



# Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101  
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September 21, 2025

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 4 with your phone's camera and click the link) to register your attendance today. And do include **each** family member present.

Prelude (8:30)  
(10:30)

*Largo in D, RV 93 (Vivaldi)*  
*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* (Krug)

Jerry Rich  
Trinity Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship *from 1 Chronicles 29*

Who will offer willingly, consecrating themselves this day to the Lord?

**Riches and honor come from the Lord, who rules over all.**

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering?

**For all things come from God; from God's abundance do we give in return.**

The greatness, the power, the glory, the victory and the majesty belong to God,  
for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is the Lord's.

**We come to give thanks to our Creator, and offer our joyful praise.**

\* Gathering Hymn *For the Beauty of the Earth* (verses 1-2, 5-6)

[UMH 92](#)

Opening Prayer

Loving God, quite often our intentions are better than our actions.

**We often refrain from doing what we know to be right;  
we barely understand some of the choices we make.**

We are led by the tyranny of the urgent, swayed by the impulse of the moment;

**we become frustrated and irritable,  
at a loss to reorder our priorities, our lives.**

We are not on our own, but we live as if we were.

You say we are accountable for our neighbors, the poor, the disenfranchised,  
but we live as if we were not.

**What joy it would bring you, our Parent, if our repentance were sincere!**

Teach us, in the changing seasons of our lives, that your moment is now,  
and in you, it is never too late to open ourselves to reconciled and joyful living.

*[a time of silent Confession]*

In the name of Jesus Christ, today we begin again.

**Amen.**

Children's Message

Laurie Strollo

*Children are invited to Children's Worship in Room 402-403,  
a place for those 4 years through 6th grade to connect with God in their own ways.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Taehwan Roh

*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

*Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord* (Evans)  
*The Lone, Wild Bird* (Schram)

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

Reading from the Scriptures

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that

*(Continued on page 2)*

my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

Message

*In Praise of Shrewdness*

Dave Rochford

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)

\* Closing Hymn

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

[UMH 399](#)

\* Benediction

\* Postlude

*Psalm 19* (Marcello)

Jerry Rich

\* Please stand as you are able.

## Grow — Pray — Study

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

### **Monday, September 22 — Luke 16:1-15**

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager makes a stealthy shift from the lesser to the greater. We *think* it is about money, but in Luke's Gospel, Jesus makes clear that blessed are those who love God, and who understand that relationships between people are more valuable than accumulated wealth. Just so, those who are not faithful in handling the things of the world, says Jesus, are unlikely to be faithful in tending to what God actually holds dear.

- Reggae legend Bob Marley once said that "*some people are so poor, all they have is [their] money.*" Does his aphorism accord with this parable? If so, how?
- Prayer: *Lord Jesus, I want to be faithful in matters small and large. But I also know the pull of expediency, impatience and sometimes anxiety. Today, steel my resolve to bring glory to you in all my little ways and dealings. Amen.*

### **Tuesday, September 23 — Matthew 24:42-51**

Matthew does not have a version of Luke's Parable of the Dishonest Manager. Instead, he recounts in Jesus' farewell discourse a parable of a rather nasty one (!), to impart the urgency of remaining prepared for Jesus' return.

- When Matthew wrote his Gospel (in about the year 85), nearly all Christians expected Jesus' return to be imminent. In the centuries of waiting since, how do Christians use the time well and prepare for his coming again in glory? In what ways do you do so?
- Prayer: *Come, Lord Jesus, come! We say that in Advent. But I wonder what about my life, my values and decisions would I wish were different if I knew you were coming today?*

### **Wednesday, September 24 — John 13:1-17, 34**

The Gospel of John puts special emphasis on Jesus' farewell to his disciples. In this reading, the intimacy and urgency of embodying the love of the Servant comes to the fore. Indeed, Jesus says that the world will know Christians by the distinctive and otherworldly way that we love one another!

