



# The Good News of Jesus Christ

## A Study through the Gospel of Luke

*"We had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."*  
~ Luke 15:32

Trinity United Methodist Church  
Alexandria, Virginia

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 31, 2019

Eleven o'clock in the morning



CONNECTING  
GROWING  
SERVING  
CELEBRATING

## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

*\*Please stand in body and/or spirit.*

*Out of reverence for God and respect for fellow worshippers, please silence all electronic devices.  
Childcare for preschool aged children (birth-preK) is available in our nursery (downstairs, room 105).  
Children's Worship (for elementary aged children) meets immediately following Children's Time  
upstairs in room 206. Please see an usher for more information.*

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### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Grace Han

*Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church. God's love be in us and among us as we greet all who enter our doors as children of God.  
Please take a moment to complete the Connection Card and prepare to place it in the offering plate later in the service.*

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Wer nur den lieben Gott*

J.G. Walther

### INTROIT

*Be Patient and Await His Leisure*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Heather Wilson

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;**

**now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

**We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

**We come to celebrate and praise the God of Love!**

### \*HYMN

*Come, Ye Disconsolate*

Hymnal no. 510

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Pastor Grace Han

**God of wisdom,**

**we confess the foolishness of our ways,**

**and our failure to follow you in your paths of right relationships.**

**We have gone astray; we feel lost.**

**We have upheld our own interests first,**

**to the detriment of others.**

**We have failed to be generous with the poor,**

**and abandoned our efforts to bring about justice.**

**Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**Wash the sinfulness out of us,**

**and help us to live more faithfully as your servants.**

**We seek your unfailing Lordship and ask for your guiding hand on our lives.**

**You are the immortal, invisible One; to you be honor and glory forever.**

*(All offer prayers of confession in silence)*

Merciful and loving God,

we thank you for never losing hope for us.

When we are lost, you are there on the look-out for us,

bringing us back to you like the good shepherd that you are.

Your Word tells us of the joy in heaven that awaits us.

May this joy flow into our lives each day,

and be faithfully reflected into the world around us.

Thanks be to God, our Great Shepherd. **Amen.**

### \*THE PEACE

*All exchange signs and words of peace and reconciliation.*

*Immediately following Children's Time, elementary aged children are welcome to participate in Children's Worship upstairs in room 206. Children will return to worship during the last hymn.*

## ANTHEM

*O God, Thou Art My God*

Henry Purcell

*O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in holiness, that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner, and lift up my hands in thy Name. Because thou hast been my helper, therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.*

## PSALTER

Psalm 63:1-8

Hymnal no. 788

Heather Wilson

*Please sing Response after the choir introduces it. Then sing the response, without introduction, at each bold R.*

## Response

**R**

**1** O God, you are my God, I seek you,  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there no water is.

**2** **So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.**

**3** Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.

**4** **So I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

**R**

**5** My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

**6** when I think of you on my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

**7** **for you have been my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.**

**8** **My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.**

**R**

**9** But those who seek to destroy my life  
shall go down into the depths of the earth;

**10** **they shall be given over to the power of the  
sword,**

**they shall be prey for jackals.**

**11** But the king shall rejoice in God;  
**all who swear in God's name shall glory;  
But the mouths of liars will be stopped.**

**R**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Please sing before and after the Gospel Lesson.*)

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

“Jesus Spoke in Parables”

Pastor Grace Han

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Pastor Grace Han

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

Dorothy Akers

Gordon Johnson, Tom Tyler, Paul Taylor, Greg Saunders

*There’s a sweet, sweet spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.*

\*THE DOXOLOGY

All glo - ry to our Lord and God  
 for love so deep so high so broad:  
 the Trin - i - ty whom we a - dore,  
 for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Grace Han

**All things come from you, O God**  
 and with gratitude we return to you what is yours.  
 All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.  
 And so, in gratitude for all your gifts,  
 we offer you ourselves,  
 and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us.  
 By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ,  
 one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world;  
 Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

\*HYMN

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Hymnal no. 140

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastor Grace Han

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

*Toccata in A minor*

Jan Pieter Sweelinck

**THINGS TO KNOW THIS WEEK:**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>03/31/2019</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> Easter Altar Flowers Order Form Due to Church Office 12:15 PM Changing the World through Sandwiches (Fellowship Hall) 5:30 PM Lenten Suppers (Off-Site)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>04/03/2019</b>	5:30 PM Trinity's Table (Fellowship Hall) 6:00 PM Centering Prayer (Chapel) 6:15 PM Choristers Rehearsal (Music Suite) 7:00 PM Trinity Town Hall Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>04/04/2019</b>	6:15 PM Trinity Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Music Suite)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>04/06/2019</b>	10 AM Trinity's Neighborhood East Egg Hunt (Sanctuary)

# SUNDAY MORNING AT TRINITY CHURCH

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## Those Assisting in Worship Today

