



# Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101

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November 27, 2022

1st Sunday of Advent

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>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> (Brahms)	Jerry Rich
Welcome and Announcements		Clergy
* Call to Worship		Eileen Gilmer

The time is coming when the Lord will pour his most special blessing on the earth.

**We want to be ready for that time. What should we do?**

Be vigilant. Keep your hearts, minds, and spirits open to God's word.

**Help us, O Lord, to be aware of all of your blessings.**

Come, let us celebrate God's love for us.

**Make our hearts ready to receive your Gift of Love, O Lord. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle	Detwiler Family (8:30), Brian & Stephanie Grunenfelder (10:30)
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*Light the Advent Candle* (vs 1)

FWS 2090

Light the Advent candle one; Now the waiting has begun;

We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas day.

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;

Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Hanging of the Ornaments

* Gathering Hymn	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	p. 3 / UMH 196
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Children's Message		Laurie Strollo
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Prayers of the People		Gilmer
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Offering		Hough
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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>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</i> (Picardy)	Philip Keirstead
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Anthem (10:30)	<i>Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> (Praetorius)	Chancel Choir
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Scripture	Luke 1:5-20	Gilmer
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In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Eliza-

beth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Message	<i>"Your Prayer Has Been Heard"</i>	Neil Hough
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The Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)		Gilmer
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* Closing Hymn	<i>Hail to the Lord's Anointed</i>	p. 3 / UMH 203
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* Benediction		Hough
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Closing Music	<i>Praise God</i> (Vetter)	Rich
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\* Please stand as you are able.

# Grow — Pray — Study

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

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## **Monday, November 28 — Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

Psalm 80 is a lament and prayer for God's people in a time of crisis. It appeals to God's steadfast love and faithfulness, which is one of the Psalms' primary themes. It reminds us that we can (and should) call on God in times of need. It reminds us that we can affirm God's sovereignty and trust that God hears and answers our prayers — although we must learn to trust that God often answers our prayers in unexpected ways and at unexpected times.

- How do you maintain hope in difficult times? For what are you crying out to God today?
- Prayer: *Faithful God, hear my prayers this week. Teach me, once again, that I can trust you, and that you will answer my prayers, even if you answer in unexpected ways. Amen.*

## **Tuesday, November 29 — Jeremiah 33:14-18**

Jeremiah recounts the promises of God's covenant with David, reminding Israel that God will act on Israel's behalf and that a King — in the line of David — would reign with justice and righteousness. This promise would be Israel's hope, but their confidence would be severely tested, as the ultimate fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy would not happen until the birth of Jesus some 600 years later.

- What helps you remain confident in God's promises over the passing of time?
- Prayer: *Promise-Keeping God, help me see the longer view of your relationship with creation. Help me to continue trusting in your steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.*

## **Wednesday, November 30 — Luke 1:5-20**

The birth of Jesus is one of the most significant events in human history. According to Luke, and the other Gospel writers, Jesus' birth was the fulfillment of the promises made by Israel's prophets. The angel Gabriel's words to Zechariah in Luke 1:13 are profound and have multiple levels of meaning. Not only has God heard the prayers of Zechariah and Elizabeth, but God has also heard Israel's prayers for salvation.

- Have you ever prayed for God's salvation? How has God answered your prayer? How might Jesus be the ultimate answer to the prayers you are praying today?
- Prayer: *Merciful God, thank you for answering my prayers. Help me to remember that you act in unexpected and surprising ways. Grant me courage to trust you always. Amen.*

## **Thursday, December 1 — Luke 1:21-25**

Elizabeth's conception is one of many examples of a primary Gospel theme: promise and fulfillment. Elizabeth's pregnancy and the birth of John is the fulfillment of Gabriel's promise to Zechariah. The birth of Jesus is the fulfillment of Gabriel's promise to Mary (Luke 1:31) and the ultimate fulfillment of God's promise to Israel (Jeremiah 33:14-18).

- How have you experienced the fulfillment of God's promises in your life? How does Jesus fulfill God's promise to you?
- Prayer: *Loving God, please forgive me for doubting your faithfulness. Open my eyes and ears, my heart and mind, to see the ways that you fulfill promises in my life. Amen.*

## **Friday, December 2 — Acts 10:30-33**

Angels are, by definition, God's messengers. They act and speak on God's behalf and are found throughout Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation. In Acts 10, an angelic messenger speaks to Cornelius with the same words that were spoken to Zechariah in Luke 1:13. The parallels are intentional: God's word to God's people is that God hears and answers prayer — and that God's salvation is the ultimate answer to every prayer.

