



Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

703-356-3312 | umtrinity.org | info@umtrinity.org

February 26, 2023

1st Sunday in Lent

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>Adagio in G Minor</i> (Albinoni)	Jerry Rich
Welcome and Announcements		Clergy
* Call to Worship		Eileen Gilmer
We gather today to worship the One who created us, The One who calls us and equips us, The One who loves us without end. With joyful hearts, let us worship God.		
* Gathering Hymn	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	p. 3 / UMH 140
Children's Message		Laurie Strollo
Prayers of the People		Gilmer
Offering		Neil Hough
This morning's offering will be received as we pass the offering plates. You may also give online at http://umtrinity.org/give and through our app. On the website, scroll down and click on SET UP ONLINE GIVING.		
Anthem (8:30)	<i>If You But Trust in God to Guide You</i> (Neumark)	Maggie Rabe
Anthem (10:30)	<i>O God, Be Merciful</i> (Weckerlin-Rowan)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	Luke 23:26, 32-34a Keeler Blanton (8:30), Carrie Perrin (10:30)	
As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.		
Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.		
Message	<i>"Father, Forgive Them . . ."</i>	Neil Hough
Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)		Gilmer
* Closing Hymn	<i>Grace Greater than Our Sin</i>	p. 3 / UMH 365
* Benediction		Hough
Closing Music (8:30)	<i>Toccata in E Minor</i> (Pachelbel)	Rich
* Please stand as you are able.		

Grow — Pray — Study

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

Monday, February 27 — Luke 23:24-35

Each of the four Gospel writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) describe Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. Between them they record seven (7) statements Jesus makes as he is dying on the cross. None of the Gospel writers record all seven. As we consider the final words of Jesus, we learn a great deal about the meaning of Jesus' death. The words found in Luke 23:34 are especially meaningful.

- How do you connect Jesus' death with his prayer for forgiveness? Do you believe that Jesus' death is the source of God's forgiveness for you? Do you believe that God has forgiven you?
- Prayer: *Heavenly Father, I confess my need to be forgiven for my sins. I confess that I have not lived the life you desire that I live. Forgive me in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Tuesday, February 28 — Romans 5:6-11

Dying on the cross, Jesus asks God to forgive the people who crucified him. He asks for their forgiveness while they were still scoffing, mocking and deriding him. On the cross, Jesus asks for their forgiveness before any of them repent, confess, or ask for mercy. In Romans 5 we discover what God has done: *"God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us."*

- Can you believe that God forgives you before you know that you need to be forgiven? This means that forgiveness isn't earned. Forgiveness is a gift. Will you accept God's gift today?
- Prayer: *God of grace, thank you for sending Jesus to the world so that I might be saved from the power of sin and death. I accept the gift of Life today. Amen.*

Wednesday, March 1 — Luke 6:27-38

Not only does Jesus offer forgiveness through his death on the cross, he also teaches us that we must forgive others in the same way that we are forgiven. The forgiveness we receive from God is meant to be shared. Jesus' life and ministry sets the ultimate example for our lives. He loves his enemies. He is merciful. He is forgiving.

- Are you carrying any hurts or offenses today? Is there someone you need to forgive, even if they have not repented or asked for your forgiveness?
- Prayer: *Merciful God, help me to follow the example of Jesus and forgive my enemies. Help me to forgive others in the same way that you forgive me. Amen.*

Thursday, March 2 — Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiving others is not easy. Like Peter in Matthew 18:21, we want to know how many times we have to forgive someone who hurts us. We want to set limits. Peter probably thinks that forgiving seven (7) times is

more than enough. Jesus' response to Peter is a challenge to all of us. He says we have to keep forgiving over and over — so many times that we can't count them. The parable that Jesus tells Peter and the disciples is very clear: people who have been forgiven by God are expected to forgive others.

- What do you think about Jesus' response to Peter's question? What is preventing you from following Jesus' teaching about forgiveness.
- Prayer: *Gracious God, thank you for the gift of your love and grace. Grant me the courage I need to share your love and grace with others. Amen.*

Friday, March 3 — Ephesians 4:25-32

Several New Testament letters have passages like today's reading, passages that describe the Kingdom life that God intends for followers of Jesus. These passages are both prescriptive and descriptive. They are prescriptions for living a Kingdom life, the kind of life that pleases God. They are also descriptive. They describe the shape our lives will take if we trust God enough to let the Holy Spirit guide, direct, empower, and ultimately transform us. This week, we note that if we live a Kingdom life, we will *"be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven [us]"* (Ephesians 4:32)

- Use Ephesians 4:25-32 to review your life this week. How are you doing? How might the Holy Spirit be working in your life right now? What changes might God be making in you?
- Prayer: *God of New Life, fill me with the Holy Spirit today and transform my life. Teach me how to be more like Jesus: kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving. Amen.*

Saturday, March 4 — Psalm 51

Psalm 51 is the prayer David prayed after he was confronted by the prophet Nathan about his sinful behavior. (You can read 2 Samuel 11 and 12 for the context.) Note that David not only confesses his sin and asks for forgiveness, he also promises to change his behavior. This is what it means to repent. We ask for and receive forgiveness and change the direction of our lives.