**Acolyte:** Leo Maucieri

**Crucifer:** Taylor Hoganson

**Liturgists:** Heather Wilson

**Greeters:** Allen and Pat Barnes

**Ushers:** Claire Kinnane, Lucelle O'Flaherty (Head Usher), George Pinn, Eric Schilling, Alva Smircina

**Today's Anthem:** Henry Purcell (1659–1695), among the greatest of all English composers, was trained as a chorister in the Chapel Royal. After studying with composer John Blow, Purcell succeeded him in 1679 as organist of Westminster Abbey, where he would later be buried at the early age of 36. The text, taken from Psalm 63, reflects the psalmist David's cry to the Lord from the barren wastelands of the Judean desert. The desert motif is seen throughout the Bible, in the Old and New Testaments, reflecting the body's thirst for water and the soul's thirst for God. (Notes from Susan Youens and Anne Carr Bingham)

**Today's Offertory Anthem:** One of the most notable "Spirit Songs" of the twentieth century is "There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place" by African American gospel songwriter Doris Mae Akers (1923-1995). "Sweet, sweet Spirit" expresses in simple, heartfelt language the work of the Holy Spirit as it works in the life of the church. When The United Methodist Hymnal was published in 1989, "Sweet, sweet Spirit" immediately became one of the favorite new hymns. Our own Dr. Paul Taylor based his arrangement for Trinity Men's Quartet on recordings by the Australian A Cappella group "The Idea of North" and a YouTube video by "For You Acapella."

**The flowers on the Altar** are given to the Glory of God and in appreciation of the Chancel Choir members including their special ensembles, the quartet and the octet, from Greg Saunders.

**Today, March 31<sup>st</sup>** after service, please join us in the Fellowship Hall for our multi-generational mission project of Changing the World through Sandwiches. Sandwiches are for Martha's Table ([www.marthastable.org](http://www.marthastable.org)) McKenn'a Wagon Program.

**Nursery (9:45 AM - 12:15 PM):** For children birth-preK (Room 105, downstairs, around the corner to the left, first door on the right). Led by Luz Reyes and Helen Simms.

**Children's Worship:** During the 11 AM worship, elementary aged children (K-5) are invited to participate in an age appropriate time of worship. After Children's Time, join Carrie Pritts upstairs in room 206 for Children's Worship. Children will return to the Sanctuary at the end of service, during the last hymn.

## Sunday School (10-10:45 AM):

- ◆ Children (K-5) - Room 206
- ◆ Youth (6-12) - Chapel
- ◆ Adult Forum - Fellowship Hall



Once again Trinity volunteers have shared with the Rising Hope UM Mission Church family a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday meal. Many thanks to the following who participated in this special mission project: Sharyn Abbott, Connie Blood, Carol Bowers, Nancy Hunt, Chris and Mary Gillman, Elizabeth Lane, Verna Lomax, Jo Mossman, and Linda Pitts.

# TRINITY CHURCH'S WEEKLY NEWS

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**Church Town Hall - General Conference Update and Community Engagement:** Join us after Trinity's Table this Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7 PM for a church-wide Town Hall meeting and learn more information about what is happening denominationally post General Conference, How can we as a church take steps to serve our community, to welcome all, and live that out in our local context? Come to learn more information, come to vision about what is next for us as a church. Those interested in serving on a task force dedicated to this, please contact Jeff Lane at [jeff.lane38@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.lane38@gmail.com).

**Easter Egg Hunt:** All are welcome for our Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 10-12 AM. We will gather for an old fashioned Easter Egg Hunt, games, and a Moon Bounce. Preschool children - 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate! We are asking for items to be donated for the egg hunt. Items can be stickers, individually wrapped candy, or small objects that will fit in eggs (bouncy balls, plastic rings, etc). Christian and faith-based items are welcome and appreciated! There will be a box in the Narthex for donations. As a reminder Trinity Church is a Nut-Free environment. Items are needed by **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. We are also seeking volunteers for hiding eggs before the hunt, help staff the craft tables during the morning of the hunt, staff the Moon Bounce and help clean up after the hunt. For additional questions or concerns contact Catie Fitzgerald at [catherine.winslow@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.winslow@gmail.com) or Jen Bemisderfer at [jenbemisderfer@gmail.com](mailto:jenbemisderfer@gmail.com).

**New To Trinity? Welcome and Join us for Lunch!**  
Are you new to the church? We invite you to Lunch with Pastor Grace on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, immediately following worship, at the Parsonage. It will be an opportunity to eat, chat, ask questions, and learn more about Trinity UMC. Contact the church office at [office@trinityalexandria.org](mailto:office@trinityalexandria.org).

