



# Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

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December 4, 2022

2nd Sunday of Advent

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 3 with your phone's camera to register your attendance today.

Prelude	<i>Pastorale on FOREST GREEN</i> (Purvis)	Jerry Rich
Welcome and Announcements		Clergy
* Call to Worship		Eileen Gilmer
The prophet Isaiah declared that justice and peace shall come through the family of Jesse. <b>This justice shall be for all of creation.</b> Peace shall be established in all the world. <b>Get ready! Prepare for God's peace to reign!</b> Blessed be God who does such wondrous things! <b>We give thanks to God for this time of healing and hope. Amen.</b>		
Lighting of the Advent Candle	Gay Rogers & Kathy Lindstedt (8:30), John David (10:30)	
	<i>Light the Advent Candle</i> (vs 2)	FWS 2090
Light the Advent candle two; Think of humble shepherds; who Filled with wonder at the sight, of the child of Christmas night. Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.		
* Gathering Hymn	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (stanzas 1-4, 6)	p. 3 / UMH 211
Children's Message		Laurie Strollo
Prayers of the People		Gilmer
Offering		Hough
This morning's offering will be received as we pass the offering plates. You may also give online at <a href="http://umtrinity.org/give">http://umtrinity.org/give</a> and through our app. On the website, scroll down and click on SET UP ONLINE GIVING.		
Anthem (8:30)	<i>Of Eternal Love Begotten</i> (Neale)	Joey Wilson
Anthem (10:30)	<i>God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen</i> (Kern)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	Luke 1:26-38	Gilmer
In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.		
Message	<i>"The Lord Is with You"</i>	Neil Hough
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		Clergy
* Closing Hymn	What Child Is This	p. 3 / UMH 219
* Benediction		Hough
Closing Music	<i>Allegro in A Minor</i> (Kuhnau)	Rich
* Please stand as you are able.		

# Grow — Pray — Study

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

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## **Monday, December 5 — 2 Samuel 7:11b-16**

The story of Christmas begins long before the angel Gabriel appears to Zechariah (to announce the birth of John the Baptist) and Mary (to announce the birth of Jesus.) The story of Christmas begins with the promise made by God to King David that one of his descendants would rule over Israel forever. That's why the Gospel writers are intentional about connecting the birth of Jesus with the larger story of Israel. The birth of Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise to David and to God's people.

- Promise and fulfillment is one of the most important themes in the Bible. How have you experienced God as a promise-keeper?
- Prayer: *Promise-Keeping God, open my heart, and mind during the Advent season to see the ways that the birth of Jesus fulfills the promises you have made to me. Amen.*

## **Tuesday, December 6 — Luke 1:26-33**

As the Christmas story unfolds, the angel Gabriel, whom we met in Luke 1:5-20, appears to a young girl living in Nazareth, a small community not far from the Sea of Galilee. Gabriel tells Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus, and that Jesus fulfills the promise made by God to David and to God's people. We will have to read the rest of the Gospel's account of Jesus' life and ministry (and death and resurrection) to understand what it means, but one thing is certain, Jesus will be God's King.

- What does it mean to you that Jesus is a King and rules over an eternal Kingdom? What kind of King do you think Jesus will be? What kind of King do you want Jesus to be?
- Prayer: *Eternal God, thank you for sending Jesus into the world to be our King. Thank you for inviting me to be a citizen of his Kingdom. Help me live a Kingdom life today. Amen.*

## **Wednesday, December 7 — Luke 1:34-38**

After listening to Gabriel tell her that she will be the mother of God's expected King, Mary has questions (*how can this be?*). As we read these accounts of angels bringing God's messages to the people in the story (remember that "angel" means "messenger"), we discover an important truth: like Zechariah (Luke 1:5-20) and Mary, we also have to listen to the angels to understand what the birth of Jesus means to us. Not only will Jesus be the King, but he will also be the Son of God.

