

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MORNING PRAYER, Rite II

MAY 10, 2020

10:30 a.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Henry L. Atkins, Jr., Theologian in Residence

Collin Boothby, Organist and Choirmaster  
April Sloan-Hubert, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble

***Making God's Presence Real***  
***By Sharing Christ's Life***-Changing Love

# MORNING PRAYER RITE II

10:30 a.m. Historic Church

VOLUNTARY

*Fanfare*

William Mathias

WELCOME

THE OPENING SENTENCE

*BCP, page 76*

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN

*Spirit of God*

Dove Song



1. Spir - it of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life  
2. Spir - it of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace  
3. Spir - it of God, bright Hands, e - ven in far -  
4. Spir - it of God, bright Flame, send us in your ho -  
5. Spir - it of God in all, we glad - ly hear



be - gin, blow as you al - ways do; cre -  
and love, heal - ing up - on your wings for  
off lands you hold all the hu - man race in  
ly name, the pow - er to heal, to share your  
your call, the life in our hands that sings, the



ate us a - new. \_\_\_\_\_ Give us the breath  
all liv - ing things. \_\_\_\_\_ For when we live  
one warm em - brace. \_\_\_\_\_ No mat - ter where  
love ev - ery - where. \_\_\_\_\_ We can - not fail  
power of your wings. \_\_\_\_\_ Born of your grace



to sing, lift - ed on soar - ing wing, )  
your peace, cap - tives will find re - lease, )  
we go, you hold us to - geth - er so, )  
or fall, or know de - feat at all, )  
we rise, love shin - ing in our eyes, )

held in your hands, borne on your wings.

*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia!

1  
Come, Spir - it, come!

2  
come!

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

BCP, page 80

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

*Pascha nostrum*

BCP, page 83

*Read in unison.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast.

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
 deliver me in your righteousness.
  - 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
 make haste to deliver me.
  - 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
 for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
  - 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
 for you are my tower of strength.
  - 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
 for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.
  - 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
 rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
  - 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
 and in your loving-kindness save me."
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 7: 55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

THE SONG OF MARY

*Magnificat*  
*Read in unison.*

BCP, page 91

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
 my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
 From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
 the Almighty has done great things for me,  
 and holy is his Name.  
 He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
 in every generation.  
 He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
 and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2: 2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner", and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

YOU ARE GOD

*Te Deum laudamus*  
*Read in unison.*

BCP, page 95

You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.  
To you and all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free

**you did not shun the Virgin's womb.**

You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

**You are seated at God's right hand in glory.**

We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

THE THIRD LESSON

John 14: 1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

*Officiant* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Canon Shannon Manning, Canon to the Ordinary,  
Diocese of Louisiana

OFFICE HYMN

*Faith of our mothers*

St. Catherine

1. Faith of our mothers, liv - ing yet In cra - dle song and  
 2. Faith of our mothers, lav - ish faith, The fount of childhood's  
 3. Faith of our mothers, guid - ing faith, For youthful long - ing—  
 4. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith, In truth be - yond our

7

bed - time prayer, In nur - s'ry love and fire - side  
 trust and grace, O may thy con - se - cra - tion  
 youth - ful doubt, How blurred our vi - sion, blind our  
 man - made creeds, Still serve the home and save the

12

love, Thy pres - ence still per - vades the air: Faith of our  
 prove The well - spring of a no - bler race: Faith of our  
 way, Thy prov - i - dential care with - out: Faith of our  
 church, And breathe thy spir - it through our deeds: Faith of our

18

mothers, liv - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.  
 moth - ers, lav - ish faith, We will be true to thee till death.  
 moth - ers, guid - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.  
 moth - ers, Christian faith, We will be true to thee till death.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

BCP, page 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 97

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Officiant* Let us pray.  
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

BCP, page 97

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*People* And grant us your salvation.  
*Officiant* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*People* Let your people sing with joy.  
*Officiant* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*People* For only in you can we live in safety.  
*Officiant* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*People* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
*Officiant* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*People* Your saving health among all nations.  
*Officiant* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*People* Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
*Officiant* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*People* And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*BCP, page 225*

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR TEACHERS

*BCP, page 98*

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by your Holy Spirit all teachers in your wisdom, give them the appreciation and gratitude of all your people, that they may continue in their essential vocation, and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR GRACE

*BCP, page 100*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST COLLECT FOR MISSION

*BCP, page 100*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

VIRTUAL OFFERING

Automatic Deductions. You may give online through AccessACS.

