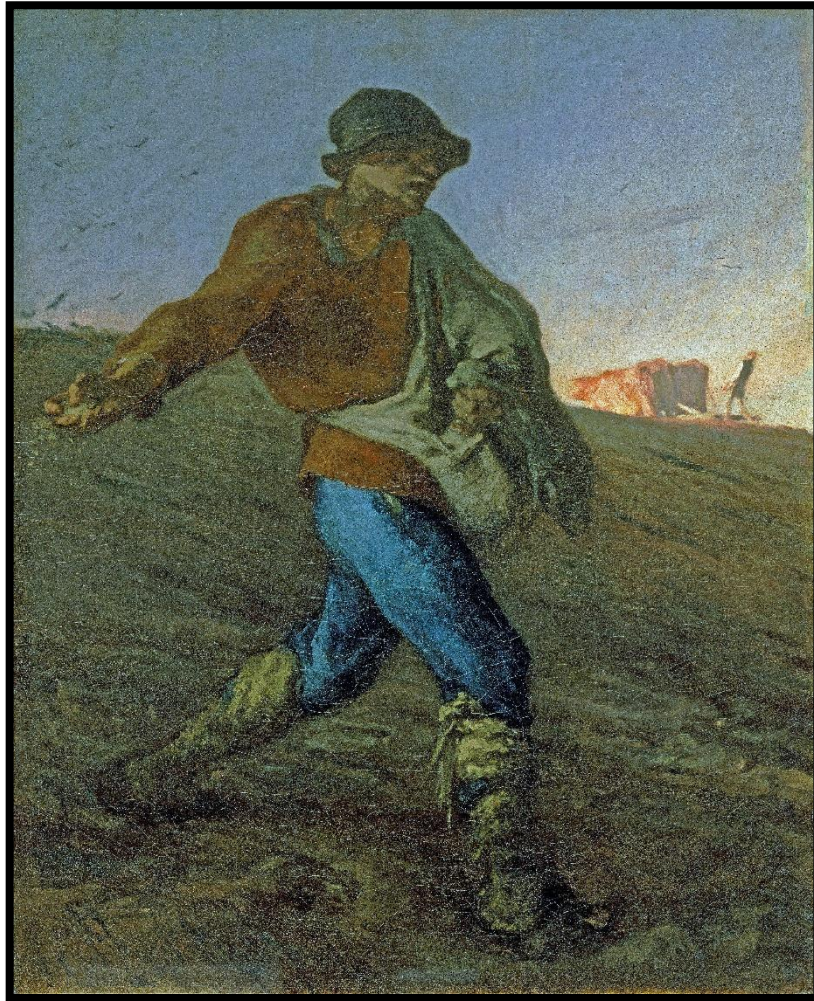


 Trinity United Methodist Church



*"The Sower," Jean-François Millet
Oil on Canvas, French, 1850*

a farmer went out

to sow his seed

Matthew 13:3b

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

July 12, 2026

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



Welcome to Trinity Church! We are grateful you are here. We'd appreciate it if you would complete the registration pad and pass it down. For those worshipping in the Chapel today, please complete an attendance card. Remember to name each family member present today.

Please join us in our Fellowship Lobby following each service for delicious food and a chance for us to get to know one another!

PRELUDE

Canzona on LIEBSTER JESU (Purvis)

Jerry Rich

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 55

People of God, as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are God's ways higher than our ways, God's thoughts than our thoughts.

**As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens
and do not return without watering the earth, making it bud and flourish,
so does the earth yield seed for the sower and bread for the hungry.**

So too does the Word that comes from God go forth!

**It will not return empty, but accomplish what God most desires:
achieving its purpose for this very day.**

* GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In (vs. 1, 2, 4)

FWS 2236

**Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones**

**We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, Faithful One,

For we know that we have trouble waiting.

We do not remember that it is in waiting that we may hear your voice.

It is often difficult to believe that we travel fertile and promising soil,
in which your Kingdom may sprout and flourish.

**We are not inclined to shoulder the task of sharing with others
the life-changing news that we carry with us,
of your desire to know us and power to save.**

So call us to cast aside the thorny agendas and anxieties
that choke our enjoyment of the life you have given us.

