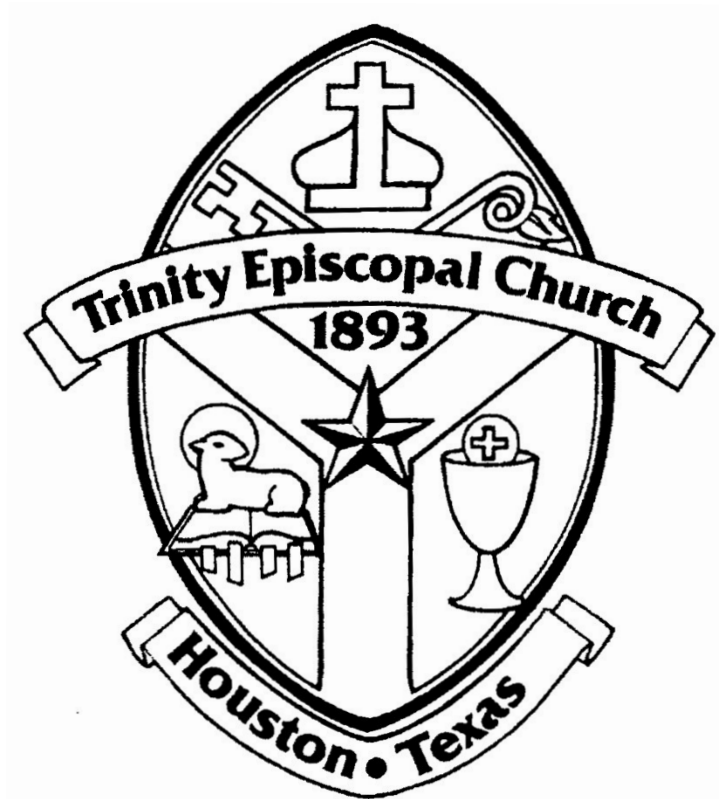


THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 8, 2023
7:30 P.M.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector
The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
The Reverend Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate
The Reverend Bradley Sullivan, Assisting Priest

Alex Jones, Organist and Choirmaster

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

WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad you chose to worship with us. We follow the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) to guide our worship. In this leaflet, you'll find everything you need to follow along printed.

Whether you've been attending Trinity your whole life or this is your first time here, we invite you to participate in the service as fully as you feel comfortable doing.

If you're looking for a new church home, know that the Trinity family welcomes you. We would also appreciate your filling out a virtual visitors card, which can be accessed at this link:

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/contact-card-page/>

For more information, please visit our website:
www.trinitymidtown.org

Facebook Live Stream. Please be advised that this service is live streamed through our Trinity Facebook Page and YouTube channels. By participating in the service, you are consenting to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your children who participate.

Children 3yrs through 3rd grade *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* Meets in room 112 at 9:30 a.m. and the children return to their parents at the passing of the peace.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Your children are welcome here at Trinity! First, please relax and enjoy your time here. We know that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it.
- Each Sunday, your child may pick up a pew activity in the back of the church.
- To make things easier for your family, dare to sit closer to the front where your child can see what's going on at the altar. Guide them in the liturgy and be models for them. Help them sing the hymns and encourage them to stand/sit when appropriate, say "Amen" and "Thanks be to God," and generally help them be a part of the service. The liturgy belongs to them too.
- If you have to leave, hurry back! Jesus wants the children here, and we do too. If you need help, just ask. There are many here who are willing to lend you a hand.
- Children's activity and worship bulletins are available for download from our website under the "Worship—Bulletins" tab, or following this link:

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/childrens-bulletins/>

VESTRY

Andy Durham, *Senior Warden*
John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam
Ben Blanding
Pam Lawson
Mary Matteucci
Ann McCoy

John Merullo
Samantha Rainman
Gladys Vallés
David Villarreal
Michele White

Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

LAY MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Lectors: Bobby Hillier, Alex Jones, Alex Bruton, Mary Johns