- When we discover that Jesus is coming into our lives, we have one question to answer: how will we respond? Read Mary's response in Luke 1:38. Can you respond the same way? Will you respond the same way?
- Prayer: *Merciful God, I confess that I struggle to follow's Mary's example of trust and obedience. Forgive the hardness of my heart and increase my faith. Amen.*

## **Thursday, December 8 — Malachi 3:1-7**

Just as the birth of Jesus was promised by God in the Old Testament, the birth of John also fulfills a promise made by God to send a "messenger to prepare the way before me" (Malachi 3:1). Most scholars believe Malachi was written 450-500 years before the birth of Jesus. This means that the Israelites waited a long time for the fulfillment of the promises God made to David and to the prophets. (Isaiah 40:1-11 also makes a promise that anticipates the coming of John and Jesus.) Like our Israelite ancestors, we are also waiting for God's Messiah; we are waiting for Jesus to return (Luke 20:25-28).

- Whether we are anticipating Christmas or Jesus' return, it is hard to wait. What helps you keep your faith when you are waiting? What helps you trust that God will ultimately keep God's promises?
- Prayer: *God of Love, grant me the patience and endurance I need to wait for Jesus to return and live my life with confidence and faith every single day. Amen.*

## **Friday, December 9 — Luke 1:39-45**

Luke intertwines the stories about the births of John and Jesus. They are related — Mary and Elizabeth are related (Luke 1:36) — and, as we will discover, their lives and their ministries are part of God's plan of salvation of the world. Luke is very intentional about telling us that Jesus is the Messiah, not John. Her unborn child leaping in her womb and Elizabeth's exclamation about Mary being the "mother of my Lord" (Luke 1:41) help clarify whose child will be "the one who is to come" (Luke 7:18).

- One of the questions that we must consider as readers of the Gospel is "what kind of Messiah will Jesus be?" Based on what you know from reading the first chapter of Luke, how will you answer that question?
- Prayer: *God of Salvation, help me grow in my faith so that I see Jesus as the Messiah he is, not the Messiah I want him to be. Help me trust that you know what's best. Amen.*

## **Saturday, December 10 — Luke 1:57-66**

For the background to today's reading, go back to Luke 1:5-25. Zechariah's doubts about Gabriel's good news about Elizabeth's unexpected pregnancy led to him "[being] mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur" (Luke 1:20). The birth of his son opened his (spiritual) eyes to the wonders of what God can do and, as a result, "his mouth was opened and his tongue freed" so that he could praise and worship God (Luke 1:64).

- How might God be working in your life, during the Advent and Christmas seasons, to open your eyes to the miracle of Christmas and open your mouth and free your tongue to praise and worship God?
- Prayer: *God of Wonder, open my eyes to see and experience the miracle of Christmas once again. Open my mouth and free my tongue to praise and worship you. Amen.*

## Nursery on Sundays

Masks are optional for everyone who is fully vaccinated. 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](mailto:jaswilson@sloft.com).

### Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 894 8087 9762

Tuesdays will be hybrid (in-person & on Zoom).

Wednesday at 7 p.m.: Meeting ID: 886 5257 6837

### Prayer Group

Wednesday at 10 a.m. Meeting ID: 875 6105 5580

## This Week at Trinity on TV

Our sermons air on Fairfax Public Access Channel 36 (on Cox and Verizon) on Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7 a.m.