**Breathe again into the rocky places within us,
Lest we have no root in life, and wither away to nothing.**

[a time of silent prayer]

Renew in us the promise that you have planted among us
all we need to thrive, in the furrows of your forgiving grace. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

ANTHEM

Blessed Assurance (Knapp)
O God, By Whom the Seed is Given (Heber)

Brendon O'Donnell (8:30)
Chancel Choir (10:30)

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:1-9

Leo Detwiler (8:30)
Nancy Umstott (10:30)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

MESSAGE

The Wastefulness of the Gospel

Dave Rochford

* HYMN

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

**In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

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.*

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

UMH 94

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* CLOSING HYMN *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* (vs. 1)

UMH 664

***Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.***

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *Allegro from Concerto in D, RV 93*

Jerry Rich

**congregation invited to stand*

July Collection School Supplies for Grace Ministries

- Backpacks
- No. 2 pencils
- Erasers
- Wide-ruled notebooks
- Glue sticks
- Rulers
- Blunt-tipped scissors
- Washable markers
- Plastic folders
- Pencil sharpeners
- Assorted construction paper



GRACE Ministries of the United Methodist Church (graceministriesumc.org) is a faith-based community outreach program serving over 1,000 low-income families each month in Northern Virginia. GRACE provides emergency food, clothing, household items, diapers and healthcare information and screenings at seven local United Methodist Churches.

Donations can be left in the collection baskets in the Narthex stairwells as well as in our Fellowship Lobby.

Grow — Pray — Study

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



Monday, July 13 — Isaiah 55:10–13

Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of rain falling upon the earth. The rain does not hurry, nor does it return without accomplishing its purpose. In the same way, God's Word always fulfills God's will.

We often become discouraged when we cannot immediately see the results of our prayers or our efforts to serve God. Yet today's passage reminds us that God's work is often hidden long before it becomes visible. Our hope rests not in what we can see today, but in the faithfulness of the God who never stops working.

- When have you found it difficult to trust God's work because you could not yet see results?
- How does God's faithfulness give you hope today?
- **Prayer:** Faithful God, thank you that your Word never returns empty. Teach me to trust your work, even when I cannot yet see all that you are doing. Amen.

Tuesday, July 14 — Psalm 126:1–6

The psalmist speaks honestly about seasons of tears while holding firmly to God's promise of joy. Those who sow in tears are assured that one day they will reap songs of joy.

There are moments when hope feels small and the future seems uncertain. Even then, God continues working in ways we cannot fully understand. Every prayer, every act of kindness, and every quiet step of faith becomes a seed that God is able to use for God's greater purposes.

- Where do you most need God's hope today?
- What seed of faith is God inviting you to continue planting, even when the outcome is uncertain?
- **Prayer:** God of hope, strengthen my heart when I become discouraged. Help me trust that you are already preparing a harvest beyond what I can see. Amen.

Wednesday, July 15 — 1 Corinthians 3:5–9

Paul reminds the church that God's people have different responsibilities, but they all serve the same Lord. Some plant, others water, yet only God gives the growth.

It is easy to feel responsible for outcomes that ultimately belong to God. We cannot make faith grow in another person's heart, nor can we control the future. Our calling is simply to be faithful where God has placed us, trusting that God continues the work long after our part is finished.

- What responsibility have you been carrying that may really belong to God?
- How can trusting God bring you greater peace today?
- **Prayer:** Lord of the harvest, help me faithfully do the work you have entrusted to me and leave the results in your loving hands. Amen.

Thursday, July 16 — Mark 4:26–29

Jesus tells another parable about a farmer who scatters seed upon the ground. Day after day the seed grows, though the farmer does not know how. Growth remains God's mysterious work.

Much of God's work happens quietly. We often wish we could measure spiritual growth or predict what God is doing, yet God's kingdom has always grown in ways beyond human control. Our confidence comes not from our understanding, but from God's faithful activity.

- Where are you being invited to trust God's unseen work?
- How can you rest more fully in God's care instead of your own efforts?
- **Prayer:** God of grace, remind me that you are always at work, even when I cannot see it. Teach me to trust your timing and your faithful love. Amen.

Friday, July 17 — Romans 8:24–25

Paul reminds believers that hope is rooted in what we cannot yet see. If everything were already visible, hope would no longer be hope! Instead, we wait with patience and confidence because God is faithful.

Christian hope is not wishful thinking. It is confidence that God's promises are trustworthy, even when today's circumstances seem discouraging. Our future is secure because it rests in God's hands rather than our own.

- Where is God inviting you to choose hope instead of discouragement?
- How can God's promises shape the way you face today's uncertainties?
- **Prayer:** God of hope, strengthen my faith when I cannot see the whole picture. Help me wait with confidence, knowing that you are always faithful. Amen.

Saturday, July 18 — Hebrews 10:23–25

Tomorrow we gather to worship the God who never gives up on God's people. Before we arrive at church, we are reminded to hold fast to hope because the One who made the promise is faithful.

As we prepare our hearts for worship, we remember that we are not walking this journey alone. God continues to strengthen us through Scripture, prayer, worship, and one another. Together we place our confidence not in ourselves, but in the God whose mercy and faithfulness never fail.