How is God's gift of salvation an answer to your prayers?

- Prayer: *Saving God, sometimes I forget that I need salvation. I trust in myself, and my own abilities. Save me from my arrogance. Save me by grace through faith in Jesus. Amen.*

## **Saturday, December 3 — Genesis 18:9-15**

Reading Luke's account of Zechariah and Elizabeth intentionally brings to mind the story of Abraham and Sarah. Like Sarah before him, Zechariah could not believe God's promise. Sarah laughed. Zechariah doubted.

- Have you ever had an experience like Sarah or Zechariah? Have you ever struggled to believe God's promises? Have you ever doubted God? The Good News is that God is faithful despite our doubts. The Good News is that God saves us from our lack of faith.
- Prayer: *God of Grace, I believe in you, in your Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit, but I still have doubts. Forgive my doubts and strengthen my faith, today and always. 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).

## 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

Al, Alan, Alex & Sarah, Amanda, Amber & Briana, Andrea, Andrew, Ann, Annie Ruth, Asher, Ava, Barb & JR, Barbara & Barry, Bennett family, Betty, Bill, Bill & Maddie, Blackburn family, Bob, Boris, Brian, Bud, Buzz, Carol, Carol & Rich, Carolyn, Cathryn, Cathy, Charlie, Cheryl, Chris, Christine, Colin & Kelly, Connelly family, Cristal, Daniel, Danny, Darlene & Steve, Dave & Carol, Davey, David, Debbie, Deryl & Jim, Diane, Dick, Dilian & Abby, Donna, Donley family, Doris, Earl & Mary Lou, Eduardo, Eileen, Elaine, Ellen, Ellie, Emily, Evelyn, Evey, Finn, Fiona, Fran & Tom, Franco, Gary & Lindie, Gil, Gilmore family, Greenberg family, Hanson family, Harriet, Hayley, Hoepfl family, Homer, Hudson, Isobel, Jack, Jackie, Jean, Jeff, Jeffmader, Jeremy, Jerry, Jessica, Jill, Joe & Doris, Joe & Judy, Joe & Marie, John, Jorge, Josh, June, Junior, Karen, Katherin & Tim, Kathy, Kathy & Russ, Kay & John, Keith, Kurtz family, Lana, Ladye, Lena, Linda & Steve, Lindsay, Lisa, Liz & David, Luana, Maeve, Marcia, Marciene, Marilyn, Mark, Martha, Matt, Maya, Melissa, Melissa & Chad, Michelle, Mickey, Mike, Milton & Janine, Minou, Morgan, Nadine, Naty, Pauline & Merlin, Patrick, Patterson family, Peg & Dick, Riley, Robert, Roberto & Erica, Rosemarie & Adrian, Sammi, Sandy, Sandy & Vinnie, Sarah, Scott, Sharon, Sissi, Spencer, Starr family, Steve, Sue, Temple family, Teresa, Tim, Tom, Tony, Tracy, Valery, Vanessa, Vanna, Vicki, Viles family, Wayne, Weiss family, Williams family, Willie David, Yancey, Zoren, Trinity's children, youth and volunteers, Trinity Preschool, those who mourn, the homeless, racial reconciliation in our country, those affected by natural disasters like those displaced by Hurricane Ian, violence and political turmoil around the world - especially in Ukraine and Iran.

Send us your prayer requests at [umtrinity.org](http://umtrinity.org).

Today's hymn texts for those worshipping at home.

## Come, Though Long-Expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

## Hail to the Lord's Anointed

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succor speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
are precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth.  
Before him, on the mountains,  
shall peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness, in fountains,  
from hill to valley flow.
4. To him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever;  
that name to us is love.

## 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, **Jan. 10** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome. More at <https://umtrinity.org/education>. Contact Kathy Maher, [kathyngs@gmail.com](mailto:kathyngs@gmail.com), for more.

### 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.

### Crafts for a Cause

We meet every other Monday from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in Room 124: Dec. 5 & 19. 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)).

### Trinity Preschool News

Trinity Preschool is always looking for substitutes and floater teachers! The qualifications are: reliable, a cheerful disposition, and a love for young children! Previous childcare experience is a bonus, but not necessary. Two shifts are available: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 1 - 5 p.m., flexible days available. Please email Emily Yosmanovich, Preschool Director at [Director.TrinityPreschool@gmail.com](mailto:Director.TrinityPreschool@gmail.com)

### Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

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)).

