



Trinity United Methodist Church



*Detail of The Brescia Reliquary
Carved ivory, Italian, late 4th Century*

*How is it
that you have contrived this deed
in your heart?*

Acts 5:4b

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April 26, 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 the registration pad and pass it down. For those worshipping in the Chapel today, please complete an attendance card. Remember to name each family member present today. **Please join us in our Fellowship Lobby following each service for delicious food and a chance for us to get to know one another!**

PRELUDE

Arioso (Bach)

Jerry Rich

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship our Maker
in Spirit and in Truth.

We come to empty ourselves of all that holds us back,
to give to God our joys and our sorrows, our hopes and our fears.

We come to give ourselves,
rendering to God that which we have been given.

May the world be transformed not only by what we do,
but by the signs and wonders of the Kingdom that has come in Christ.

* GATHERING HYMN

Thine Be the Glory

UMH 308

**Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes
where thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.**

**Lo! Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. *(Refrain)***

**No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. *(Refrain)***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you formed your early Church to be a community devoted to teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread,

and prayer, marked by peculiar generosity and lightness of heart.

We confess that we often fall short of this vision.

Too often we choose comfort over community, and accumulation over generosity.

Holy Spirit, you imbued the early Church with unity and awe,

yet we often allow fear, division, or the desire for human approval to crowd our hearts.

**Rescue us from holding back while pretending to be wholehearted,
hedging our bets rather than living joyfully.**

Forgive us for seasons when we have not trusted you to provide for our needs.

Heal our spirits from the sins of greed and pride.

Lord, transform us into a people who are truly of one mind,

blessed with singleness of heart to serve you rather than ourselves.

[a time of silent prayer]

Guide us, then, to live in authentic community,
that we may be agents of your love in this world. **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.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 4:36 - 5:11

Pamela Danner (8:30)
Grace Chappell (10:30)

There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him.

After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

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

MESSAGE

Don't Hold Back

Dave Rochford

* Hymn

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (verses 1, 2, & 4)

FWS 2223

**We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored:**

**We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land: *(Refrain)***

Refrain:
**And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.**

**All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit,
who makes us one: *(Refrain)***

COMMUNION (8:30)

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

The Lord's My Shepherd (Irvine)
Prayers of St. Paul (Callahan)

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

Doxology

UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Lord, We Look to Thee (verses 1-4)

UMH 562

**Jesus, Lord, we look to thee;
let us in thy name agree;
show thyself the Prince of Peace,
bid our strife forever cease.**

**Make us of one heart and mind,
gentle, courteous, and kind,
lowly, meek, in thought and word,
altogether like our Lord.**

**By thy reconciling love
every stumbling block remove;
each to each unite, endear;
come, and spread thy banner here.**

**Let us for each other care,
each the other's burdens bear;
to thy church the pattern give,
show how true believers live.**

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Allegretto RV 93 (Vivaldi)

Jerry Rich

**congregation invited to stand*

Our Prayer Ministry

Trinity Church is grateful to receive any request for intercessory prayer. Each Wednesday, our Prayer Group meets at 9 a.m. to lift up these submissions as well as on-going needs. Those willing to pray with us are both welcomed and invited! Please speak to one of our pastors if you would like to know more.

Prayer requests can be submitted by scanning the QR code on page 6 with your phone's camera and clicking the link, or you may fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate.

Grow — Pray — Study

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



Monday, April 27 — Deuteronomy 8:1–18

This passage calls the people to remember their journey through the wilderness, not only as a time of hardship but as a season in which God provided daily. What is striking is that the warning comes after a season of provision: once life becomes more stable and abundant, the deeper danger is forgetting where that abundance came from. Memory here is tied directly to trust.

It is easy to begin with awareness of dependence and slowly shift toward self-sufficiency. The passage suggests that the real challenge is not scarcity itself, but what happens when we begin to believe that what we have is something we secured on our own. Remembering God's provision reorients the heart away from grasping and toward gratitude.