- Looking back on this week, where have you seen signs of God's faithfulness?
- How is God preparing your heart to worship with hope tomorrow?
- **Prayer:** Faithful God, thank you for walking with me throughout this week. Prepare my heart for worship and help me encourage others as we continue growing together in Christ. Amen.

Today at Trinity

Martha's Table Snack Packaging!

Following both worship services, we will gather in the Fellowship Lobby to 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!

Chancel Choir, 10 a.m.

The Chancel Choir meets each Sunday 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, jrlich@potomacschool.org.

Children's Worship, 10:40 a.m. (ages 4 - 6th grade)
Children's Worship takes place following the Children's Message in our Fellowship Building (across the Breezeway).

Acolyte Training, 11:30 a.m.

All interested children and Youth are encouraged to come out for a fun and brief Training for the Ministry of Acolyte today at 11:30 a.m. (right after the 10:30 service concludes). We will go through the ways that acolytes prepare our sanctuary for worship and "lead us out" into the mission field each Sunday. We are so happy to see this ministry come back and would love to see you be part of it!



Praise Band Rehearsal, 1 p.m.

Iglesia de Diós Worship, 6 p.m.

Providing Help and Hope to Venezuela

International relief efforts continue in the wake of two destructive earthquakes in northern Venezuela on June 24. Both the main seaport and airport for Venezuela were heavily impacted and more than 59,000 buildings damaged, including hospitals.

As always, United Methodists have stepped up. The General Board of Global Ministries and our humanitarian relief arm, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR, <https://umcmmission.org/work/humanitarian-relief>) are presently on the ground and working closely with local partners to provide food, water, medical services, and shelter to the afflicted. One hundred percent of funds directed to UMCOR relief efforts in Venezuela will go to help the people of Venezuela recover. Financial donations to support this (and other) Disaster Relief Efforts can conveniently be made using the link in E-News.

This Week

Monday: Staff-Parish Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 9 a.m.: Prayer Group

Join our weekly Zoom Prayer Group as we lift up the needs of our church, community, and world. For details, talk with a pastor or call 703-356-3312.

Wednesday, 7 p.m.: A New Nation, a New Denomination

This Wednesday: "Methodism and the American Revolution" This Wednesday, July 15, we invite you to join Pastor Dave in our Chapel at 7p.m. for a lively conversation about the coincident births of the U.S. as a new and democratic nation, and the Methodists as an independent American Church. The story is in many ways an extraordinary one: how a movement that was fundamentally British navigated the tumult of Revolution, endured deep suspicion and divisive political conflict, and emerged to become the fastest-growing (and largest) American Church at the dawn of the 19th Century. A thoroughly American story, the rise of Methodism illustrates many of the hopes, shortcomings, triumphs and tensions that endure in our national conversation to the present day. We will make time for questions and discussion and hope you can be with us; we will also live stream the event.

Thursday, 7 p.m. Youth Group at Terra's Ice Cream

Every Thursday in July, from 7 to 8 p.m., we're heading to Terra's Ice Cream for ice cream, laughter, and good old-fashioned fellowship. Terra's is located at 2070 Chain Bridge Service Road in Tyson's. Come cool off and catch up with friends!

Saturday: Christ House Meal Mission

Christ House is a residential medical facility for homeless men located in the Adams Morgan area of Washington, DC. We prepare and serve lunch on the third Saturday of every month. Contact Connie Jeremiah for more information, dcjeremiah@verizon.net or 703-307-4635.

Saturday, 6 p.m.: Iglesia de Diós

Coming Up

July 20: Church & Society Committee, 7:30 p.m.