- Use Psalm 51 to pray your own prayer of confession today. Ask for and receive forgiveness. Let God change the direction of your life.
- Prayer: *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.... Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit." 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@slofft.com.

Lent 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, Andrea, Andy, Ann, Annie Ruth, Art & Marcie, Ashley, Barb & JR, Barbara & Barry, Bea, Beath, Becky, Ben, Beth, Betty, Beverly & Wally, Bill, Bill & Maddie, Bill & Trisha, Boris, Brooks family, Bruce, Bryan, Bud, Buddy, Carol, Carol & Rich, Caroline, Carolyn & Janice, Cathy, Charlie, Chris, Coston family, Dan & Chris, Daniel, Danny, Darlene & Steve, Dave & Carol, Davey, Debbie & Steve, , Desarae, Detwiler family, Diane, Dick, Dobson family, Doris & Joe, Dylan, Earl & Mary Lou, Edison, Eileen, Elaine, Eliza, Ellen, Ellie, Emily, Evans family, Evelyn, Evie, Fahimi family, Fran & Tom, Fred, Gary & Lindie, Glenn, Grace, Gay, George, Green family, Hanna & Franz, Hall family, Harriet, Henrietta, Hope, Hunt family, Ingrid, Isobel, Jack, Jackie, Jan, Jane, Janelle, Jennifer, Jenny, Jeffrey, Jeremy, Jessica, Jewell family, Jill, Jim, Joan, Joe & Marie, John, June, Junil, Karen & David, Karyn, Katherine, Kathleen, Kathleene, Kathryn & Wayne, Kathy, Kay & John, Kena, Ladye, Lana, Lena, Lillian, Linda, Linda & Preston, Lisa & Mike, , Liz & David, Lizzie, Luana, Lyndee, Marcia, Marciene, Marcy, Maria, Marilu, Marilyn, Martha & Fred, Matt, Meak family, Melissa & Chad, Mendez family, Minou, Miso, Nancy & George, Nichols family, Nime, Pat, Pauline & Merlin, Peg & Dick, Peggy, Podesta family, Quinn family, Rasmussen family, Rebecca, Rene, Richard, Robert, Roberto & Erica, Roger, Roxanne, Sandy, Sarah, Scott, Shadle family, Shannon, Sherri, Sievera family, Spencer & Emily, Steve, Sue, Sue & Stan, Susan, Sweeney family, Tatiana, Teagan, Teresa, Tessa, Theo, Tim, Tom, Tommaso, Tony, Tracy, Vanna, Vicki, Vinnie, Wayne, Yancey, and Yvonne, those who mourn, the homeless, racial reconciliation in our country, those affected by the opioid epidemic and those working to end it, those affected by natural disasters, violence and political turmoil, and the people of Turkey and Syria and the aid workers there to help them.

We **extend** sympathy to Wayne, Kim, Leo and Sydney Detwiler on the Feb. 24 death of Wayne's mother, Kathryn Detwiler.

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
(Refrain)
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
(Refrain)

Grace Greater than Our Sin

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain:

Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin!

2. Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the refuge, the mighty cross.
(Refrain)
3. Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,
brighter than snow you may be today.
(Refrain)
4. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face,
will you this moment his grace receive?
(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

Book Chat

Our next meeting is on Tues., **Mar. 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.

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.



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: Feb. 27. All are welcome. For more information, contact Alesha Luxon at 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.

Lent Bible Study

Join Pastor Neil for our Lenten Bible Study 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.

This Lent study will focus on Jesus' dying hours and his final words as the Gospel writers recorded them. We'll consider the people who were present as Jesus was dying, reflect on his final statements, and try to understand what they mean for our lives today. [Final Words from the Cross](#) by Adam Hamilton will be the text for the Lent Study.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

Today, 2 - 4 p.m. Share the Love Drive Thru Event

Next Sunday, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

For more information about volunteering or joining youth group, contact Catherine Wethington, umtrinityyouth@gmail.com.

Youth registration QR code:



Coming Up

February

- 26 Celtic Service
- 26 Share the Love Drive-Thru
- 27 Crafts for a Cause
- 28 Lent Bible Study begins

March

- 1 Lent Bible Study begins
- 5 Martha's Table
- 13 Crafts for a Cause
- 14 Book Chat
- 18 Christ House
- 26 Celtic Service
- 27 Crafts for a Cause

April

- 1 Good Works Day
- 2 Palm Sunday
- 6 Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.
- 7 Good Friday, 7 p.m.
- 9 Easter Sunday
7 a.m. Sunrise Service
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Easter Flowers

On Easter Sunday, April 9, Trinity's Sanctuary will be decorated with lilies, tulips and hydrangeas, given in honor or memory of loved ones. Please scan the QR code below or visit umtrinity.org/worship/easter-flowers to complete an order form. All memorials/honors will be noted in the Easter Sunday bulletin. If you order flowers, you're encouraged to take them home after the service. Deadline to order is March 20.



Tulips are \$11 per plant.
Lilies are \$15.50 per plant.
Hydrangeas are \$25 per plant.

Today's Call to Worship is written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What Is Good*. Used with permission.

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
egilmer@umtrinity.org
hlatta@umtrinity.org
703-356-3312
jrich@potomacschool.org
director.trinitypreschool@gmail.com
umtrinityyouth@gmail.com
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. 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.