- When have you been most aware of depending on God in your life?
- How might remembering that season shape how you hold what you have now?
- **Prayer:** Providing God, keep me from forgetting your faithfulness. Teach me to remember your provision so that I may live with gratitude rather than fear. Amen.

Tuesday, April 28 — Psalm 23

Psalm 23 presents a vision of life grounded in trust rather than anxiety. The imagery of green pastures and still waters does not deny the existence of valleys, but places them within a larger story of God's steady care. Even in uncertainty, the psalmist speaks as one who is being led, not abandoned. Trust here is not passive. It is a posture that allows a person to move through life without constantly calculating what might be lost or withheld. When God is understood as a shepherd who provides, the impulse to cling tightly to what we have begins to loosen. Peace grows not from control, but from confidence in God's presence.

- Where do you find yourself trying to control or secure outcomes right now?
- What would it look like to trust God's guidance in that specific situation?
- **Prayer:** Shepherding God, lead me beside still waters when my mind is restless. Help me to trust your care and not be ruled by fear of what I might lack. Amen.

Wednesday, April 29 — 2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Paul describes generosity not as obligation, but as a response shaped by trust in God's abundance. The emphasis is not on the amount given, but on the spirit in which it is offered. Giving becomes an expression of freedom rather than pressure, rooted in the belief that God continues to supply what is needed.

This perspective challenges the instinct to hold back. When life is viewed through the lens of scarcity, generosity feels risky. Yet Paul reframes it as participation in God's ongoing work, where giving does not diminish but multiplies. The focus shifts from protecting resources to trusting that God's provision is not exhausted.

- What emotions come up for you when you think about giving or sharing what you have?
- How might your perspective change if you saw generosity as participation in God's work rather than loss?
- **Prayer:** Generous God, shape my heart to reflect your abundance. Free me from hesitation and help me to give with joy and trust. Amen. 4

Thursday, April 30 — Luke 12:13–34

In this teaching, Jesus addresses the deep anxiety that often lies beneath the desire to accumulate. The Parable of the Rich Fool reveals how easily life can be reduced to storing up more, while missing what truly matters. Jesus redirects attention from possessions and toward a life centered on God's Kingdom.

The invitation is not simply to have less, but to live differently. Instead of organizing life around securing what might be lost, Jesus calls for a reorientation toward trust and attentiveness to what endures. When the heart is anchored in God, the need to constantly guard and increase possessions begins to lose its hold.

- What tends to shape your sense of security most—what you have, or your trust in God?
- In what area of your life might you be storing up rather than opening up?
- **Prayer:** Guiding God, help me to seek what truly matters. Release me from anxious striving and teach me to live with open hands. Amen.

Friday, May 1 — Philippians 4:10–20

Paul speaks from a place of experience, having known both need and abundance. What stands out is that contentment is not tied to circumstances but learned through reliance on God. This kind of stability allows him to receive and give without being defined by either lack or plenty. Contentment does not mean indifference. It reflects a deeper confidence that life is sustained by God rather than by changing conditions. When that trust takes root, generosity becomes possible even in uncertainty. The focus shifts from what is missing to what is already being provided.

- What circumstances tend to most affect your sense of contentment?
- How might practicing gratitude reshape your awareness of what God is already providing?
- **Prayer:** Sustaining God, teach me to be content in all circumstances. Help me to recognize your provision and to live with quiet confidence in your care. Amen.

Saturday, May 2 — James 2:14–18

This passage connects faith directly to action, challenging any separation between belief and lived expression. Faith, if it is real, moves outward—it responds to need, it shares, it becomes visible in concrete ways. Words alone are not dismissed, but they are incomplete without embodied response.

This raises an important question about what it means to live faithfully in community. It is not enough to affirm generosity in principle while holding back in practice. Faith becomes tangible when it takes the form of care, provision, and presence in the lives of others.

- Where might your faith be inviting you to move from intention into action?
- What is one specific way you can respond to someone's need this week?
- **Prayer:** Active God, move my faith beyond words into action. Help me to live in ways that reflect your love through what I do as well as what I believe. Amen.

