



Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

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January 7, 2024

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 12 with your phone's camera and click the link to register your attendance today. Don't forget to include **each** family member present.

Prelude	<i>On Jordan's Stormy Banks</i> (Johnson)	Jerry Rich
Welcome and Announcements		Clergy
* Call to Worship		Taehwan Roh
Welcome to worship this day! We have come seeking God's blessings and love. They shall be given to you. We have come seeking forgiveness and healing. These will be offered to you. Open your hearts to receive God's Good News. We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways for us. Amen.		
* Gathering Hymn	<i>This Is a Day of New Beginnings</i>	UMH 383
Children's Message		Laurie Strollo
Prayers of the People		Taehwan Roh
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.		
Offertory (8:30)	<i>I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light</i> (Thomerson)	Catherine Wethington
Offertory (10:30)	<i>I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light</i> (Thomerson)	Chancel Choir
Scripture	Revelation 3:14-22	Taehwan Roh
'And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation: 'I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. For you say, "I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing." You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.'		
Message	<i>Making Sense of Revelation</i>	Neil Hough
Sacrament of Holy Communion		Clergy
* Closing Hymn	<i>We've a Story to Tell to the Nations</i>	UMH 569
* Benediction		Neil Hough
* Closing Music	<i>Sonata #29</i> (Speer)	Jerry Rich
* Please stand as you are able.		

Grow — Pray — Study

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

Monday, January 8 — Revelation 1:1-8

The Revelation to John is a letter written by a pastor to seven churches in Asia. It is written to a specific group of people at a specific time in history. The opening verses provide instructions for reading and hearing: the letter is to be read aloud (in worship). It is a message from Jesus, sent through a man named John (who was exiled on the island of Patmos) for seven churches in the area called Asia Minor (which is present day Türkiye).

- As you start to read *Revelation* this week, start by considering your assumptions about the meaning of Revelation? Consider reading aloud and *hearing* its message. How might the context — a pastor's letter — affect your understanding of its message?
- Prayer: *God of Wisdom, open my ears to hear your Word. Open my mind and heart to listen carefully and to understand the message you want me to hear. Amen.*

Tuesday, January 9 — Revelation 1:9-20

The first chapter serves as an introduction to the letter. In it, John describes his encounter with the risen Christ, the source of the Revelation. Jesus' message to the churches is a reminder of God's faithfulness and a call for faithful living. The message is just as relevant today as it was in the first century: keep your faith and don't give up hope, even when life is difficult, and the world seems to be falling apart around you.

- Revelation 1 is often quoted during funeral or memorial services. How might the words that provide comfort at a funeral also provide comfort, and strength, in everyday life?
- Prayer: *Faithful God, sometimes I want to give up hope. Remind me of your promises once again. Fill me with the power of your Holy Spirit. Strengthen my faith. Amen.*

Wednesday, January 10 — Revelation 2:1-11

After his introductory words, Jesus instructs John to write a specific message to each of the seven churches in his charge, but each church gets to "overhear" all of the messages. The format of the messages is consistent: there are words of warning and encouragement, a call to repent, and a promise of victory in Jesus. This is what Jesus does for *all of us*. He warns and encourages us, calls us to repent, and gives us hope. Our challenge is simple, but it is not easy: to listen to Jesus; to trust Jesus; and to follow Jesus.

- What kind of message might Jesus write to you? What words of warning or encouragement do you need to hear today? Will you listen to what Jesus has to say?
- Prayer: *Victorious God, your words are necessary, but sometimes hard to hear. I'm ready to repent of my sin and put my whole trust in your grace today. Amen.*

Thursday, January 11 — Revelation 2:12-29

The temptation for every Christian is to be just like everybody else. One of Jesus' primary warnings to the churches could be summed up as "*failure to be light and salt*" (see Matthew 5:13-16). Followers of Jesus are supposed to be different, and act differently than people who do not follow Jesus. Christians are supposed to do the things Jesus did — and do the things Jesus said to do — even when they are not popular or easy. He has high expectations for his disciples. He has high expectations for us (Matthew 5:20)..

