

VI: The Magi

Trinity United Methodist Church

1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. | McLean, VA 22101 703-356-3312 | umtrinity.org | info@umtrinity.org

December 11, 2022 3rd Sunday of Advent 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.

People, Look East (Rich) **Trinity Ringers** Prelude

Welcome and Announcements Clergy

Lighting of the Advent Candle Marta Acevedo

Light the Advent Candle (vs 3)

FWS 2090

Light the Advent candle three; Think of heavenly harmony; Angels singing "Peace on earth" at the blessed Savior's birth. Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

* Call to Worship Eileen Gilmer

Justice and peace shall be brought to all God's people.

No more shall fear and doubt claim us. God is fulfilling the ancient promise of a Savior.

Our hearts rejoice at this good news of God's love. Amen.

* Gathering Hymn Once in Royal David's City (stanzas 1 solo, 2-4 congregation) p. 5 / UMH 250

Children's Message Hough

Bidding Prayer and Lord's Prayer Gilmer

I: Darkness to Light Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7 John & Margie Meak p. 6 / UMH 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful (stanzas 1-3)

II: Branch of Jesse Isaiah 11:1-9 Perrin Family

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Larson) Philip Keirstead and Joey Wilson

III: The King is Coming Micah 5:2-5a Miller Family p. 7 / UMH 230

O Little Town of Bethlehem (stanzas 1-2)

IV: Gabriel Visits Mary Luke 1:26-35, 38 Calsyn Family

Gabriel's Message (Pettman) Chancel Choir

V: Jesus' Birth; the Shepherds Luke 2:1-16 Oh/Bricker Family Angels from the Realms of Glory (stanzas 1-2) p. 8 / UMH 220

> Matthew 2:1-11 Summers Family

In the Bleak Midwinter (Darke) Chancel Choir

Catherine Wethington and Joey Wilson, soloists

VII: In the Beginning... John 1:1-14 Conroy Family Hark! the Herald Angels Sing p. 9 / UMH 240

Offering 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 Winter (Vivaldi) Yorke Allen, violin

* Closing Hymn Joy to the World p. 10 / UMH 246

* Benediction Hough

Yorke Allen, violin Closing Music Gigue from Suite #3 in D (Bach)

* Please stand as you are able.

Grow — Pray — Study

Things I'd like to remember from today's message:	
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Monday, December 12 — Zephaniah 3:14-20

The Gospel writers' accounts of Jesus' birth rely heavily on our understanding of the promises made by Old Testament prophets. The Gospel writers want us to know that the birth of Jesus is the fulfillment of promises made long ago. An essential element of the Good News is that God keeps promises. God kept promises then. God keeps promises now.

- As you prepare to celebrate Christmas this year, what are you hoping for and waiting for God to do in your life? What promises are you trusting God to keep?
- Prayer: Eternal God, thank you for the hope-filled promises of the prophets. Help me to keep trusting that you are always faithful and that you keep your promises. Amen.

Tuesday, December 13 — Luke 1:46-55

The Advent and Christmas seasons are known for their special music. From children's songs, to familiar carols, to the Hallelujah Chorus, the music of Christmas inspires and moves us. The Biblical Christmas story is also known for beautiful poetry that has been set to music many times over the centuries. Mary's song of praise is one of the most familiar. After her encounter with her cousin Elizabeth, Mary said (or sang?), "My soul magnifies the Lord" (Luke 1:47).

- What are your favorite Christmas songs? What songs are on your Christmas "playlist"? What makes your soul magnify the Lord?
- Prayer: Glorious God, thank you for the gift of music and the inspiration it provides for the Advent and Christmas seasons. As I celebrate Jesus' birth, put a song in my heart. Amen.

Wednesday, December 14 — Isaiah 35:1-10

Many of the images found in Isaiah 35 are also found in the New Testament story of Jesus' life. Isaiah promises God's salvation and new life for God's people. He promises strength for the weak and everlasting joy and gladness for the faithful. Sometimes we forget that joy is a gift from God. It's a gift that God offers us throughout the year, but it's a special gift we can receive at Christmas.

- Where do you find joy and gladness? What might you do to experience more joy in your life? Some people do not experience joy at Christmas. How might you bring joy to people who walk in darkness at Christmas?
- Prayer: God of Joy and Gladness, fill me with your Holy Spirit so that I might experience your joy. Use me to share your joy with others and shine light in the darkness. Amen.

Thursday, December 15 — Luke 1:67-79

The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel weave together the birth of John (the Baptist) and Jesus. One of Luke's concerns is that we understand that John is not the Messiah; Jesus is the Messiah. Another concern is that we understand that John's birth fulfills the promise that God would send a prophet to prepare the way for the Messiah. Zechariah's song celebrates God's salvation through Jesus and his son John's role in God's plan.