Today at Trinity

Fellowship Hosts

9:30 a.m. Susan & Tom Long

11:30 a.m. United Methodist Men

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, jrich@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.

Youth Group, 4:30 p.m.

Youth Group, grades 7-12, meets 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Building for an engaging lesson and lively conversation.

Iglesia de Dios, 6p.m.

This Week

Monday, 7:30 p.m.: BSA Troop 869

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: BSA Den 9A
7 p.m.: BSA Troop 1130
7 p.m.: Langley Residential Support Services

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. We are praying for you to join us! If you'd like to know more or to participate, please speak to one of our pastors or call the office, 703-356-3312.

Friday, 7 p.m.: Langley Moves (LRSS)

Saturday, 4 p.m.: Interfaith Choir rehearsal

Saturday, 6 p.m.: Iglesia de Dios

Coming Up

May 3: 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!

May 7, 6:30 p.m.: Executive Council Meeting

May 12: 6:30 p.m.: Book Chat

Book Chat will meet on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters. For more, contact Suzanne Hamilton or use the QR code on page 6.

IF I CAN HELP SOMEBODY



10TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT
SHARE OF MCLEAN

INTERFAITH CONCERT

May 17 @ 7pm

Trinity United Methodist Church
1205 DOLLEY MADISON BLVD.
MCLEAN, VIRGINIA

Donate an item as your entrance ticket
<https://www.shareofmclean.org/most-needed-list>

Reception with service fair to follow



May 16: Christ House Meal Mission

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

May 16: Trustees Meeting

May 17, 7 p.m.: SHARE Interfaith Benefit Concert

Trinity's Chancel Choir will join with other local choirs in a benefit concert for SHARE of McLean. All are welcome to attend this free concert and bring something from SHARE's most-needed items list. The list can be found using the QR code on page 6.

May 25: Office Closed for Memorial Day

May 30: Lay Reader Potluck

May 31, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.: Rededication of Trinity House

After each of our services, you are invited to gather at Trinity House (by the playground at the far end of the parking lot) for a celebration of its rededication as a parsonage for our Associate Pastor and his family. Refreshments provided by our SPRC and tours by our Trustees.

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 invited to meet friends and neighbors after each of our worship services! Join us in the Fellowship Lobby across the breezeway. Each week individuals, families or ministry teams host our refreshments. Please consider signing up for the 8:30 service's Fellowship time. Scan the QR code under Quick Links below 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.

- > Prayer Requests
- > Children & Youth registration
- > Book Chat discussion group
- > Christ House wish list
- > Children's Creation Story Skit
- > Fellowship Hour hosts
- > Ushers



May 3 at 7 p.m.

National Presbyterian Church
4101 Nebraska Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016

We are pleased to share that our own Catherine Wethington will again be featured in a new chamber concert.

Acclaimed pianist Joseph Holt will be joined by Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Acting Associate Concertmaster Boram Kang, BSO Principal Cellist Dariusz Skoraczewski and soprano Catherine Wethington for a powerful program that brings to life the work of Russian composers whose voices were silenced in their lifetimes. Featuring music by greats like Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev, Shostakovich and Gubaidulina, the program highlights how musicians coped with and responded to oppression. For tickets and more information, visit egcproductions.org.

Trinity Church Staff

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

Lead Pastor
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Office Manager
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Director of Music
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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

SHARE New Beginnings

In April, our Youth Group partnered with Church & Society and SHARE of McLean to help a young family of six settle into their new home after living in a shelter. Thanks to the generosity of our Trinity community — from donated furniture to new home goods — Debra and her family moved into a fully furnished, welcoming apartment.

Volunteers described the day as meaningful, eye-opening, and deeply grace-filled. You can read more reflections and the full story in the May-June 2026 edition of *The Spire*. Trinity hopes to support SHARE's New Beginnings program twice a year, offering more opportunities our church family to serve.

