, he continues to call out until Jesus stops and listens. His persistence leads to healing, and afterward he follows Jesus with gratitude.

The story highlights the courage required to acknowledge need. The man does not pretend everything is fine; instead he voices his longing openly. Lent often encourages this kind of honesty. By naming the places where we desire clarity, healing, or renewal, we open ourselves to transformation that might otherwise remain hidden.

- What desire or need in your life might you bring honestly before God today?
- How can persistence in prayer shape the way you seek God's help?
- **Prayer:** Compassionate God, you hear every sincere cry for help. Give me courage to speak honestly and trust that you are listening with care and mercy. Amen.

Today at Trinity

Fellowship, 9:30 a.m.

Hosted by Charles & Genee Boykin.

Chancel Choir, 10 a.m.

The Chancel Choir meets each Sunday at 10 a.m. to prepare to lead worship at 10:30 a.m. New singers are always welcome. If you'd like to know more about Trinity's music ministry, please contact Jerry Rich, jrlich@potomacschool.org.

Children's Worship, 10:30 a.m. (ages 4 - 6th grade)
Children's Worship takes place following the Children's Message in our Fellowship Building across the Breezeway.

Fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

The Trustees are hosting an **Irish-themed lunch** with corned beef, cabbage and potatoes **after worship today**. Be sure to stay and enjoy the meal with your church family. Our new Praise Band will also be sharing some Irish tunes.



Trustee Meeting, 11:45 a.m.

Youth Group, 4:30 p.m. Mystery Adventure

This Sunday the Youth will meet at Cherry Hill Park from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for an adventure in support of the March for Women. (You don't have to be registered to participate!) Cherry Hill Park is located in Falls Church City at 312 Park Ave. Parents should drop off and pick up from the park. Free street parking is available. Questions? Contact Catherine- 703-447-6999.

This Week

Tomorrow, Monday: Easter Flower Orders Due

Beautiful potted plants will add color and joy to our worship spaces on Easter morning. If you'd like to order a tulip, lily or hydrangea plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the form on our website under Worship or scan the QR code on page 5.

Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 7 p.m.: Lenten Bible Study

Sessions for **Walking the Bible** meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. (Church Library & Zoom) and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. (Zoom) and begins February 24 & 25. See back page for full description.

Wednesday, 9 a.m.: Prayer Group

A dedicated community that meets via Zoom to lift up the needs of our church family, community and world. If you'd like to know more or to participate, please speak to one of our pastors or call the office, 703-356-3312.

Saturday: Christ House Meal Mission

Christ House is a place of healing; a residential, medical facility for homeless men located on Columbia Road in the Adams Morgan area of Washington, DC. We prepare lunch on the third Saturday of every month. Contact Connie Jeremiah for more information, 703-307-4635 or dcjeremiah@verizon.net.

Coming Up

March 22: Celtic Service (special)

Come to experience the holy at our Celtic Evensong, as we explore the life and expressed faith of St. Patrick. The service will be at 5 p.m. in the Chapel; it is also live streamed. We will discontinue our Celtic Service after this month, but reprise it at some time in the future.

March 29: Children's Easter Egg Hunt

The children's egg hunt will be after the 10:30 worship service on **Sunday, March 29**. You may donate candy that fits in plastic eggs; please bring it by **March 27**.



March 29: Youth Group

Youth Group, grades 7-12, meets 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Building.

April 5: Martha's Table Snack Packaging

Following both worship services, we will gather in the Fellowship Lobby to make bags of trail mix for weekday distribution by Martha's Table in Washington, D.C. The snack bag assembly line is fun and also makes a difference in the lives of hundreds of people in our community. All supplies provided!

April 11: SHARE New Beginnings

Imagine being able to help someone to make a new beginning – even against great odds. That is exactly what we as a Church will do again this year, in partnership with SHARE of McLean. Be on watch for several ways that you can be part of our SHARED effort to enable a new person/family to get established in their new safe, fully furnished apartment home. Some of us may shop, others make a meal for the day, and still others help our Youth with the Move-In! It will take us all to become somebody's good news that day, and God's Good News.

April 11: Youth Retreat & SHARE New Beginnings!