- How is God preparing you to welcome Jesus into your heart once more? How might God be using you to prepare the way for someone else?
- Prayer: Author of Salvation, come into my heart and prepare my life to celebrate Jesus' birth. Help me to fully accept your grace and be a faithful follower of Jesus. Amen.

Friday, December 16 — Isaiah 51:1-8

In some editions of the Bible, the heading for Isaiah 51 is, "Blessings in Store for God's People." The covenant made with Abraham and Sarah (see Genesis 12:2-3) includes the promise of God's blessing, so that God's people will be a blessing to the world. God's blessing comes in many forms, but the ultimate blessing that anyone can receive is a relationship with Jesus.

- In what ways have you been blessed by your relationship with Jesus? In what ways are you a blessing to others?
- Prayer: God of Love, forgive me for accepting your many blessings without being a blessing to others. Grant me courage to generously share your love with the world. Amen.

Saturday, December 17 — Luke 2:28-35

Luke's account of Jesus' birth ends with the presentation of Jesus in the temple. Simeon's song recalls God's promises made through the prophets and sets the stage for the universal impact of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Through Jesus, God's promises of salvation are available to the entire world.

- Are you ready to receive Jesus and accept the gift of salvation at Christmas this year? Offer yourself to God today and ask God to open your heart to welcome Jesus into your life.
- Prayer: Merciful God, I know that the best Christmas gift I will ever receive is the gift of salvation that comes through Jesus. Prepare my heart to receive that gift today. 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@sloflt.com.

Pastor's 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

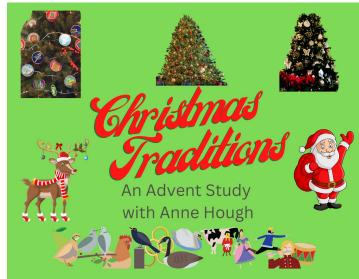
Wednesday at 10 a.m. Meeting ID: 875 6105 5580

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

Al, Alan, Alex & Sarah, Amanda, Amber & Briana, Andrea, Andrew, Andy, Ann, Annie Ruth, Asher, Ava, Barb & JR, Barbara & Barry, Becky, 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, Diane, Dick, Dilian & Abby, Dobson family, Donna, Doris, Earl & Mary Lou, Eduardo, Eileen, Elaine, Ellie, Emily, Evelyn, Evey, Finn, Fiona, Fran & Tom, Franco, Gary & Lindie, Gil, Gilmore family, Greenberg family, Gwyn, Hanson family, Harriet, Hayley, Hoepfl family, Homer, Hudson, Ingrid, Isobel, Jack, Jackie, Jean, Jeff, Jeffmander, Jeremy, Jerry, Jessica, Jill, Joe & Doris, Joe & Judy, Joe & Marie, John, Jorge, Josh, June, Junior, Junil. Karen, Katherine, Katherin & Tim, Kathleen, Kathy, Kathy & Russ, Kay & John, Keith, Krista, Kurtz family, Lana, Ladye, Lena, Linda & Steve, Lindsay, Lisa, Liz & David, Lorenzo, Luana, Maeve, Marcia, Marciene, Marcy, Maria, Marilu, Marilyn, Mark, Martha, Matt, Maya, Meak family, Melissa, Melissa & Chad, Mendez family, Michelle, Mickey, Mike, Milton & Janine, Minou, Morgan, Nadine, Naty, Pauline & Merlin, Patrick, Patterson family, Peg & Dick, Riley, Robert, Roberto & Erica, Roger, Rosemarie & Adrian, Sammi, Sandy & Vinnie, Sarah, Scott, Sharon, Sissi, Spencer, Starr family, Steve, Sue, Tatiana, 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, violence and political turmoil around the world.



Advent Study

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 have would like to learn 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. Tuesday morning classes will be hybrid (in-person int eh Library and Zoom). Wednesday evening classes will be on Zoom.

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.

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 Tuesday, **Jan.** We meet every other Monday from 7 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, 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)



are not meeting today. They'll meet next week during the 10:30 service following the Children's Message.

Crafts for a Cause

to 8:30 p.m., in Room 124: Dec. 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.

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).

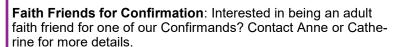
Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

Christmas Party Today, 4:30 - 6 p.m. Register at http://bit.ly/youthreg22 For more information about volunteering with youth or joining youth group, contact Catherine Wethington (umtrinityyouth@gmail.com).

