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### **Trinity United Methodist Church**

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

**D**ecember 10 2023

Second Sunday of Advent / Lessons & Carols

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 Away in a Manger (arr. Page) Trinity Ringers

Welcome and Announcements Clergy

\* Call to Worship Taehwan Roh

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 p. 2, UMH 250

Stanza 1 solo, Stanzas 2-4 congregation

Lighting of the Advent Candle Chappell family

Light the Advent Candle (vs 2) FWS 2090

Light the Advent candle two; Think of humble shepherds; who Filled with wonder at the sight, of the child of Christmas night. Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Children's Message Laurie Strollo

Bidding Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Taehwan Roh

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7 Taehwan Roh

O Come, All Ye Faithful (stanzas 1-3) p. 3 / UMH 234

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of Bethlehem.

Micah 5:2-5a John Callicrate

O Little Town of Bethlehem (stanzas 1-2) p. 4 / UMH 230

Gabriel announces to Mary that she will give birth to God's Son.

Luke 1:26-35, 38 Andrea Hager

There Is No Rose (Caracciolo) Chancel Choir

Against a background of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

Luke 2:1-7 Jack Newcomb Myn Lyking (Terry) Chancel Choir

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

Luke 2:8-16 Blake Phillips

Angels from the Realms of Glory (stanzas 1-2) p. 5 / UMH 220

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

Matthew 2:1-11 Lizzy Conroy

In the Bleak Midwinter (Holst-Hayes) Chancel Choir (10:30)

John unfolds the great mystery of incarnation.

John 1:1-14 Peggy Fox Hark! the Herald Angels Sing p. 6 / UMH 240

(Continued on page 2)

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

I Wonder as I Wander (Rutter)

Scott Kerr, clarinet

Doy to the World

P. 7, UMH 246

Benediction

Neil Hough

Closing Music

Noël (Daguin)

Jerry Rich

#### stanzas 1 solo, 2-4 congregation

#### Once in Royal David's City



United Methodist Hymnal 250 WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Lk. 2:7) MUSIC (IRBY 87.87.77): Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand as you are able.



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



# Grow — Pray — Study

Things I'd like to remember from today's message:	
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#### Monday, December 11 — Jeremiah 23:1-8

Advent is a season of anticipation and preparation. During the weeks leading up to Christmas we often read promises made by Old Testament prophets. We are reminded that God is a promise-keeper, and that Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of our deepest desires. At Christmas, we affirm that the child born in Bethlehem is not only our Lord and Savior, he is also God's righteous King. We trust that he will "deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land" (Jeremiah 23:5).

- How does Jesus fulfill your deepest desires? How is Jesus executing justice and righteousness in your life?
- Prayer: God of Heaven and Earth, thank you for filling me with hope. Help me look forward to all that you have promised to do in my life and in the world around me. Amen.

#### Tuesday, December 12 — Zechariah 9:9-17

Writers of the New Testament's Gospels believed that the promises of Zechariah (the prophet, not the father of John the Baptist — see Luke 1:5-25, 39-40, 57-80) were fulfilled in Jesus. Both Matthew and John refer to Zechariah in their description of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the day we call Palm Sunday. Zechariah promises that God's King will be both triumphant and humble: "Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9)

- What does it mean to you that God's King will be humble? Why is it important to have a humble King? How do reconcile the contrast between royal power and Christ-like humility?
- Prayer: Loving God, teach me your ways. Help me understand the importance of humility in my relationships with you and with others. Help me follow Jesus' example. Amen.

#### Wednesday, December 13 — Haggai 2:1-9

The Book of Haggai covers three months in Israel's history during the time when the temple in Jerusalem was being rebuilt after the Babylonian exile. It was a time of great hope for God's people. Reading Haggai reminds us that Advent is a season of great hope. Because we know that God is in our midst today, we can look forward to the fulfillment of God's eternal Kingdom and God's glorious future. Because of Christmas, we are people of hope, "for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts" (Haggai 2:4)

- For what are you most hopeful today? What helps you trust in God's faithfulness as you watch the future unfold?
- Prayer: God of Hope, give me confidence and faith to trust in your promises. Remind me that the future rests securely in your hands so that I can serve you fully today. Amen.