Acolytes: John Bruton, Joanne Starbuck, Mary Cloud, Mark Goza

LEM: Samantha Rainman

Verger: Alex Bruton

Altar Guild: Joanne Starbuck, Catherine Guthrie, Mark Goza, Linda Davenport

Audio Visual: Jeremy Velasquez

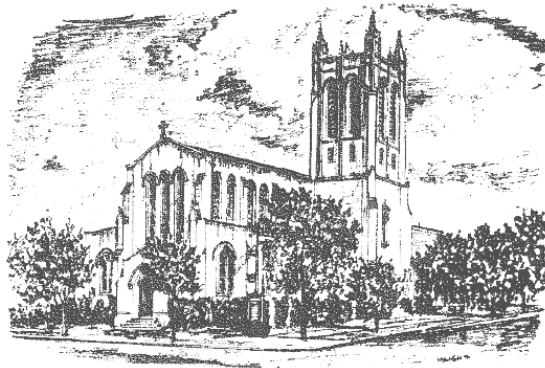
TRINITY CHOIR

Soprano: Andrea von Holten
Lindsey von Holten
MacKenzie Garey

Tenor: John Merullo
Tony Sessions
Carver Mathis

Alto: Summer Price
Catherine Reed
Michelle Gascon

Bass: Harrison G. Moore, IV
EJ Grayson



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THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Please gather as able outside in the Bishop's Garden.

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The fire is kindled. The Celebrant says

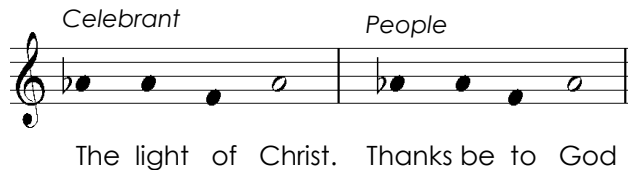
Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lit from the newly kindled fire.

The Celebrant now sings the following proclamation three times as the procession enters the church.



The Cantor now sings the Exsultet.

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church,
and let your holy courts, in radiant light,
resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame,
pray with me to God the Almighty
for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light;
through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God...

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings, saying

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

THE STORY OF CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Here ends the reading.

PSALM 136: 1-9, 23-26

Confitemini
Sung by the choir

Norris, #332

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods,*
For his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,*
For his mercy endures for ever.
- 4 Who only does great wonders, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 7 Who created great lights, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 8 The sun to rule the day, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us in our low estate, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 24 And delivered us from our enemies, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 25 Who gives food to all creatures, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE FLOOD

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground."

And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind--every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

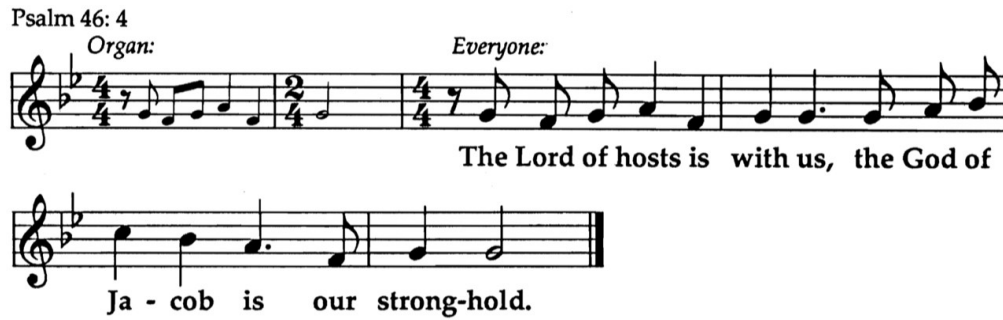
In the six hundred first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh--birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth--so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 46: 4

Organ: *Everyone:*



The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of
Ja - cob is our strong-hold.

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
- 5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 6 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;
God shall help her at the break of day.
- 7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
- 9 Come now and look upon the works of the LORD,
what awesome things he has done on earth.
- 10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- 11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:10-31; 15: 20-21

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

(Continued on page 10)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Here ends the reading.

CANTICLE 8

Cantemus Domino

Sung by the choir.

*Antiphon in
Easter Season (b)*

I will sing to the Lord for he has risen up in might, alleluia.

1. I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted;
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea. 2. The Lord is my
strength and my refuge; the Lord has become my Savior.

3. This is my God and I will praise him, the God of my people and I will ex - alt him.

4. The Lord is a might - y war - rior; Yah - weh is his Name.

5. The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled in - to the sea; the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

6. The fathomless deep has o - ver - whelmed them; they sank into the depths like a stone.

7. Your right hand, O Lord, is glor - ious in might; your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the en - e - my.

8. Who can be compared with you, O Lord, a - mong the gods? Who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of won - ders?