- Skim through Matthew 5-7. How well are you following Jesus' teaching and example? How brightly does the light of Jesus shine through your life?
- Prayer: *Righteous God, thank you for having high expectations for my life. Give me the courage to be salt and light for the world. Shine your light in my life. Amen.*

Friday, January 12 — Revelation 3:1-13

Jesus accused the church at Sardis of being spiritually dead, even though they had a reputation for being alive. It seems they were more concerned with having a good reputation than with actually doing what they had been taught to do (by Jesus). This seems to be a universal human concern and Jesus' call for repentance is worth our attention today. Like the people of Sardis, too many of us are more concerned with our reputation than with the true state of our lives. We care more about what others think of us than about what God thinks of us.

- Reflect honestly on the state of your life. How closely does your reputation match the reality of your life? What will you do today to become the person you want everyone to think you really are?
- Prayer: *God of hope, thank you for second (and third) chances. Help me be the person you want me to be—not only today, but every day of my life. Amen.*

Saturday, January 13 — Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea was a large and wealthy city. Jesus accused the Laodicean Christians of being "*lukewarm*," enjoying their wealth and having no need for God. Surrounded by riches, they didn't realize that they were spiritually poor. Jesus' warnings may be hard to hear, but they come from a place of love — God's love for God's children. Repentance is always available. And he longs to be in relationship with every church and every Christian.

- Have you ever felt lukewarm toward God? Are you aware of a need for God in your life? Is it possible that Jesus is standing at the door, knocking, wanting to come into your heart, longing to be the Lord of your life?
- Prayer: *Merciful God, forgive me for thinking I don't need your love and grace. I need you to be my Lord and Savior. I am ready for you to be my Lord and Savior. Amen.*

Nursery on Sundays

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.

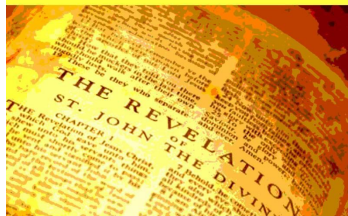
Prayer Group

Wednesday at 9 a.m. Meeting ID: 875 6105 5580

New Sermon Series

Revelation: few books of the Bible create more interest, inspire more curiosity, and invoke more fear than this book. But what is the meaning of Revelation? How are we to read it? And how does its message speak to us today? Together we will explore these questions and more in Pastor Neil's new series: ***The Return of the King***.

THE RETURN OF THE KING



Confirmation Kick-off

The kick-off for this year's Confirmation Class is **today**, from 4 - 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All youth, with at least one parent, and all faith friends should attend this meeting as it will cover a lot of important information about the confirmation process. Parents, please bring with you any known Sunday dates that your youth will not be able to attend class. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Anne at eaehough@gmail.com. Confirmation Sunday will be Pentecost Sun., May 19.



Our Prayer List

Adam, Alan, Alice, Amanda & David, Amber & Brianna, Andrea, Andrew, Anne, Annie Ruth, Arnold, Audrey, Barb, Barry & Diane, Betty, Bill & Maddie, Brett, Brian, Bruce, Bud, Catherine, Carol & Rich, Caroline, Carrie, Cathy, Chris, Christopher, Currie family, Daniel, Daniel & Cindy, Danny, Dara, Dave & Gail, Davey, David & Carol, Darlene & Steve, Desarae, Di Letti family, Donnie, Doris, Doris & Joe, Dudley & Susan, Easley family, Ed, Elaine, Eileen, Ellie, Emmett, Eric, Erica & Roberto, Erik, Evans family, Fran & Tom, Frank, Gabe, Gabrielle, Gary & Lindie, Glenda, Geoff, Gray, Greg, Gregg, Hammer family, Harriet, Harris family, Harry, Heather, Hefferon family, Hemingway family, Henry, Holmes family, Hong family, Jack, Jackie, Jan, Janice, Jason, Jean, Jeanette, Jeanne, Jeff, Jenna, Jenny & Michael, Jessica, Jimmy, Joan, Joe & Marie, John, Jomer, Josie, Judi, Judy, June, Karen, Kathy, Kay & John, Kenny family, Krista, Kobi, Lajoie family, Landaverde family, Laura, Lejoy family, Leslie, Linda, Lindstedt family, Lisa, Liz & David, Lon, London family, Long family, Lori, Luana, Lynne, Mack, Macy, Marcia, Marcione, Marilyn, Maher family, Mark, Marty & Mary, Mary, Matt, Matthias, Melissa, Michael, Michelle, Mickey & Ruth, Mike, Moore family, Nancy, Nell, Nina, Niro, Norma, Norman, Olivia, Pat, Patty, Paul, Pauline & Merlin, Pearl family, Peg & Dick, Peter, Peter & Laura, Powers family, Prissila, Rebecca, Sabbagh family, Sally, Sandra, Scott, Sheila, Spencer, Skyard family, Stephanie, Stephen, Steve, Sue, Susan, Teresa, Tim, Tom, Tony, Vanna, Vinnie, Wayne, Williams family, and Yancey, travelers, those who mourn, Longfellow Middle School community, the homeless, racial reconciliation in our country, those affected by the opioid epidemic and those working to end it, victims of famine and war, peace and more empathy in the world, protection from gun violence in the world and for its victims and families, those living in war zones, hostages, those living with cancer.