#### Thursday, December 14 — Isaiah 35:1-6

Fear is a natural, human response in uncertain times. Sometimes, our experiences of fear help us stay out of harm's way. But at other times, fear prevents us from fully experiencing the abundant life that God offers. That's why the Bible says things like, "Be strong, do not fear!" (Isaiah 35:4). We need to be reminded that we can trust God's promises. As you read and hear the Christmas story in the weeks ahead, pay attention to how many times someone (mostly angels) says, "do not be afraid" (Luke 2:10).

- When you experience fear and doubt about your life and the world around you, remember the words of Isaiah. Trust that God is God: "Be strong, do not fear!"
- Prayer: Merciful God, forgive me for letting fear and doubt keep me from experiencing the fullness of abundant life with you. Help me be strong and trust in you. Amen.

#### Friday, December 15 — Luke 1:26-38

As we get closer to Christmas, our sense of anticipation builds. Like Mary, we have questions about God's plan and wonder how a tiny baby born to a poor young woman more than two thousand years ago can make any difference in the world. Just as God asked Mary to trust God's plan for her life, God asks us to trust God's plan for our lives and for the world in which we live. We know how Mary responded. We also know that God wants us to respond in the same way.

- God longs to hear us say these powerful words, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Can you pray those words today?
- Prayer: Eternal God, here I am. I am your servant. I surrender myself completely to you today. Show me your will for my life. Let it be with me according to your word. Amen.

#### Saturday, December 16 — Mark 1:1-15

Just as the Holy Spirit was active in Mary's life (Luke 1:35), it was also active in Jesus' life (Mark 1:10, 12), and we believe that the very same Spirit is active in our lives (see Acts 2). As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, we can trust that God's Spirit will continue to guide us and transform our lives. We too can have the assurance that we are children of God. We too can bear the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and experience the hope, peace, joy, and love of God during the Advent and Christmas season.

- In what ways will you allow the Holy Spirit to work in your life in the week ahead?
- Prayer: God of Grace, have mercy on me today. Fill me with the Holy Spirit so that I will experience the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christmas once again. Amen.



## Worship at Trinity

## **Sundays of Advent**

Dec. 10 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols

Dec. 17 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Children's Presentation

Dec. 24 10:30 a.m. only

### Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

5 p.m. Family Service

8 p.m. Candlelight & Communion11 p.m. Candlelight & Communion

A CELTIC SERVICE OF

December 17
5 p.m.

## **Heart to Heart Tree: Sponsor a Child**



A tree in the Narthex is adorned with bell ornaments, each featuring the biography of a child living at Heart to Heart Children's Village in Honduras. Please consider taking an ornament to sponsor a child through prayers, letters, and gifts. Each bell can be untied to reveal the child's photo and biography. This opportunity is available throughout the Advent season.

#### **Sponsor Activities**

- Pray for child/youth during the season of Advent.
- Write a letter to the child. (Tell them a little about you and your family. Ask them to write back about themselves.) A collection box will be available at church.
- Provide financial support, allowing for a small gift for the child and supporting H2H ministry in 2024



#### **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, on Zoom. Contact Jim Wilson for details - 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 9 a.m. Meeting ID: 875 6105 5580

#### Advent Study Starts December 5 and 6

Join Pastor Neil for a three-week Advent study called, What Child Is This? When we tell the Christmas Story, we often combine details found in individual Gospels and create a single story about the birth of Jesus. During the study, we are looking at what Matthew, Luke, and John tell us about Jesus coming into the world and considering the



message they each want us to hear. The class meets Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the library and on Zoom and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Confirmation class for 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and older youth who have not taken the class, will begin with a kick-off for youth, parents and faith friends on Sunday, January

**Sunday, January 7, 2024**, at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Pastor Anne Hough will



once again be the lead teacher, and the class will meet most Sundays from 4 - 5 p.m. and will run through mid-May. Confirmation

Sunday will be Pentecost Sunday, May 19. For more details and to register, please visit the youth webpage: umtrinity.org./education/youth. Registration is needed now so we can order Bibles. Scan the QR code for registration.