9. You stretched forth your right hand; the earth swal - lowed them up.

10. With your constant love you led the peo - ple you re - deemed; with your might you brought them in safety to your ho - ly dwell - ing.

11. You will bring them in and plant them on the mount of your pos -
 ses - sion, 12. The resting-place you have made for your - self, O Lord,
 the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has es - tab - lished.
 13. The Lord shall reign for ever and for ev - er. [Ant.]

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL

Isaiah 55:1-11

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Here ends the reading.

Antiphon

Sing the prais - es of the Lord, for he has done great things.

1. Sure - ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not
be a - fraid. 2. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de - fense,
and he will be my Sa - vior. 3. Therefore you shall draw water
with re - joic - ing from the springs of sal - va - tion.

4. And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call
up - on his Name; 5. Make his deeds known a - mong the peo - ples;
See that they remember that his Name is ex - alt - ed.

6. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world. 7. Cry aloud, inhabitants of
Zi - on, ring out your joy, for the great one in the
midst of you is the Holy One of Is - ra - el. [Ant.]

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'" Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

Here ends the reading.

PSALM 143

Domine exaudi
Sung by the choir.

Peter Hallock

The musical notation is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It is divided into two sections: 'Organ:' and 'Everyone:'. The 'Organ:' section starts with a 4/4 time signature and contains the first two measures. The 'Everyone:' section starts with a 2/4 time signature and contains the next two measures. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the text 'Re - vive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake.' is written in a bold, serif font.

- 1 Lord, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.
- 2 Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3 For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground;
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
- 4 My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds;
I consider the works of your hands.

- 6 I spread out my hands to you;
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- 7 O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;
do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 Let me hear of your loving kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you;
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.
- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD,
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11 Revive me, O LORD, for your Name's sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12 Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught,
for truly I am your servant.

Please kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The candles at the Altar may now be lit from the Paschal Candle.

Please stand as able.

The following is said three times as the lights are lit.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

(Bells are rung by the congregation while singing the Refrain, celebrating the Resurrection!)

(Bells are silenced during the singing of the verses.)

Congregational Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o -
 - ver has been sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us
 keep the feast, Al - - le - lu - ia,
 Al - - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Choir

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

**Refrain/
 Ring Bells**

Choir

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
 death no longer has dominion over Him.
 The death 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!

**Refrain/
 Ring Bells**

Choir

Christ being raised from the dead,
 the first-fruits of them 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!

**Refrain/
 Ring Bells**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.


People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.


HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 296

We know that Christ is raised


Engelberg




We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. _____ Al - le -
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

HOMILY

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

HOLY BAPTISM

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented:

Caiden Hillier

The Candidate is presented by his Sponsors who say

Sponsors I present **Caiden** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help him to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant then asks

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
 Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
 Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
 Answer I do.

Please stand as able.

The Celebrant then addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People 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.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People 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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Celebrant then says to the people

Let us now pray for **Caiden**, who **is** to receive the Sacrament of new birth .

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver **him**, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open **his** heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill **him** with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep **him** in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach **him** to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send **him** into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring **him** to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.

Amen.

The Clergy and People process to the Baptismal font.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Celebrant then says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant who pours water upon them, saying

Caiden, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying to each one

Caiden, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*When this action has been completed, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over **him**, saying*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised **him** to the new life of grace. Sustain **him**, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give **him** an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

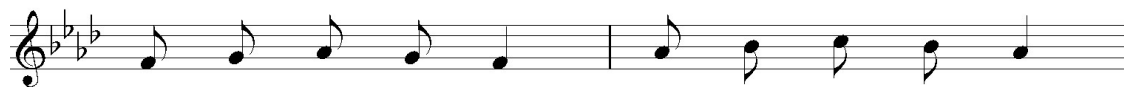
Amen.

The Clergy process around the church with the newly baptized while the congregation sings the following hymn.

HYMN 294

Baptized in water

Point Loma



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit,
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit,
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit,



cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
marked with the sign of Christ our King:



heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his prom - ise,
one with his ris - ing, freed and for - giv - en,
born of one Fa - ther, we are his chil - dren,



faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

The Celebrant then says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please pass the peace in a socially distanced manner.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see our complete announcements in the Weekly Window.

The Holy Communion

Please be seated

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERING

For those worshipping in person, there are offering plates by the doors.