Confirmation Class

Youth (grades 7-12) are invited to join our 2023 Confirmation Class. It will meet on Sundays, 4-5 p.m. beginning January 8 and run through the end of May. In order to mature in their own faith journey, the confirmands will explore what the Bible teaches us, what it means to follow Jesus, and how we serve God as members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Pastor Anne Hough will serve as this year's lead teacher. There will be a confirmation Kick Off for confirmands, parents, and faith friends on January 8 at 4 p.m., mark your calendars! Register at http://bit.ly/youthreg22 or scan the QR code.

Contact Pastor Anne at eachough@gmail.com or Catherine at umtrinityyouth@gmail.com for more information.





Coming Up

December

- Lessons & Carols 11
- 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
- 26 Office Closed

January

- 2 Office Closed
- 2 Crafts for a Cause
- 10 **Book Chat**
- 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.

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

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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

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 been 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.

Once in Royal David's City





United Methodist Hymnal 234
WORDS: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others
MUSIC (ADESTES FIDELES, Irr.): John F. Wade, ca. 1743; harm. from Collections of Motetts or Antiphons, 1792

O Little Town of Bethlehem



Angels from the Realms of Glory



Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



Joy to the World



United Methodist Hymnal 246
WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)
MUSIC (ANTIOCH, CM with Repeat): Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

Why I Give By Alesha Luxon

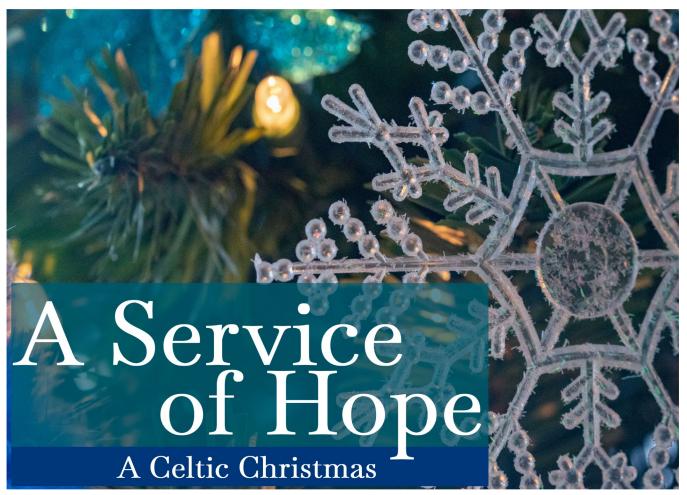
As some of you may recall from my video last year, I give to Trinity UMC because I was taught from an early age to give a portion of what I have back to the church. My parents and grandparents were excellent role models for this habit, and they taught me to do it even when it wasn't easy. As I got older, I realized the sacrifices my parents made in order to keep this commitment, put food on the table and provide for my brother and me. I learned that like other habits, if you keep giving it becomes part of the fabric of you as a person. You don't even think twice about whether you are going to do it, anymore than you think twice about whether you are going to brush your teeth. You just do (well, at least I hope you do).

Secondly, I give because the needs are great. The United Methodist Church has systems and projects already in place to help meet those needs whether they are local, national or international. I know that I don't know all the needs out there, but I do know that the UMC has a plan for at least many of them. Giving my tithe and offering to the church helps the church meet the needs that I may not be aware of or needs for which my gift alone would not make much impact. Together, our gifts make a huge impact across our community and across the world.

Giving of my time and talents helps the church and community on a more local level. I give my time and very limited talent to Crafts for a Cause which provides handmade items for hospitals and other organizations in our community. I give my time to organize "Fabulous Fellowship" after each Sunday morning service as I believe this fellowship is critical to the life of the church and to our relationships with each other. We become not just someone at church, but friends and family who care about each other.

Lastly, I give because it is the right thing to do no matter what. I know I can't do everything, but I certainly can do something. I also know that in giving, I am always blessed far more than I bless others. Most importantly, God is glorified when we all do and give what we can.





Sunday, December 18 5 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook



Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV

Christmas Eve at Trinity

(Saturday, December 24)

5 p.m. Family Service

8 p.m. Traditional Candlelight & Communion

11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight & Communion

Christmas Day at Trinity

(Sunday, December 25)

10:30 a.m. Worship

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O Come, All Ye Faithful (stan1-3) p. 6 / UMH 234

Isaiah 11:1-9 David & Pamela Danner II: Branch of Jesse Philip Keirstead and Joey Wilson O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Larson)

III: The King is Coming Micah 5:2-5a Sally Cram & Lori Shinton p. 7 / UMH 230

O Little Town of Bethlehem (stanzas 1-2)

Luke 1:26-35, 38 Charles & Genee Boykin IV: Gabriel Visits Mary Ensemble

Gabriel's Message (Pettman)

V: Jesus' Birth; the Shepherds Luke 2:1-16 Loving Family

Angels from the Realms of Glory (stanzas 1-2) p. 8 / UMH 220

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Closing Music Gigue from Suite #3 in D (Bach) Rich

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