



# Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

703-356-3312 | [umtrinity.org](http://umtrinity.org) | [info@umtrinity.org](mailto:info@umtrinity.org)

January 22, 2023

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 (8:30)	<i>Christ is the World's Light</i> (Green)	Ensemble
Prelude (10:30)	<i>Divertimento #2</i> (Mysliveček)	Jerry Rich
Welcome and Announcements		Clergy
* Call to Worship		Anne Hough
The Lord is our light and our salvation!		
<b>Why should we be afraid?</b>		
The Lord is the stronghold of our life!		
<b>What have we to fear?</b>		
Let us shout with joy to God!		
<b>Let us sing and make music before our God.</b>		
* Gathering Hymn	<i>Standing on the Promises</i>	p. 3 / UMH 374
Presentation of Confirmation Class Bibles		
Children's Message		Laurie Strollo
Prayers of the People		A. Hough
Offering		N. 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	<i>The Word Became Flesh</i> (Brandon) Ensemble (8:30), Chancel Choir (10:30)	
Scripture	Mark 4:1-9	Anne Hough (8:30), Andrew Gillespie (10:30)
Again he began to teach beside the lake. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the lake and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the lake on the land. He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.' And he said, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'		
	Mark 4:13-20	Anne Hough
And he said to them, 'Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.'		
Message	<i>He Taught Them in Parables</i>	Neil Hough
Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)		A. Hough
* Closing Hymn	<i>Sent Forth by God's Blessing</i>	p. 3 / UMH 664
* Benediction		N. Hough
Closing Music	<i>L'Espérance</i> (Telemann)	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, January 23 — Mark 2:15-3:6**

Today's reading contains three "controversy stories." In each case, Jesus is confronted by Pharisees. The Pharisees were a group of religious leaders who were trying to reform Judaism by enforcing high expectations of piety and morality. The conflict with the authorities foreshadows and anticipates Jesus' passion and death (Mark 2:20, 3:6). In this section of the Gospel, it becomes clear that the values of the Kingdom of God conflict with the conventional wisdom of the religious leaders and others.

- Take some time for personal reflection and ask yourself if there is any conflict between the values of the Kingdom and the values you hold dear.
- Prayer: *God of new creation, help me see clearly that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Help me follow him and trust him, even when his values contradict my own. Amen.*

## **Tuesday, January 24 — Mark 3:7-19a**

More than once, Mark tells us that Jesus' ministry is drawing quite a crowd (Mark 1:33, 37, 2:15, 3:7). Out of the larger group of disciples, Jesus selects and appoints twelve to be apostles. By definition, an apostle is one who is sent out, and Mark describes how the apostles would be sent out by Jesus to expand his ministry in the world, fulfilling the promise he made in Mark 1:17. Even today, Jesus is calling and sending people into the world, to tell people about the Good News of God's grace.

- Is it possible that Jesus has called, and is sending, you to share the Good News?
- Prayer: *Calling God, speak clearly to me today. I'm willing to listen. I'm ready to hear your guidance for my life. With your help, I will go where you send me to serve. Amen.*

## **Wednesday, January 25 — Mark 3:19b-35**

Even though Jesus is attracting a large crowd, his family is concerned about his behavior. Mark tells us that the controversy is continuing and that his family seeks to "restrain him." At the end of today's reading, Jesus makes it clear that the Kingdom of God creates a new family — a family that is a higher priority for his followers than their human families. These words can be difficult to hear. Family is very important to us, and we don't want to choose between God's family and our own.

- How do you prioritize: your family versus God's family?
- Prayer: *Gracious God, thank you for the family of God. Help me make difficult decisions and prioritize my life so that my life will serve your purposes in the world. Amen.*

## **Thursday, January 26 — Mark 4:1-9**

The parable of the sower is not the first parable in Mark's Gospel (see Mark 3:23), but it is arguably the most significant. It says something about God (who sows seed that bears fruit) and describes the kinds of responses Jesus and the message of the Kingdom of God receive in the world. It also describes the kinds of responses to the Church's ministry when it spreads the Good News. It challenges hearers to ask themselves what kind of soil God's Word will find in their own lives.

- Which of the meanings described above speak most powerfully to you today? What kind of soil does God's Word find in your own life?
- Prayer: *God of hope, I want my life to be fertile soil so that the Good News abundantly bears fruit in my life and advances your Kingdom. Let your Word grow in me. Amen.*

## **Friday, January 27 — Mark 4:10-25**

We find two general categories of people in the Gospel story: insiders and outsiders. The outsiders include Pharisees and Jesus' family (see Mark 3:31). A defining characteristic of the insiders is their willingness and ability to understand the parables. The insiders understand these stories of Jesus as being relevant to their own lives. Outsiders do not. The parable of the sower invites us to find ourselves in the story and change our ways (repent).

- What steps do you need to take today to become "good soil"?
- Prayer: *Merciful God, forgive me for the hardness of my heart and for letting the cares of the world choke out your Word. Let your Word will take root in my life today. Amen.*

## **Saturday, January 28 — Mark 4:26-34**

The entire passage from Mark 4:1 through Mark 4:34 is presented as a single speech or sermon. In the parables and the explanations, Jesus begins to describe the nature of the Kingdom of God and the ways his hearers can "repent, and believe in the good news" (Mark 1:15). In the first four chapters of Mark's Gospel, there are fifteen references to hearing or listening. According to Mark, Jesus says that how we hear and respond to the Good News will affect our whole life (Mark 4:23-24).