## Advent and Christmas at Trinity A New Day is Dawning

Advent is a season for anticipation and Christmas is a season for celebration. As we anticipate and celebrate Jesus' birth, we also anticipate and celebrate Jesus coming into our lives. Even on the most difficult days and in the darkest of seasons, this is Good News: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5) Join us for worship every week as we discover that, with the coming of Jesus, *A New Day is Dawning*.

#### **Our Prayer List**

Alan, Alice, Amanda & David, Amber & Brianna, Andrea, Andrew, Arnold, Audrey, Barry & Diane, Beem family, Betty, Bill & Maddie, Brett, Brian, Bruce, Bud, Carol & Rich, Carolina, Caroline, Carrie, Cathy, Chris, Christopher, Claudia, Daniel, Danny, Dave & Gail, Davey, David & Carol, Darlene & Steve, Desarae, Di Letti family, Donnie, Doris & Joe, Ed, Elaine, Eileen, Ellie, Erica & Roberto, Erik, Fran & Tom, Gabe, Gary & Lindie, Glenda, Greg, Gregg, Hammer family, Harriet, Harry, Henry, Holmes family, Hong family, Jack, Jackie, Jan, Janice, Jean, Jeanette, Jeanne, Jeff, Jenna, Jenny & Michael, Jessica, Jimmy, Joan, Joe & Marie, John, Jomer, Josie, Judi, Judy, June, Kathy, Kay & John, Krista, Kobi, Lajoie family, Landaverde family, Laura, Lejoy family, Leslie, Linda, Lindstedt family, Liz & David, Lon, London family, Lori, Luana, Lynne, Mack, Macy, Marcia, Marciene, Marilyn, Mark, Mary, Matt, Matthias, Michael, Michelle, Mickey & Ruth, Mike, Moore family, Nancy, Nell, Nina, Norma, Norman, Pat, Patty, Paul, Pauline & Merlin, Pearl family, Peg & Dick, Peter, Peter & Laura, Powers family, Prisilla, Rebecca, Sally, Saundra, Sheila, Spencer, Skyard family, Stephanie, Steve, Susan, Teresa, Tim, Tom, Tony, Vanna, 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.

#### **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, **January 9** at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. New readers are always welcome. The book list is at http://umtrinity.org/education/adults or contact Kathy Maher, kathyngs@gmail.com.

#### **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**

Sign up on the white board on the coffee bar to provide snacks during Fellowship following worship services. Contact Alesha Luxon, alesha.luxon@gmail.com.

#### Martha's Table

Martha's Table is held the first Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall following both 8:30 & 10:30 services. All are welcome to join this fellowship/volunteer opportunity. We package trail mix at Trinity and then deliver it to Martha's Table ministry, which serves unhoused people in Washington, DC.

We are so appreciative of those who gather to fill the trail mix bags but are also looking for volunteers interested in working with our coordinators to deliver the packed trail mix to the Martha's Table location. If you are interested in serving as a delivery driver, please sign up online (http://umtrinity.org/marthat), on the Fellowship Hall 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).

#### **Ushers Needed**

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

#### Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

**TODAY:** 4:30-6:30 p.m. Youth Group Christmas Party

For more, contact Catherine Wethington, umtrinityyouth@gmail.com. Scan the QR code at the

right to register for 2023-24 youth activities.



#### **Coming Up**

#### December

- Lessons & CarolsTrustees MeetingCookie Exchange
- 16 Christ House17 Celtic Service
- 18 Crafts for a Cause 24 No 8:30 a.m. worship
- 24 Christmas Eve: 5, 8, 11 p.m.
- 25 Office Closed26 Office Closed

#### January

7 Confirmation Kick-off

9 Book Chat15 Office Closed20 Christ House

#### **February**

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
Associate Pastor
Office Manager
Facilities Manager
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 troh@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.