**Disciple's Path Class, a class for Newcomers:** Calling newcomers at Trinity! Pastor Grace invites you to join her for a 6 week class about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. This class will run from Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>-June 9<sup>th</sup>, on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:45 AM. Childcare is available. Contact Pastor Grace at [pastor@trinityalexandria.org](mailto:pastor@trinityalexandria.org) with additional questions or concerns.

**2019 Lenten-Easter Offering** – You can help Trinity Church reach its Lenten-Easter giving goal of \$5,000 with \$1,000 designated for Community Lodgings, \$1,000 for ALIVE!, \$1,000 for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Disaster Relief Fund, and \$2,000 for Rising Hope's Capital Campaign. Please make checks payable to Trinity UMC and note "2019 Lenten-Easter Offering" on the memo line. Or give online through Trinity's Online Giving. Visit us at [www.trinitalexandria.org](http://www.trinitalexandria.org) and click the "♥Giving" button in the top right hand corner. Locate the Missions Fund line and specify an amount and indicate "2019 Lenten-Easter Offering" in the memo box. We are accepting donations through the end of May.

**Our Music Program at Trinity Church** is open to all! We invite you to join us as we begin a new season of anthems for singing and compositions for ringing. The Choristers welcome new singers. Come sing with the Chancel Choir and join the Trinity Ringers, as we prepare anthems for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. We have a three octave set of handbells and need more ringers to complete the choir. If you have experience but cannot commit, you could offer to be a substitute. In addition, if there are those who wish to contribute instrumental music to our services, please know that your talents are welcome. There are no auditions for any of the choirs. Come try us out! And if you wish some private coaching, it is also available. Contact Linda Cancellieri, our Music Director with any questions at [music@trinityalexandria.org](mailto:music@trinityalexandria.org).

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## **The Welcome Statement of Trinity United Methodist Church is:**

*"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40*

*Trinity United Methodist Church is committed to be a congregation of Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors. We believe all people are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God's creation and as demonstrated by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. As God's love extends to all, we welcome everyone without exception, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, family structure, socio-economic or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, faith history or life experience. We recognize that we are all different, and those differences make us a stronger community of faith as we worship together to grow in our relationship with God and one another.*

## **The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church is:**

*Building a strong Christian community to find, share, and celebrate the love of Christ in our hearts, neighbors and our world.*

# TRINITY CHURCH'S WEEKLY NEWS

**Trinity United Methodist Women – All women are welcome, membership not required!** The second Tuesday of each month from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM; we gather at someone's home for light snacks, dessert and a short devotional. This is a time to relax together, to enjoy, inspire and support one another on our faith journeys. Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> we are gathering at Alva Smircina's apartment; 801 S. Pitt Street, #420, Alexandria, 22314. Free parking on the street. Our current Mission Effort is to support the Alexandria Domestic Violence Shelter. Please bring a donation for the shelter to our monthly meeting. A list of on going needs for the shelter can be found on the flyer in the Narthex, on the announcement slides on Sunday and by contacting the Church Office. For details about Trinity's UMW or to RSVP for our meeting contact Linda Pitts at [ihcpitts@aol.com](mailto:ihcpitts@aol.com) or Alva by phone 703-489-3995 or email [asmircina@gmail.com](mailto:asmircina@gmail.com).

**Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**5:30 - 7:00 PM**

*Trinity's Table*

**Menu**

Chicken Pot Pie  
Vegan Pot Pie  
Salad

Leo & Andrew's Scrumptious Dessert

\$8 per Adult meal/\$5 per Child meal  
\$25 per family of 4 (2 Adults/2 Children)

Children - 12 years old and younger

RSVP on the Connection Card

or by sending an email to  
[office@trinityalexandria.org](mailto:office@trinityalexandria.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday - Breakfast & Annual processional with donkey at 10 AM. Worship to follow at 11 AM.

Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 PM with special music accompanied by cello.

Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: Easter Sunday - Worship begins at 10:45 AM with a choral prelude. The Festive Easter Service continues with all choirs participating, accompanied by strings, organ and trumpet. The service concludes with the congregation and choir singing the Hallelujah Chorus.

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>: Morning of Giving: Inova Bi-Annual Blood Drive; Bikes for the World Event; Pancake Breakfast; Food Donation Drive

## Trinity United Methodist Church

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Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 5 PM | Friday 9 AM - 2 PM

Find us on the Web: [www.trinityalexandria.org](http://www.trinityalexandria.org) | Facebook: *Trinity UMC-Alexandria*

## Trinity United Methodist Church Staff

Resident Bishop  
Alexandria District Superintendent  
Pastor  
Director of Music  
Director of Christian Formation  
Office Manager  
Head of School, Trinity Preschool  
Office Manager, Trinity Preschool  
Nursery Supervisor  
Nursery Assistant  
Facility Manager  
Accountant

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis  
Rev. Jeff Mickle  
Rev. Grace Han  
Linda Cancellieri  
Carrie Pritts  
Jenessa Stokes  
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Claire Maucieri  
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