- How is your hearing? What can you do to hear more clearly?
- Prayer: *Holy God, thank you for sending Jesus to be the Word made flesh. Give me ears to hear and a heart that is open to learning. Help me listen and grow in faith today. 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 are 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

Aidan, Al, Alan, Alex & Sarah, Alison, Amanda, Amber & Briana, Ann, Annie Ruth, Art & Marcie, Barb & JR, Barbara & Barry, Bea, Beath, Becky, Betty, Bill, Bill & Maddie, Boris, Bryan, Bud, Carol, Carol & Rich, Carolyn & Janice, Cathy, Charlie, Daniel, Danny, Darlene & Steve, Dave & Carol, Davey, Diane, DeMicco family, Dick, Dobson family, Dylan, Earl & Mary Lou, Elaine, Ellen, Eliza, Emily, Evans family, Evelyn, Evie, Fahimi family, Fran & Tom, Fred, Gary & Lindie, Glenn, Green family, Gwyn, Hanna & Franz, Harriet, Hope, Ingrid, Isobel, Jack, Jackie, Jane, Janelle, Jennifer, Jenny, Jeremy, Jessica, Jewell family, Jill, Joan, Joe & Marie, John, June, Junil, Karyn, Katherine, Kathleen, Kathryn & Wayne, Kathy, Kay & John, Kena, Ladye, Lana, Lena, Lilliana, Linda, Linda & Preston, Lisa, Liz & David, Lizzie, Luana, Lyndee, Marcia, Marciene, Marcy, Maria, Marilu, Marilyn, Martha & Fred, Matt, Meak family, Melissa & Chad, Mendez family, Mickey, Minou, Nancy, Nime, Pat, Pauline & Merlin, Peg & Dick, Peggy, Rasmussen family, Rebecca, Richard, Robert, Roberto & Erica, Roger, Sandy, Scott, Shadle family, Steve, Sue, Susan, Tatiana, Teagan, Teresa, Tessa, Tim, Tom, Tommaso, Tony, Tracy, Vanna, Vicki, Yancey, and Yvonne, 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.

We extend **sympathy** to Vinnie DeMicco and his family on the January 14 death of his wife, Sandy DeMicco. A service to celebrate Sandy's life will be held here on Saturday, January 28 at 2 p.m.

Today's hymn texts are provided for those worshipping at home.

### Standing on the Promises

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,  
through eternal ages let his praises ring;  
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
standing on the promises of God.  
  
Refrain:  
Standing, standing,  
standing on the promises of God my Savior;  
standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.
2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,  
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,  
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]
3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,  
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,  
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,  
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]
4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,  
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,  
resting in my Savior as my all in all,  
standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

### Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1. Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God  
from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended,  
O now be extended  
the fruits of our worship  
in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action  
for god and for all.  
God's grace did invite us,  
and love shall unite us  
to work for God's kingdom  
and answer the call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving  
to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday  
life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing,  
in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children  
of each tribe and race.  
With your grace you feed us,  
with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one  
in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living  
with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ  
and that name which we bear.



**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, **Feb. 14** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome. More at <https://umtrinity.org/education> or contact Kathy Maher, [kathyngs@gmail.com](mailto:kathyngs@gmail.com).

### 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.



### Christmas Card Collection

Looking to reuse the front of your Christmas cards? Bring your religious-themed cards to a collection box in the Fellowship Lobby to be used next year when the children make cards for Christ House.

### Confirmation Class

Confirmation class for youth (grades 7 -12) meets on **Sundays, 4-5 p.m.** Contact Pastor Anne at [eaehough@gmail.com](mailto:eaehough@gmail.com) or Catherine at [umtrinityyouth@gmail.com](mailto:umtrinityyouth@gmail.com) for more information.

### Crafts for a Cause

We meet every other Monday from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in Room 124: Jan. 30. 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)).

### Pastor's Bible Study

Join Pastor Neil as we read and study *The Gospel According to Mark* on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. Tuesday morning classes will be held in-person and on Zoom. Wednesday evening classes will be on Zoom. Everyone is invited to participate. No previous Bible study experience is necessary.

### 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)).

Youth & Confirmation registration QR code:



## Coming Up

### January

- 28 Celebration of Life: S DeMicco
- 29 Celtic Service
- 30 Crafts for a Cause

### February

- 5 Martha's Table
- 13 Crafts for a Cause
- 14 Book Chat
- 18 Christ House
- 20 Office Closed
- 21 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 22 Ash Wednesday
- 26 Celtic Service
- 26 Share the Love Drive-Thru
- 27 Crafts for a Cause



### 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  
Director of Children's Ministry

[nhough@umtrinity.org](mailto:nhough@umtrinity.org)  
[egilmer@umtrinity.org](mailto:egilmer@umtrinity.org)  
[hlatta@umtrinity.org](mailto:hlatta@umtrinity.org)  
703-356-3312  
[jrich@potomacschool.org](mailto:jrich@potomacschool.org)  
[director.trinitypreschool@gmail.com](mailto:director.trinitypreschool@gmail.com)  
[umtrinityyouth@gmail.com](mailto:umtrinityyouth@gmail.com)  
[lstrollo@umtrinity.org](mailto:lstrollo@umtrinity.org)

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.