- Today, is the impression that outsiders have of life in the church one of otherworldly love? What makes it hard for us to love in a self-giving, unselfconscious way?
- Prayer: *Some of my most indelible memories are of being loved, and loving others, in a gentle and whole-hearted way, Lord. Lead me in making more such memories in my life to come. Amen.*

### **Thursday, September 25 — 2 Corinthians 9:6-11**

Paul calls upon the Corinthians Christians to be generous in support of the Church in Jerusalem, and its sending out of missionaries. In v. 8, he says that by God's grace to us, we may always find that we have "a sufficiency in everything," so that we too can participate in God's generosity on earth.

- In what season of life did you feel you had a 'sufficiency' in all things? When did it seem you did not? Was the difference in the amount you had - or something else?
- Prayer: *Lord, I don't always want to find myself wanting more. Unless it is of You. Amen.*

### **Friday, September 26 — John 6:1-14**

According to John, Philip once reckoned the daunting cost of feeding a large crowd. Then, a small surprise: a child offered a handful of loaves and two fish - a pitifully small offering. And in Jesus' hands, something remarkable happened to that gift.

- What may have motivated the boy who gave over his food that day? How might we as Jesus' followers receive and respond to such an example today?
- Prayer: *Lord Jesus, I would imagine that such little gifts, like those of this boy and the elderly widow with her copper coins, delighted you when you struggled to find inspiring faithfulness around you. How can I manage what is in my little mission field, and bring to you that same pleasure? Amen.*

### **Saturday, September 27 — Proverbs 22:7-9**

In this brief cadence of proverbial wisdom, we both see the world the way it is and hear a cautionary word about the ultimate outcome of perpetrating injustice. Then comes a peculiar commendation about having "a bountiful eye," and what that makes possible.

- How do you think those with "a bountiful eye" experience life? How does it manifest in their lives before others?
- Prayer: *It's a new turn of phrase, Lord, this "bountiful eye." I wonder how the world looks to those who have it, and likewise how your Kingdom coming among us would seem. If I pray for a bountiful eye today, and each day, would you grant me such vision? And if you did, would my stewardship of your grace and provision for me be different? Again, I wonder. Amen.*

## Today at Trinity

### Chancel Choir, 10 a.m.

The Chancel Choir meets 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](mailto:jrich@potomacschool.org).

**Children's Worship, 10:30 a.m.** (ages 4 - 6th grade) meets following the Children's Message.

### Youth Group, 4:30 p.m.

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

**Pizza with the Pastors** - see page 4

## This Week

### Tuesday & Wednesday: Fall Bible Study

Revolutionary Parables: Jesus' Little Stories that Shake the World with Pastor is a thought-provoking study exploring how Jesus' parables challenge and reframe our everyday lives. Sessions meet Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Church library (also on ZOOM), and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. via ZOOM only. We'll use an Orientation/Disorientation/Reorientation approach to uncover how these stories serve as on-ramps to God's Kingdom. The study runs through mid-October. In-person attendance is encouraged when possible! Questions? Contact Pastor Dave. Use the QR code on the next page to register.

### 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, 9 a.m.: 40th International Coastal Clean-up

Held at Anacostia Park from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Help care for God's earth and #seathechange with Ocean Conservancy and the Trinity Youth Group. Registration is free (use QR code on page 4), waivers may be signed in advance or upon arrival. Gloves, trash bags, and trash pickers are available onsite. Driving/carpooling is recommended. Shuttle buses from Potomac Ave Station are available (blue, orange, & silver lines). For more details contact Catherine [umtrinityyouth@gmail.com](mailto:umtrinityyouth@gmail.com)

## Coming Up

### September 28: Celtic Service: **resumes in-person**

See page 4 for more about our monthly evensong.

### October 5: Martha's Table Snack Packaging

Following both worship services today, we will 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! See you in the Fellowship Lobby after worship.