For more information about ACS please go to the Trinity homepage ([trinitymidtown.org](http://trinitymidtown.org)) and click on the Give tab at the top right, or contact the Finance Office.

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477>

Texting. Send the message [heartofmidtown](https://text.heartofmidtown.org) to 73256. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.

1. Moth-er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright  
2. Moth-er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing  
3. Moth-er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of

morn - ing of this world. Cre - at - or, source of  
me your food of light, grain of life, and  
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I

ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.  
grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.  
root and grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in every land, that we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

Let us pray for the Church and its mission.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for the Most Reverend Jackson Ole Sapit and the Anglican Church of Kenya.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer for All Saints', Hitchcock; Good Shepherd, Friendswood; and Grace, Alvin.

In the ministry cycle of prayer for Mike Laster and the Healing Ministry.

We pray for our bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Hector, Jeff and Kai, our Bishops; for Hannah and Henry our clergy.

We commend to your keeping ourselves and each other, our families, those with whom we work and learn, our neighbors and our friends.

Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially for those we now name: Vivian, Myron, Theresa, Jeannette, Alfredo, Stewart, Jacqueline, Nathan, and all affected by the coronavirus.

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, especially Ahmad Arbery, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus. Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfillment of your kingdom.

We give you thanks for your servants in every age, especially for these who are celebrating their birthdays: Willia, Ron, Clarice, Jack, Carrie, Carl, Emilie, James, and Samuel.

O God, we who come before you this day are many and diverse, with different needs and desires.

We ask you to accept our thanksgivings, to guide our ways, and to receive our praise. O God, hear the prayers of your people.

*Officiant*

Facing the coronavirus, we pray  
for all who mourn their dead  
for the thousands who have contracted the virus  
for all who are quarantined  
for those who are stranded away from home

for those who have lost their employment  
for those who fear the present and the future  
for children who cannot assemble for school  
for teachers dedicated to new ways of teaching  
for parents with needs for child care

for postal workers, farmers, migrant workers, grocery store and restaurant employees, truck-  
ers and delivery drivers and all essential workers who are still needed to serve the public

for physicians, nurses, and home health aides  
for hospitals and clinics  
for volunteers who are serving their communities  
for medical researchers  
for the World Health Organization  
for adequate and wise governmental policies. . .

In your mercy, benevolent God  
*People* Hear our prayer.

#### THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*BCP, page 101*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus  
Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we  
may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to  
your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory  
throughout all ages. Amen.

#### A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

*Officiant* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to  
make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through  
your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered in his Name you  
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as  
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in  
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

*When God restored our common life*

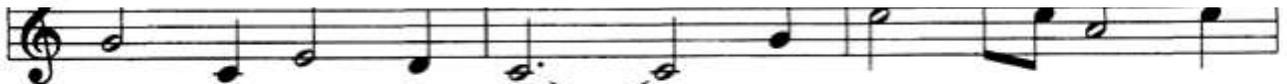
Resignation



1. When God re - stored our com - mon life, our hope, our lib - er -  
 2. We went forth weep - ing, sow - ing seeds in hard, un - yield - ing  
 3. Great lib - er - at - ing God, we pray for all who are op -



ty, at first it seemed a pass - ing dream, a  
 soil; with laugh - ing hearts we car - ry home the  
 pressed. May those who long for what is right with



wak - ing fan - ta - sy. A shock of joy swept  
 fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who  
 jus - tice now be blest. We pray for those who



o - ver us, for we had wept so long; the  
 gave the growth, with voic - es full and strong. The  
 mourn this day, and all who suf - fer wrong; may



seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.  
 seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.  
 seeds they wa - ter now with tears spring up in - to a song.

DISMISSAL

BCP, page 102

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all evermore. Amen.