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, or click:

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

Texting. Send the message **heartofmidtown** to **73256**. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.



ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Now the Green Blade Riseth

French Traditional
Arr. Simon Lindley (b. 1948)

1 Now the green blade riseth, from the
buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has
lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has
been:
Love is come again, like wheat that
springeth green.

2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom
men had slain,
Thinking that never he would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps
unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that
springeth green.

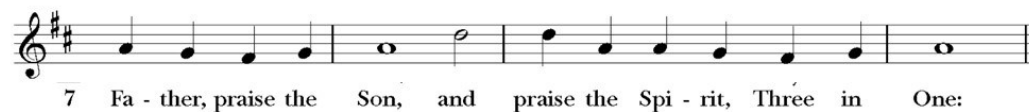
3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen
grain,
He that for three days in the grave had
lain;
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that
springeth green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in
pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare
have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that
springeth green.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 400, stanza 7

Lasst uns erfreuen

Please stand as able.



Please stand or kneel as able.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.


On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION S135

Jackson Hill



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may Faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
 sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

AGNUS DEI S164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

For the duration of the current pandemic we will continue to offer communion in one kind for those who wish to receive the bread only. Please come forward to receive communion from a priest at the chancel steps. If you are partaking of the chalice, please use the hand sanitizer before approaching the clergy and chalice bearer. Also, if you wish to partake of the chalice, you may do so by intinction. Intinction is done by dipping a host into the wine, and is completely optional. If you prefer, it is perfectly fine to continue receiving the host only.



We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when you come forward for communion.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

ANTHEM

Ave Verum Corpus

Edward Elgar(1857 - 1934)

Ave verum Corpus, natum de
 Maria Virgine:
Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro
 homine:
Cuius latus perforatum,
Unda fluxit et
 sanguine:
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis
 examine.

Jesus, Lamb of God, Redeemer, Born
 the Virgin Mary's Son,
Who upon the cross a victim hast man's
 salvation won,
From whose side, which man had
 pierced,
Flow'd the water and the blood,
By thy sacred body broken be in life and
 death our food.

Please stand or kneel as able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

The priest blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

Amen.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, our Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life, be with you always.

Amen.

Please stand as able.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 460

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hyfrydol

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 *5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

VOLUNTARY

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Easter Flower Dedications



The crosses on the doors are given to the Glory of God

by

Mary and Gianni Matteucci in Thanksgiving for Emilia, Livia, and Julia.
Hannah and Elmer Romero in Thanksgiving for Magaly, Sara, Samuel, and Daniel.
Mike Laster and Raul Poggi in Memory of Anatascio and Hayde Herenu Poggi.
Mike Laster and Raul Poggi in Memory of Audrey Lavonne Wilson Laster and
H.C. "Chick" Laster.
Samantha Rainman in memory of Joseph and Shirley Rainman.
Cheryl Miller by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh.
Lois Wright by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh.

High Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by

The Blanding family in Thanksgiving for Hannah, Luz, and Dale.
Wendy Wentland in Remembrance of Stephen Wentland on the occasion
of his 83rd birthday.
Carol and Phil Turley in Thanksgiving for the wonders of medicine.
Patrick, Javi, and Ophelia in Thanksgiving for Clementine Humphreys.
The Montes family in Thanksgiving for Mark Goza, Joanne Starbuck,
the Trinity Altar Guild and Flower Ministries.

Side Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by

Susan Gallagher and Andy Durham in Thanksgiving for Andrew, Margaret, Dan,
Genie, and Annemarie.
Bob and Carol Wells in Thanksgiving for our 40th wedding anniversary.
Mike Laster and Raul Poggi in Thanksgiving for Answered Prayer.

Baptistery Flowers are given to the Glory of God by

Graeme and Edgar Marston in memory of our parents and grandparents.
Marcy Antiuk and Harold Robertson in Memory of Rose Antiuk.
Wanda S. Mullen, MPA in Honor of the precious students and professors of
the University of Houston—Main Campus.
In honor of the Baptism of Caiden Hillier by his loving family.

Columbarium Flowers by

Linnet Deily in Memory of Mike Deily.