## Our Prayer List

Al, Alan, Alex & Sarah, Amanda, Amber & Briana, Andrea, Andrew, Ann, Annie Ruth, Asher, Ava, Barb & JR, Barbara & Barry, Bennett family, Betty, Bill, Bill & Maddie, Blackburn family, Bob, Boris, Brian, Bud, Buzz, Carol, Carol & Rich, Carolyn, Cathryn, Cathy, Charlie, Cheryl, Chris, Christine, Colin & Kelly, Connelly family, Cristal, Daniel, Danny, Darlene & Steve, Dave & Carol, Davey, David, Debbie, Diane, Dick, Dilian & Abby, Dobson family, Donna, Doris, Earl & Mary Lou, Eduardo, Eileen, Elaine, Ellie, Emily, Evelyn, Evey, Finn, Fiona, Fran & Tom, Franco, Gary & Lindie, Gil, Gilmore family, Greenberg family, Hanson family, Harriet, Hayley, Hoepfl family, Homer, Hudson, Ingrid, Isobel, Jack, Jackie, Jean, Jeff, Jeffmander, Jeremy, Jerry, Jessica, Jill, Joe & Doris, Joe & Judy, Joe & Marie, John, Jorge, Josh, June, Junior, Karen, Katherine, Katherin & Tim, Kathy, Kathy & Russ, Kay & John, Keith, Krista, Kurtz family, Lana, Ladye, Lena, Linda & Steve, Lindsay, Lisa, Liz & David, Lorenzo, Luana, Maeve, Marcia, Marciene, Marcy, Maria, Marilu, Marilyn, Mark, Martha, Matt, Maya, Meak family, Melissa, Melissa & Chad, Michelle, Mickey, Mike, Milton & Janine, Minou, Morgan, Nadine, Naty, Pauline & Merlin, Patrick, Patterson family, Peg & Dick, Riley, Robert, Roberto & Erica, Rosemarie & Adrian, Sammi, Sandy, Sandy & Vinnie, Sarah, Scott, Sharon, Sissi, Spencer, Starr family, Steve, Sue, Tatiana, Teresa, Tim, Tom, Tony, Tracy, Valery, Vanessa, Vanna, Vicki, Viles family, Wayne, Weiss family, Williams family, Willie David, Yancey, Zoren, Trinity's children, youth and volunteers, Trinity Preschool, those who mourn, the homeless, racial reconciliation in our country, those affected by natural disasters, violence and political turmoil around the world.

Today's hymn texts for those worshipping at home.

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and cause us in her ways to go. (Refrain)
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. (Refrain)
4. O come, thou root of Jesse's tree,  
an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall;  
all peoples on thy mercy call. (Refrain)
6. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thy justice here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

### What Child Is This

1. What child is this who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)
3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him. (Refrain)

### Attendance QR Code

We ask that everyone complete an attendance card found in the pew rack or scan the QR code with your phone's camera to register your attendance today.



## Highlights from E-News

If you're not receiving our Friday e-mail, please send your email address to [info@umtrinity.org](mailto:info@umtrinity.org)

### Book Chat

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, **Jan. 10** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome. More at <https://umtrinity.org/education>. Contact Kathy Maher, [kathyngs@gmail.com](mailto:kathyngs@gmail.com), for more.

### Children's Ministries

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

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



### Crafts for a Cause

We meet every other Monday from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in Room 124: Dec. 5 & 19. No crafting experience is needed and all are welcome. If you'd like to sign up, please email **Alesha Luxon** at [alesha.luxon@gmail.com](mailto:alesha.luxon@gmail.com).

### Fellowship

Fellowship hosts provide snacks during Fellowship following the Sunday morning worship services. Please consider signing up for a week. The sign up is on a white board sitting on top of the coffee bar in the Fellowship Lobby. Contact Alesha Luxon ([alesha.luxon@gmail.com](mailto:alesha.luxon@gmail.com)).

### Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

Today, 4:30 - 6 p.m.  
Register at <http://bit.ly.youthreg22>  
For more information about volunteering with youth or joining youth group, contact Catherine Wethington ([umtrinityyouth@gmail.com](mailto:umtrinityyouth@gmail.com)).

## Coming Up

### December

- 4 Martha's Table
- 5 Crafts for a Cause
- 7 Honduras Information Night
- 11 Lessons & Carols
- 11 Cookies & Carols
- 15 Spire assembly
- 17 Christ House
- 18 Celtic Service of Hope
- 19 Crafts for a Cause
- 24 Christmas Eve: 5, 8 & 11 p.m.
- 25 Christmas Day, 10:30 a.m. only
- 26 Office Closed

### January

- 2 Office Closed
- 2 Crafts for a Cause
- 10 Book Chat
- 16 Office Closed
- 16 Crafts for a Cause
- 21 Christ House
- 29 Celtic Service
- 29 Crafts for a Cause

### Sermon Series:

#### Listen to the Angels

Every year we read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth and enter the story of Mary and Joseph. We are amazed at the miracle of salvation that comes through the birth of Jesus. We worship with the shepherds and join the wise men as they follow the star to meet the newborn King. Throughout the story of Christmas, angels guide us along the way. The Gospel writers tell us what happened in the first Christmas; *the angels tell us what it means*. Join us during Advent and Christmas at Trinity as we **Listen to the Angels** and hear the Good News once again.