VOLUNTARY

*Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne*

Dietrich Buxtehude

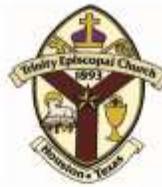
Please join us for a virtual Coffee Hour on Facebook immediately following the service, ending at 12 noon.



Some have asked what the Emergency Aid Coalition is doing during the coronavirus crisis. They are open for business, M-F, and the need has increased greatly. Their sack lunch program has grown from hundreds to thousands per week. They also give emergency and monthly groceries to clients, and help refer them to other agencies. They deliver monthly groceries to elderly shut-ins. They've been managing with their small staff, and discouraging too many volunteers to allow people to stay home and be safe. Their clothing center is temporarily closed to focus on feeding folks.

If anyone would like to make a small monetary donation, in lieu of the usual Sunday canned goods, please visit [www.eachouston.org](http://www.eachouston.org) or email [info@eachouston.org](mailto:info@eachouston.org). They are also trying to provide fruit with the sack lunches. If anyone is able to bring fruit (bags of apples or oranges, for example, or packaged fruit cups), please contact them for donation information.

Thanks for all you do to help support this lifeline in the community.



# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

May 10, 2020

The Fifth Sunday of Easter —Year A



## Sunday's Guest Preacher



**The Rev. Canon Shannon Manning** has served as Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Louisiana since 2013. Originally from Mississippi, Shannon graduated from Millsaps

College in 1997 and The General Theological Seminary in 2001. While in Mississippi, she served parishes in Ocean Springs and Lexington before becoming the chaplain at St. Andrew's Episcopal School. Prior to moving to New Orleans, she served 6 years as Associate Rector at St. James' Episcopal Church in Jackson.

Shannon is the mother of two sons, Nicholas and Tucker, and can regularly be found with them on the baseball field or by a fishing hole.

## This Week at Trinity Virtual Services

### Sunday, May 10, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Youth Bible Study (via Zoom)
- 9:30 a.m. Parenting with Grace (via Zoom)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Meditations (via Zoom)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Prayer service (go to Facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston)
- 11:45 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour (on Facebook following 10:30 service)
- 12:45 pm—Meeting with members of weekly 12:30 Jazz Service (via Zoom)

### Monday, May 11, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail
- 3:00 p.m. Rector's message on Facebook
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on Facebook

### Tuesday, May 12, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail
- 10:00 a.m. Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on Facebook

### Wednesday, May 13, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on Facebook
- 7:00 p.m. Pub Theology (via Zoom)

### Thursday, May 14, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on Facebook

### Friday, May 15, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail
- 10:00 a.m. Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 12:00 p.m. Inner City Podcast
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group (via Zoom)
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer on Facebook

### Saturday, May 16, 2020

- 9:30 a.m. Daily Prayer e-mail

### Daily Scripture and Prayer from the Rector

(if you are not receiving this e-mail, contact [connections@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:connections@trinitymidtown.org))

### Pub Theology via Zoom

Contact [frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org) for link

### Inner City Spirit Podcast

at [TrinityMidtown.org](http://TrinityMidtown.org), click Sermons page *or* on iTunes, access by clicking on "Trinity Episcopal Church Sermons"

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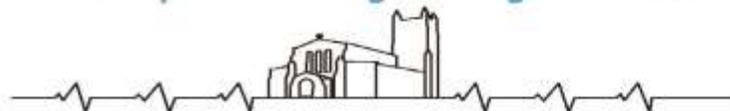


### *Trinity continues its commitment to feed the homeless—*

Trinity staff will continue distributing sack meals each weeknight at 5:30 pm.

(Individuals shown in photo have granted permission for use of their likeness. Photo: Hannah Atkins Romero)

## Trinity is 'Beating Strong' for YOU



### Prayers

Our custom is to read aloud each week the names of those who are at a turning point and request our prayers. We also remember in our Prayer Chain and Bulletin those who desire ongoing prayers. Please use the pew cards or email to keep us informed. For information or comments about prayer names, please contact the Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero, [rector@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:rector@trinitymidtown.org). If you would like to participate as a member of the prayer chain, please contact Norma Cooper at [normajcoop@aol.com](mailto:normajcoop@aol.com).