### October 5: Blessing of the Pets

Your whole family, especially the furry, winged and finned members, are invited to our Blessing of the Pets. The service will be held on the church green by the Fellowship Building at 2 p.m.

### October 14: Book Chat

The book for **October 14** is *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Full schedule for this Zoom meeting can be found on the church website. Use the QR code on page 4 for more.

### October 18: 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](mailto:dcjeremiah@verizon.net).

### October 18: Good Works Day

All abilities, skills and ages welcome to help with campus improvement projects and to enjoy fellowship and a pizza lunch. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### October 18: Langley Fall Tastings & Auction

Join Langley Residential Support Services (LRSS) for the *Langley Fall Tastings & Auction Benefit – A Harvest of Hope* from 6 - 9 p.m. held at a private home in McLean. Enjoy wine and beer tastings, hors d'oeuvres, live music, and auctions - all in support of adults with developmental disabilities. Use the QR code on page 4 to learn more.

### November 8: Rise Against Hunger

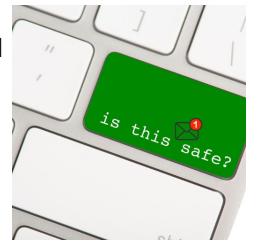
Annual meal packing event at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. Use QR code on page 4 for details and registration. Register early - slots fill up fast. Our youth will be at the 8 a.m. time and Pastor Dave will offer the prayer during that time slot as well.

## Be Savvy about Scammers!

Alas, email scammers are always hard at work. Because they surf small-business and church websites for contact info, you may receive an email or text message claiming to be from either of our Pastors, asking you to purchase gift cards, etc. Please know that Trinity's pastors will never ask you for finances or peculiar favors through email or texts! (No, those entreaties will come from the *pulpit*.) It is best always to presume that gift-card requests are scams and to delete them – and keep in mind that **messages from your pastors and church staff will always come from an email address ending in @umtrinity.org or @vaumc.org**. By the way, the FTC has a fine article about how to identify these scams and report them to authorities.

Visit <https://shorturl.at/lsryq> to read the article.

Thank you to those alerted us to the latest round of phishing. Let us be “*innocent as doves, and wise as serpents*” (Mat. 10:16)!



## 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](http://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.

### Quick Links

Scan QR code with your phone's camera & click the link. This page currently includes:

- > Worship attendance
- > Children & Youth registration
- > Fall Bible Study registration
- > Coastal Clean-Up registration
- > LRSS Benefit registration
- > Rise Against Hunger registration
- > Pizza with the Pastors RSVP
- > Christ House wish list
- > Fellowship Hour hosts, Ushers



## Our Prayer List

Anne, Annie Ruth, Arnold family, Leth, Ben, Brett, Bud, Corbin, Dale, Dane & Scott, Dara, Dave, Davey, David, Debbie, Douglas, Emmett, Evan, Gililand family, Jason, Joan, Joel, Karen, Kenny family, Luke, Maines family, Margie, Michael, Nancy, Rubina, Sheila, Spinks family, Vicki, Willis & Carter, Winie & Joseph, Wyatt, Yancey, and prayer life for Trinity congregation, those who are traveling, employment seekers, the children and staff at Heart to Heart Worldwide Village in Honduras, The Leadership Center, our nation's leadership and unity, soldiers abroad and at home, peace on earth, an end to antisemitism and Islamophobia, those affected by natural disasters, those trying to make a better future for our nation, government employees, immigrants, the homeless, victims of abuse and hostages throughout the world.

## Celtic Service

**September 28**

**5 p.m.**

**Chapel**

**in-person**

The Celtic Service returns the last Sunday of the month in the Chapel at 5 p.m. Come to experience the holy at this Celtic Evensong. With both quiet moments of reflection and contemplative music, experience God in a new way. God is waiting. All are welcome. We will resume in-person worship and live stream the service.



### 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

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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](https://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](mailto:info@umtrinity.org)