### Confirmation Class

Youth (grades 7-12) are invited to join our 2023 Confirmation Class. It will meet on **Sundays, 4-5 p.m. beginning January 8** and going through the end of May. In order to mature in their own faith journey, the confirmands will explore what the Bible teaches us, what it means to follow Jesus and how we serve God as members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Pastor Anne Hough will serve as this year's lead teacher. There will be a confirmation Kick Off for confirmands, parents, and faith friends on January 8 at 4 p.m., mark your calendars! Register at <http://bit.ly.youthreg22> or scan the QR code.

Contact Pastor Anne at [eaehough@gmail.com](mailto:eaehough@gmail.com) or Catherine at [umtrinityyouth@gmail.com](mailto:umtrinityyouth@gmail.com) for more information.



**Faith Friends for Confirmation:** Interested in being an adult faith friend for one of our Confirmands? Contact Anne or Catherine for more details.

### Trinity Church Staff

Neil Hough  
Eileen Gilmer  
Harriet Latta  
Jose Nuñez  
Jerry Rich  
Emily Yosmanovich  
Catherine Wethington  
Laurie Strollo

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Office Manager  
Sexton  
Director of Music  
Preschool Director  
Director of Youth 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](https://youtube.com/UMTrinity). The Celtic Service can be seen on the last Sunday of the month at 5 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook. Sermons air on Fairfax Public Access Channel 36 (on Cox and Verizon). Tune in Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Fridays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 7 a.m.



Why We Give  
by Karen & Andy Briscoe

*"Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume" (John 12:3).*

In this season of hospitality, it is Mary who demonstrates what it means to us to live generously. It is in her response to God's call that each of us is inspired to follow Mary's lead, to become disciples of utter devotion to Jesus. That spirit of devotion fills our house and God's house with the sweetest fragrance, one of gratitude and love. Mary truly illustrates what it means to give abundantly as the perfume cost was the equivalent of a year's wages. As Wesley would say, we are moving on to perfection in our giving.

The people of the Church have been present for our family in every season of life. Andy and I married at Highland Park UMC in Dallas and both of our children Drew and Callie were baptized there. Our family was introduced to—and became part of—Trinity when we moved to Northern Virginia almost 30 years ago. It was Callie (who is now in her early 30's) who attended Trinity PDO. For us as many others, the little children bring a family to a faith community. Both were raised in the church and confirmed at Trinity, active in the Youth Group and Drew became an Eagle Scout with BSA Troop 869. Andy and I have served in numerous leadership roles at Trinity through the years.

Friends, relatives, neighbors and others dear to us have passed away to the Church invisible and the people of faith were there at those times as well. We feel the Church is like our wedding vows, together for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until parted by death.

Andy and I seek to give out of the response that truly everything we have and all we are are gifts from God. In this view, is it possible to outgive God? This truly represents for us "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:21).



Sponsor a Child

You will find a tree in the Narthex full of bell ornaments. Each ornament includes a biography of a child living at Heart to Heart Children's Village in Honduras. Please take an ornament so you can sponsor a child through prayers, a letter, and gifts. There are also sponsorship instructions on the back of the ornament. Each ornament can be untied so that the child's photo and biography can be pulled out to read. This tree will be available through the season of Advent.

# Mission Night

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

7 - 8 PM

CHAPEL

Presentation by Leadership Mission  
International with video, slides,  
discussion and fellowship snacks.



Leadership Mission  
International



SUPPORT YOUTH & SCOUTS

# Christmas Tree Sales

Lot Hours:

Thurs. & Fri. 5 - 7 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun. 12 - 5 p.m.



Visit <http://umtrinity.org/education/youth> or scan the QR code to volunteer on the lot.



## Christmas Traditions

A Bible Study  
with Anne Hough



### Advent Study Begins December 6 & 7

Do you know the difference between a Christmas tree, a Chrismon tree and a Jesse tree? Have you ever wondered what all the Christmas decorations and customs mean? What about Santa, carols, the 12 days of Christmas, Rudolph, wassailing or the nine lessons and carol service? If you would like to learn about these Christmas traditions (and more) join Anne Hough for our Advent study on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. The study will begin on December 6/7 and end on December 20/21. Tuesday morning classes will be hybrid (in-person in the Library and Zoom). Wednesday evening classes will be on Zoom.