*Bob, Mynn, Marvin, Caroline, Allegra, Garth, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Christopher, Barbara, Aurora, Kari, Emily, Anita, Margaret, Barbara, Penn, Norman, Vivian, Theresa, Jeannette, Alfredo, Stewart, Jacqueline, Nathan, victims of violence, all affected by the coronavirus*

**For those in our armed services:**  
*Will Dahlstrom, Martin Cabello and Christopher Krenshaw*

**For the faithful departed:**  
*Ahmad Arbery, all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus*

### Happy Birthday!

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Willia Green         | Ron Starbuck   |
| Clarice Gomez        | Jack Murchison |
| Carrie Cavalier      | Carl Thompson  |
| Emilie Stubbs        | James Donnelly |
| Samuel Romero-Atkins |                |

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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Carol Turley, Membership Secretary  
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Larry Laubach, Treasurer  
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Trinity Vestry  
Amy Luke, Senior Warden  
John Escoto, Junior Warden  
Shelby Bradley, Jim Castro, John Cloud,  
Norma Cooper, Terri DiRaddo,  
Andy Durham, Debbie Owens,  
Carl Thompson, David Theis, Libby Tsubal

Follow us on:  
**Instagram**  
<http://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown>

**Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston>

### Bulletin for Sun., May 10th

The bulletin for Sunday's 10:30 am virtual service may be found posted on the Trinity website at [www.trinitymidtown.org](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)

Go to **Worship**, then click **Bulletins**

### Sunday Meditations

Please join us for

### Sunday Meditations

as we strive to deepen our relationships with God and one another.

Sundays 9:30am - 10:15am

via Zoom



If you are interested in attending, or have any questions or comments, please contact:

[frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org)

or Mary Matteucci

[mwmatteucci@gmail.com](mailto:mwmatteucci@gmail.com)

Come journey with us!



### We Are Trinity - We Love Trinity!

Here is a new and easy way to give! TEXT the message [heartofmidtown](text:heartofmidtown) to 73256. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.

For assistance and/or questions please contact the Trinity Finance Office at [finance@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:finance@trinitymidtown.org) or call (713) 528-4100.



### The Emergency Aid Coalition needs our help!



### Fruit still urgently needed!

If any parishioners are able to find extra fruit or canned goods and are willing to bring it to the EAC Food Pantry, please contact Marian Bryant at 832-859-1065 or Lydia Smyth at 713-240-9992. They depend on their member congregations to support them as they support the community. Thank you for helping feed our vulnerable and valuable friends in need.

### This Sunday's Readings



Acts 7:55-60

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Beloved Community,

In this time of uncertainty Trinity - the Heart of Midtown - is 'beating strong' for you!

We are maintaining staff and resources (in compliance with current COVID-19 guidelines and orders) to fulfill two priorities:

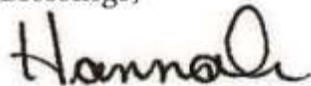
1. Provide on-going worship and connection via:
  - Telephone check-ins with parishioners from clergy, pastoral care team, and vestry
  - Live streaming services from our historic sanctuary every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
  - Live streaming Evening Prayer every weekday at 5:30 p.m.
  - Daily e-mails containing scripture verse and prayer from the Book of Common Prayer
  - Weekly podcasts ("Inner City Spirit") and video messages
  - Virtual Pub Theology gatherings every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.
  - Virtual access to programs such as Parenting with Grace and Ashes of the Phoenix
  - Pastoral care by telephone, teleconferencing, or in person (with appropriate social distancing)
  
2. Continue to feed the hungry. Trinity has set up a process to safely distribute sandwiches and bottled water to our homeless community.

Services, virtual ministries, and other resources can be accessed through Trinity's website ([trinitymidtown.org](http://trinitymidtown.org)) and Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account to access the livestream ([www.facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston](http://www.facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston)). If you need assistance please call 713.528.4100.

If you need pastoral care or counseling please call 713.447.9995 or e-mail [rector@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:rector@trinitymidtown.org).

You mean so much to the Trinity family - you are in our prayers, and in our hearts!