## Coming Up

27 Celtic Service, 5 p.m. online

### December

4 Martha's Table  
5 Crafts for a Cause  
7 Honduras Information Night  
11 Lessons & Carols  
11 Cookies & Carols  
15 Spire assembly  
17 Christ House  
18 Celtic Service of Hope  
19 Crafts for a Cause  
24 Christmas Eve: 5, 8 & 11 p.m.  
25 Christmas Day, 10:30 a.m. only

### January

2 Office Closed  
2 Crafts for a Cause  
16 Office Closed  
16 Crafts for a Cause  
21 Christ House  
29 Celtic Service  
29 Crafts for a Cause

### Sermon Series:

#### Listen to the Angels

Every year we read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth and enter the story of Mary and Joseph. We are amazed at the miracle of salvation that comes through the birth of Jesus. We worship with the shepherds and join the wise men as they follow the star to meet the newborn King. Throughout the story of Christmas, angels guide us along the way. The Gospel writers tell us what happened in the first Christmas; *the angels tell us what it means*. Join us during Advent and Christmas at Trinity as we **Listen to the Angels** and hear the Good News once again.

## Children & Youth Activities

### Registration 2022-23

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code or visit the webpage to complete the registration today.



Children  
Preschool - 6th grade  
<http://bit.ly/childreg22>

Youth  
7th - 12th Grade  
<http://bit.ly/youthreg22>



### 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

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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](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.



## Why We Give by Dan Moore

In reflecting a bit on our 40 years as a part of the Trinity family, my thoughts about why we give have changed or perhaps grown.

I know we have an obligation to honor God as best as we can- and giving to church is a part of that. Chris and I have always given to church with a sense of gratitude for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us and our family. The blessings are clear and tangible to my way of thinking. We are grateful and know that God has been good to us.

And we have always felt an affirmative responsibility to support the financial needs of our church. Whether it was funds necessary for a capital campaign or funding of the annual church budget - this always seemed like a duty or responsibility that we share as participants in our local family of faith.

As I mentioned, I think I have evolved some in my thinking about why we give. I still think both those aforementioned reasons to give are important. But largely as a result of our service in Central America over the last 10 plus years, I know now what is most important to me. God has generously allowed those deeply personal experiences to shape our everyday thinking and our lives. We see God in the faces of the young women at The Leadership Center and in the faces of the children at Heart to Heart. We know that although meek and poor in material terms - they are richly filled with God's spirit which is so inspirational to us! Trinity and its members provide these ministries with funds and other support, and as a result we are enabling substantial personal education and development. We are providing meaningful opportunities to some of God's people who otherwise might not receive them. And in fact, Trinity's annual budget supports 10 different international Christian ministries and missions in Central America and Africa. The long-term impact of these ministries is known only to God, but all of us at Trinity are part of His Kingdom work.



### Sponsor a Child

You will find a tree in the Narthex full of bell ornaments. Each ornament includes a biography of a child living at Heart to Heart Children's Village in Honduras. Please take an ornament so you can sponsor a child through prayers, a letter, and gifts. There are also sponsorship instructions on the back of the ornament. Each ornament can be untied so that the child's photo and biography can be pulled out to read. This tree will be available through the season of Advent.

# Mission Night

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

7 - 8 PM

CHAPEL

Presentation by Leadership Mission  
International with video, slides,  
discussion and fellowship snacks.



**Leadership Mission**  
International



SUPPORT YOUTH & SCOUTS

# Christmas Tree Sales

Lot Hours:

Thurs. & Fri. 5 - 7 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun. 12 - 5 p.m.



Visit <http://umtrinity.org/education/youth> or scan the QR code to volunteer on the lot.



## Christmas Traditions

A Bible Study  
with Anne Hough



### Advent Study Begins December 6 & 7

Do you know the difference between a Christmas tree, a Chrismon tree and a Jesse tree? Have you ever wondered what all the Christmas decorations and customs mean? What about Santa, carols, the 12 days of Christmas, Rudolph, wassailing or the nine lessons and carol service? If you would like to know more about these Christmas traditions (and more) join Anne Hough for our Advent study on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. The study will begin on December 6/7 and end on December 20/21. Tuesday morning classes will be hybrid (in-person and Zoom). Wednesday evening classes will be on Zoom.