Story

WINTER RETREAT 2024

Youth, mark your calendars for our winter retreat, February 23-25 at the Skycroft Conference Center! Along with youth groups from Chesterbrook and Cherrydale we will spend a spiritual weekend exploring *Our Story*, getting to know each other, and having loads of fun!

Cost of retreat- \$195 per person includes, room, meals, and facilities.

Questions? Contact- Catherine

Highlights from E-News

If you're not receiving our Friday e-mail, please send your email address to info@umtrinity.org

Book Chat

Meets Tuesday, **January 9** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome: <http://umtrinity.org/education/adults>.

Children's Ministries

Children's Worship 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.

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

Fellowship

To provide snacks during Fellowship, sign up on the white board on the coffee bar. Contact Alesha Luxon, alesha.luxon@gmail.com.

Martha's Table

Martha's Table is on the first Sunday after both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. It involves packaging trail mix at Trinity and delivering it to Martha's Table ministry, which supports unhoused in Washington, DC. All are welcome to participate in this fellowship/volunteer opportunity. While there is gratitude for those filling trail mix bags, volunteers are also needed for delivering the packed trail mix to Martha's Table. If you are interested in serving as a delivery driver, please sign up online (<http://umtrinity.org/marthat>), on the Fellowship Lobby sign-up sheet, or contact William Liu at williamliu@att.net /703-389-2253.

Mission Trip: March 2024

Exciting news! Join our team on a trip to The Leadership Center in rural Honduras from March 2 to March 7, 2024, supporting 55 young women in education and spirituality. You'll join Chris and Dan Moore, who will be serving there for three weeks. For details, contact Chris Moore (christinecmoore@gmail.com, 571-215-2948) or Dan Moore (703-980-5050, danmoore53@gmail.com).

Preschool Enrollment Open

Enrollment for 2024-25 opens to church members and existing preschool families on Jan. 2. For details, please visit umtrinity.org/preschool.

Ushers Needed

Ushers are needed each Sunday. If you would like to volunteer please sign up at umtrinity.org/ushers.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

January 7, 4:30 - 6 p.m.: Youth Group Resumes, Confirmation Kick off Dinner (youth, confirmands, faith friends and parents are invited, RSVP to Catherine)

February 3, 12:30-2:30: Laser Tag at Trinity

February 23-25: Youth Retreat at Skycroft Conference Center

Contact Catherine Wethington, umtrinityyouth@gmail.com. Scan the QR code at the right to register for 2023-24 youth activities.



Coming Up

January

7 Martha's Table
7 Confirmation Kick-off
7 Youth Group Resumes
8 Engage Bible Study resumes
9 Book Chat
9 Exec Council
15 Office Closed
16 Spire assembly
16 Trustees
20 Christ House

February

4 Martha's Table
5 Crafts for a Cause
13 Book Chat
14 Ash Wednesday
17 Christ House
19 Office Closed
19 Crafts for a Cause
23-25 Youth Retreat

March

2-7 Mission Trip to Honduras

Attendance: Please complete a pew rack attendance card or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and click the link.

Don't forget to include the first name of each family member present as well as surname.



Trinity Church Staff

Neil Hough
Taehwan Roh
Harriet Latta
Jose Nuñez
Jerry Rich
Emily Yosmanovich
Catherine Wethington
Laurie Strollo

Senior Pastor
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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 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.