Easter Lilies Dedications



The Easter lilies are given to the Glory of God and

In Memory of

Grace V. Middaugh by Catherine M. Guthrie

Robert R. Guthrie by Catherine M. Guthrie

Joel D. Middaugh by Catherine M. Guthrie

Our parents and grandparents by Graeme and Edgar Marston

Madolyn and Stanley Tubbs by Stan Tubbs and Ron Goswick

Dorothy and Leroy Goswick by Stan Tubbs and Ron Goswick

Patricia Moss Braithwaite, Ms. Marsha Elaine Reed, Ms. Erine Blackman,
and Ms. Patricia Jung by Pam and Tim Lawson

My parents by Mary Kemp Callaway

My husband by Mary Kemp Callaway

My brother by Mary Kemp Callaway

My forever and always best friend, Emma Sorenson, by Kaydence Lomasang

Lucille Dittmore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck

Jeanne Devine by Joanne and Ron Starbuck

Gerard Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck

Mary and Rocco Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck.

Edna and Robert Starbuck by Joanne and Ron Starbuck.

Joseph and Shirley Rainman by Samantha Rainman.

Max Maxwell by John Merullo and George Zemanek.

Nikoletta Papapetropoulou by John and Mary Peterson

Ann, Jack, and Dennis Roach by Karen Roach

Albert and Elizabeth Cloteaux by Donna Cloteaux

John Cloud by Mary Cloud

Richard Edgar, loving husband, father, and grandfather

by Judith, Matt, Jodi, John, Jennifer, Heidi, Jeff, and Lincoln

Our Parents and other Houston relatives by Amanda Masterson

Maurine McMillan, Ralph Lee, Mildred and Clarence Laubach,

and Elizabeth and William Jones by Larry and Pat Laubach.

Former co-workers, friends and associates who have left this world since 2022
by Shelby Bradley.

Atty. Richard L. Horwitz by his wife, Hon. Susan Snell Barnes, children & spouses,

Christopher & Natalia Carrera Horwitz and Jonathan & Elizabeth Horwitz Halevi.

George and Marion Thorpe by Dale and Linda Klitzke.

Ken and Lucille Klitzke by Dale and Linda Klitzke.

Jane Vaughan by Yvonne Meyer.

Alma Jeanne and Paul Mauk by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld.

Bill Ayer by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld.

Margaret and Robert Sommerfeld by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld.

Anne Wallace, Muffie Moroney, Debbie Martinez, and Henry Goswick-Cross
by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld.



Easter Lilies Dedications



In Thanksgiving for

The Rev. Hannah Atkins Romero and her family by Mark Goza
The Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes and her family by Mark Goza
The Rev. Dale Kitzke and his family by Mark Goza
Alex Jones and the Trinity Choir by Mark Goza
April Sloan-Hubbert, Pelayo Parlade and the Trinity Jazz Ensemble by Mark Goza
Trinity Staff and Volunteers by Mark Goza
My wife Lindsey by Andrea Von Holten
The Trinity Choir by Andrea Von Holten
Reverend Hannah by Andrea Von Holten
Philip Meyer by Yvonne Meyer.
Lisa Rogers by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh.
Debbie Owens by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh.
My family by Toni Longino.
Joanne Starbuck and Mark Goza, and the Trinity Altar Guild
by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld
Henrik Escoto by Kamisha and John Escoto
Sofia Montes by Marcia and Jaylah Quintanilla.
Bill Jones and David Sherron by Larry and Pat Laubach
Lisa, Nate, Madi, Olivia; Amy, Hannah, Alexis and Cole by Larry and Pat Laubach
Our clergy: Hannah Atkins Romero, Luz Montes, and Dale Klitzke
by Madeline Mauk and Jeanne Sommerfeld.
God and all whom He has placed in my life by Shelby Bradley.
My daughters Emilia, Livia, and Julia by Mary Matteucci.

In Honor of

Kaydence Lomasang's birthday. Happy Birthday, Princess!
by Mom, Dad, Anthony, and Addilyn
Our mothers, Mary Merullo and Jeanette Zemanek
by John Merullo and George Zemanek
My children by Norma Cooper.
My ancestors and nations. May God continue to bless all of us, by Shelby Bradley.

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.

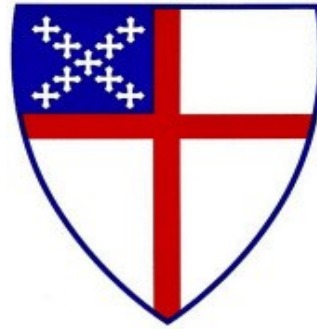
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street 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.





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