The Youth Group will join Church & Society to create a welcoming and homey environment for one of Share's previously unhoused clients. After the volunteer event the Youth will return to the church for a day retreat on the theme of New Beginnings. There will be fellowship, games, Bible study, and an exciting opportunity to unleash our 'inner artists' with a paint experience led by Gillian Grunenfelder. It's a day you won't want to miss!

April 14: Book Chat

Book Chat will meet on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Tell Me Everything* by Elizabeth Strout. For more information, contact Suzanne Hamilton.

Our Prayer List

Aldridge family, Annie Ruth, Barb & JR, Billy & Susie, Carina, Carol & Rich, Carol & David, Carolyn, Carrie, Cathey, Daniel, Dara, Darlene & Steve, Dan, Davey, David, Dick, Emily, Gail, Gregg, Jack, Jane, Jenny, Jimmy, Joanna, Judi, Linda, Maddy & Bill, Marciene, Margie, Marilyn, Marina, Marguerite, Mark, Matthew, Meri, Norman & Teresa, Peg & Dick, Richard, Roh family, Ruth & Mickey, Silva, Tami, Thomas, Tom, Vanna, Vicki, Viviana, Wayne family, Winie & Joseph, Yancey, and peace in the Middle East and efforts of those seeking peace, our nation's leadership and unity, people experiencing natural disasters, those without housing, those who are hungry, those trying to do the right thing, peace in our nation, Spring Break travelers.

About Our Ministries

Nursery

The **Nursery** is staffed during both our Sunday worship services for children 3 years old and under. Our nursery is located in the Fellowship Building; simply speak to an usher and they will provide assistance.

Children's Worship Folders

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.

Fellowship: Getting Connected

You are cordially invited to meet friends and neighbors after each of our worship services. Join us in the Fellowship Lobby to the right of the breezeway. Each week individuals, families or ministry groups host our refreshments. Please consider signing up for either the 8:30 or 10:30 service's Fellowship time. Scan the QR code under Quick Links at the right to sign-up.

Trinity Preschool of McLean

TPoM welcomes all students ages 2-6. Please visit umtrinity.org/preschool to learn more about this vibrant ministry or to schedule a tour for your child.

Ushers Needed

Ushers are needed each Sunday to greet people, answer questions and hand out bulletins. Use the QR code below to volunteer for this essential ministry of hospitality, or speak to one of the pastors.

Quick Links

Scan QR code with your phone's camera & click the link.

- > Worship attendance
- > Children & Youth registration
- > Book Chat discussion group
- > Christ House wish list
- > Easter Flower Orders
- > Fellowship Hour hosts
- > Ushers



Share a Smile



Needed Items for Children's Dental Kits:

Child's Toothpaste
Child's Toothbrush
(individually wrapped)
Children's Flossers

Our dental kit collection continues through March. Collection bins are in the Fellowship Lobby and Narthex.

Lenten Bible Study: *Walking the Bible*

Join us for a journey through the Books of Moses, as we explore the story of the Exodus, as well as take a close-up look at the places where these events unfolded. Using Bruce Feiler's *Walking the Bible* video series, supplemented with mementos from Pastor Dave's travels, we'll reflect on how these ancient stories shape our own walk with God along the footsteps that lead to the Cross.

Sessions meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. (Church Library & Zoom) and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. (Zoom). We'll continue through March 31 & April 1 (no foolin'!). Whether you've traveled to the Middle East or hope to someday, come enjoy this visual and spiritual "walk through the Holy Land." Bring your Bible and your walking shoes!



Trinity Church Staff

Dave Rochford
Taehwan Roh
Harriet Latta
Jose Nuñez
Jerry Rich
Angi Oxendine
Catherine Wethington
Laurie Strollo

Lead Pastor
Associate Pastor
Office Manager
Facilities Manager
Director of Music
Preschool Director
Director of Youth Ministry
Director of Children's Ministry

drochford@umtrinity.org
troh@umtrinity.org
hlatta@umtrinity.org
703-356-3312
jrich@potomacschool.org
angio.trinitypreschool@gmail.com
umtrinityyouth@gmail.com
lstrollo@umtrinity.org

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Worship is in-person and livestreamed on Sundays from our Chapel at 8:30 a.m. and from our Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. on YouTube: youtube.com/UMTrinity. Our 5 p.m. Celtic Service is in-person and streamed on the last Sunday of the month. If you're not yet receiving our Friday weekly events e-mail, please send us your address at info@umtrinity.org