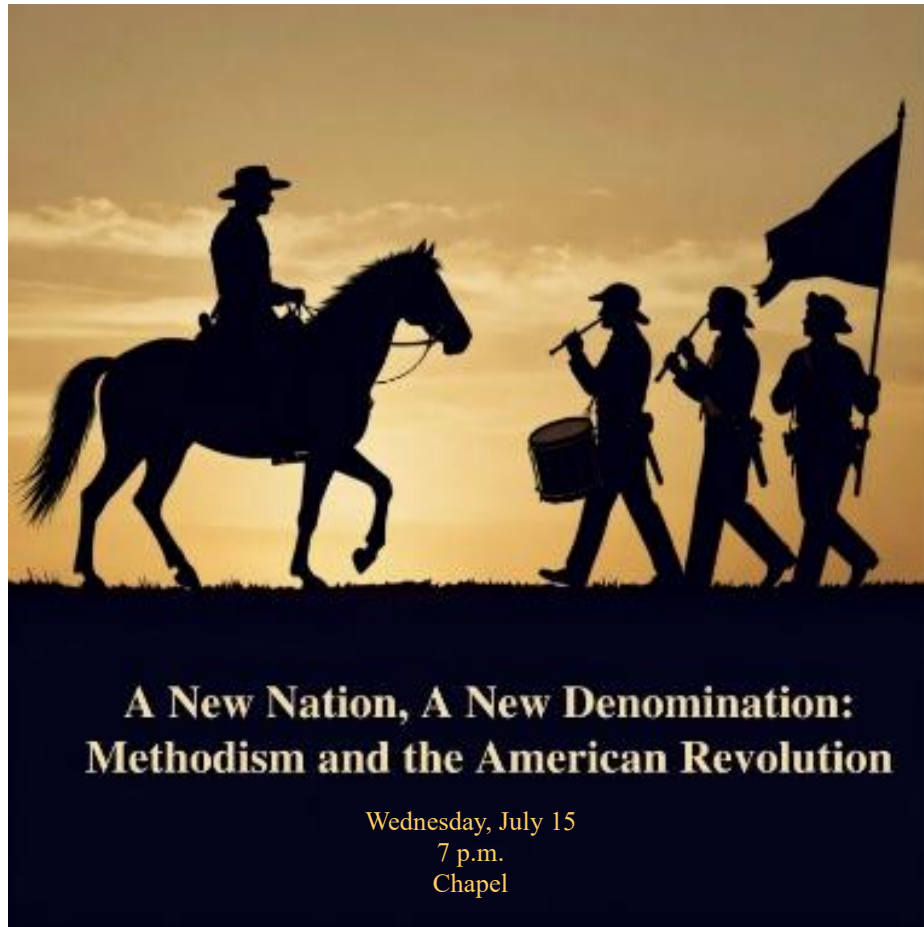
July 21: Trustees, 6:30 p.m.

July 23: Youth Group at Lazy Mike's, 7 p.m.

July 27 - 31 and Aug. 3 - 7: Stringtime Camp

Full-day camp for children ages 7 – 12 to learn violin, viola or cello. Instruments are provided; no experience necessary. See stringtimemusic.org for more details.

July 30: Youth Group at Lazy Mike's, 7 p.m.



**A New Nation, A New Denomination:
Methodism and the American Revolution**

Wednesday, July 15
7 p.m.
Chapel

Join Pastor Dave for a lively conversation about the coincident births of the U.S. as a new and democratic nation, and the Methodists as an independent American Church. More details on page 5.

This presentation will be live streamed on our Youtube channel: [UMTrinity](#)

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 invited to meet friends and neighbors after each of our worship services! Join us in the Fellowship Lobby across the breezeway. Each week individuals, families or ministry teams host our refreshments. Please consider signing up for the 8:30 service's Fellowship time. Scan the QR code under Quick Links below to sign-up.

Trinity Preschool of McLean

TPoM welcomes all students ages 2-6. Please visit 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 or speak to one of the pastors.

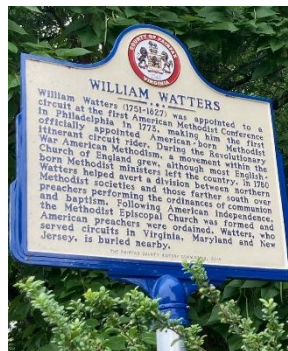
Quick Links

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

- Memorial Service for Jim Sprouse
- Trinity House renovation video
- Prayer Requests
- Children & Youth ministry registration
- Christ House wish list
- Fellowship Hour hosts sign-up
- Ushers sign-up



Did You Know?



In a grove of oaks tucked between stately homes just off Linway Terrace, there stands a quiet marker to a person who was once a living legend of American Methodism. Indeed, Rev. William Watters was once uniquely positioned as *the first American-born Methodist itinerant preacher* to help guide the then so-very-British Methodist movement through

the turbulent and violent years of the Revolution. A born peacemaker and tireless evangelist, Watters lived his later years farming in old Langley (now McLean!) Virginia. His resting place is scarcely a mile south of Trinity UMC – and appropriately so, as we are the last congregation he planted before claiming the Promise he so long proclaimed. *Believe it ... or not!*



Our Prayer Ministry

Trinity Church is grateful to receive any request for intercessory prayer. Each Wednesday, our Prayer Group meets at 9 a.m. to lift up these submissions as well as on-going needs. Those willing to pray with us are both welcomed and invited! Please speak to one of our pastors if you would like to know more.

Prayer requests can be submitted by scanning the QR code on the left with your phone's camera and clicking the link, or you may fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate.

Trinity Church Ministers and 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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umtrinityyouth@gmail.com
lstrollo@umtrinity.org

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. If you're not yet receiving our Friday weekly events e-mail, please send us your address at info@umtrinity.org.