Blessings,



The Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero

Why is there no General Confession in Easter?  
**Explanation by St. George's Church in Ontario, Canada**

You may have noticed that the Confession – the part of the service where we collectively acknowledge that we make mistakes, that we hurt others, that we carry around guilt and doubt and regret, and then we receive God's forgiveness and assurance of healing – is absent during the Easter season. For some, this will feel like a major omission. Human beings are adept at weighing down our lives with feelings of powerlessness and inadequacy, anxiety for our shortcomings, gaping wounds of anger and hurt for how our relationships have been broken. This time in our worship to take stock, to lay down those burdens before God and to be reminded of God's faithfulness to, and love for, us can help many to feel lighter, freer, refreshed.

However, it is the tradition of the ancient church that the Confession is omitted during the season of Easter. It is not that Christians miraculously become perfect people during the seven weeks of Easter and therefore have no need of repentance and absolution. Instead, it is perhaps more appropriate to think of Easter as a rehearsal, a practicing of what a right relationship with God and one another actually looks like.

Whereas Lent is a time for honest and probing self-reflection, intentionality and care in how we use our time and resources, sparseness and restraint, Easter is a time for celebration, celebration of the fullness of God's kingdom, of a reality in which each of us lives in the light and love of God and reflects that light and love in our relationships with one another. In the fullness of God's Kingdom, we are free from the past brokenness and pain of our lives and our relationships are whole and life-giving. In the fullness of God's Kingdom, talk of sin and forgiveness no longer have a place, because we are healed.

We are not there yet. Brokenness and fragility are part of our story. We still look forward to the time when the promises of new life and healing offered on that first Easter morning will be fully realized. And some of us might continue to bring heavy hearts to worship through Easter. Individuals are encouraged to offer before God in prayer any confessions, any needs, any worries, regardless of whether it is Easter or not. However, our *collective* prayer changes at Easter in order that we might, as a community, tell this part of our story: *Christ is risen!* And we have glimpsed the Kingdom of God, where every tear is wiped away, where all hearts are mended, where we join with all of creation in receiving and sharing the good gifts God gives us.

## A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Episcopal Church of Houston has existed as a house of worship and a center of its community for over a century. As such, it has adapted to the changing nature of the city, as Houston grew from a regional town of approximately 40,000 souls to a dynamic metropolitan giant, the fourth largest city in the United States. With a congregation that grew from a few founding members in the 1890s to several thousand parishioners at its peak, Trinity Church is an example of how spiritual people have contended with the challenges presented during a city's most crucial period of urban development.

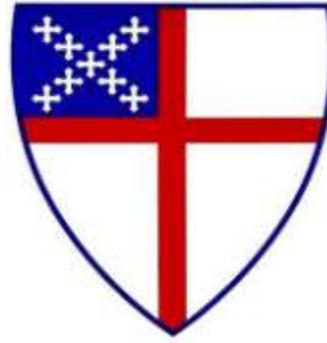
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street and Holman Avenue. That structure, designed by Ralph Adams Cram of Boston and William Ward Watkin of Houston became an architectural landmark constructed in the neo-Gothic style with Texas limestone and a 97 foot bell tower.

During the late 1910s and 1920s, Trinity entered an era of explosive growth, paralleling that of the city, and became an important center of the Episcopal faith. The congregation's many youth and adult activities were community events that attracted wide attention among the general populace. An integral part of its city, Trinity likewise maintained special relationships with Houstonians of other faiths. With a membership numbering 1,900 parishioners in 1930, Trinity emerged as the largest Episcopal parish in the Diocese of Texas and one of the largest in the nation.

After World War II, Houston's growth presented Trinity with perhaps its greatest challenge. As the city physically expanded into the new postwar suburbs, Trinity's membership began to decline. Rather than abandon its historic location, the congregation showed itself to be steadfast. Resurrecting itself from this period, Trinity reaffirmed its mission, this time as a beacon in the inner city where it has become a leading institution in the heart of Houston, determined to enhance the quality of urban life for everyone.

While our neighborhood has gone through many changes, the parish has remained steadfast, and actively ministers to a diverse congregation and to the poor in its midst. As the Midtown Houston neighborhood began redeveloping, starting in the early 2000s, Trinity Church has rededicated itself to its spiritual mission, and has become an active part of the Midtown area for music and other creative art expressions.





#### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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