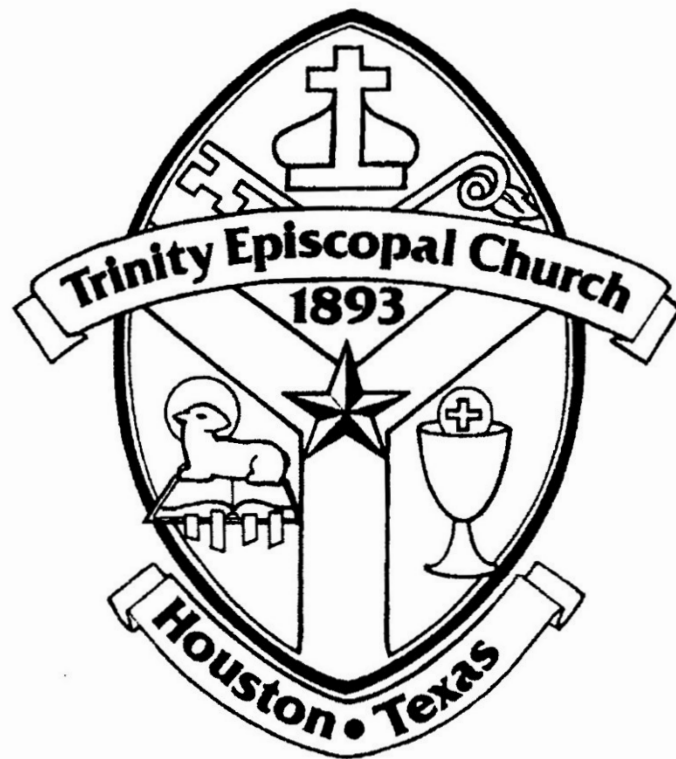


THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 30, 2023
12:30 p.m.



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

April Sloan-Hubert, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble
Pelayo Parlade, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble

***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 adapted the liturgy for this service from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* 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

For questions about how to connect with us, please email
connections@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.

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.
- 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*

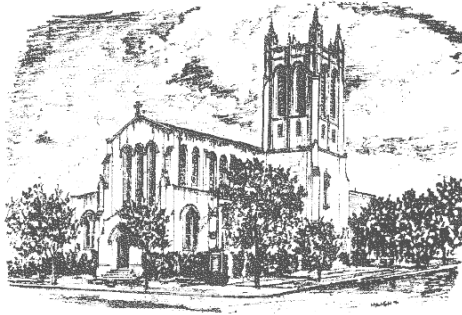
THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Vocals: April Sloan-Hubert
Piano: Pelayo Parlade
Flute, Clarinet: Ernesto Vega
Bass: Alfred Kennedy

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Marcella Marino
Prayers: Abby Swearingen
Acolyte: Barrett Hess
Usher: Bob Davenport
Audio Visual: Paul Bower
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport
Vestry of the Day: Pam Lawson

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in remembrance of Stephen Wentland
on the occasion of his 83rd birthday
by Wendy Wentland



Follow us on:

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

Instagram
<https://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown>

Youtube
<https://www.youtube.com/trinityepiscopalchurch>



The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider 'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

People God is with us, here we find new life!

Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

This Is the Day

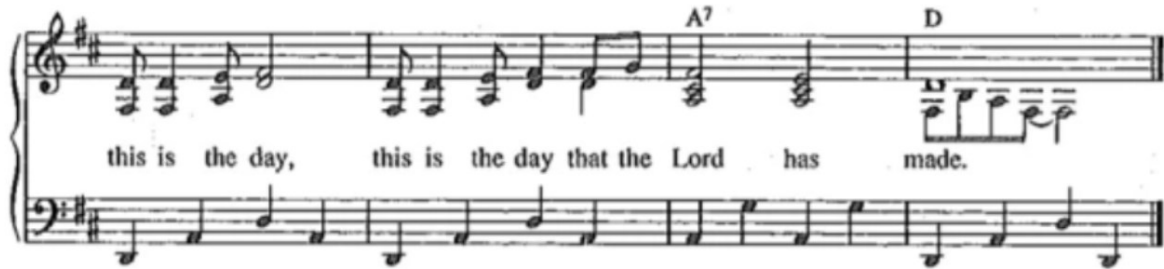
Brightly, with pace

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the

Lord has made; we shall re-joice, we shall re-joice and be

glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the

Lord has made, we shall re-joyce and be glad in it;



OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Good shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold; feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, where you reign one God forever.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 2: 42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2: 19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Presider The Holy Gospel according to John.

People Praise and glory to God!

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Presider This is the Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to Christ, the Word.

Please be seated

SERMON The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector

MUSICAL REFLECTION We will meditate quietly on God's word to us.

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response

instrumental intro G^bmaj7 A^b7sus A^b7

Hear our -

A

5 F m7 B^bm7 F m7 B^bm7

prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 G^bmaj7 ⊕ A^b7sus A^b7

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

B

13 F m7 B^bm7 F m7 B^bm7

prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 G^bmaj7 A^b7sus A^b7

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord - - -

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next response.

Let us pray for the preservation of the earth. We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth.

Give us and all peoples grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.

Let us pray for peace and shared prosperity, and for the end of systemic racism that divides us.

We pray for leaders to serve the common good: Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in every land, especially Joseph, our president; Kamala, our vice-president; Greg, our governor; Lina, our county judge; Sylvester, our mayor; and the legislatures, and courts; that we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

Response

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend Michael Curry and the Episcopal Church](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [St. Mark's, Houston; Trinity, Baytown; and Trinity, Houston](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Norma Cooper and the Prayer Chain ministry](#). For the peace and unity of the Church of God.

We give thanks for the good news of salvation for all people. Strengthen us for our work in the world, empower your Church to proclaim the gospel in service, word and sacrament.

Unite in the truth all who confess your name, that we may live together in love to your glory.

Let us pray for ourselves and our community. We give thanks for the fellowship of the communities in which we live and work, especially Trinity Church.

We pray for our bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), and Hector, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale our clergy; and for all who minister in this place.

We commend to your keeping ourselves and each other, our families, those with whom we work and learn, our neighbors and our friends. Enable us by your Spirit to live in love for you and for one another.

Response

We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness. Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially for those we now name: [Bill, Nick, Byron, Florence, Charles, Kathy, Demetrick, Christopher, Letha, Connie, Phil, Evan, Susan, Paul, Mary, Bob, Yvonne, and Mary](#).

[Heavenly Father, our neighbor has nowhere to call home: help us be aware. Our neighbor needs love and community: help us be active. Our neighbor is crying out for justice: help us be adamant to see an end to homelessness.](#)

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, [especially for the Reverend Greg Buffone, all victims of gun violence, and all who have perished from 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 [especially for the birth of Valentino Gabriel Aleksandr Misirian, and for Paul, Jacob, Rob, and Saba](#), who are celebrating their birthdays.

Response

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.

The people may offer their own specific petitions, praises or thanksgivings.

Response

instrumental intro $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$

Hear our -

A
5 $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$
prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 $G^{\flat}maj7$ Φ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

B
13 $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$
prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord -

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next response.

Φ
21 $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$ $D^{\flat}maj7$
A - nd Gra - nt - us Thy - Pe - ace -

THE PEACE

Presider Blessed be Christ, the Prince of Peace.

People Who breaks down the walls that divide.

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

People Praise to Christ who makes us one.

MUSIC AT THE PEACE

Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay

Otis Redding

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

The Liturgy of the Table

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERING

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, click: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477>

Texting. Send the message **heartofmidtown** to **73256**. Be sure to type heartofmidtown with no spaces, or autocorrect may insert information about a different church. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.



THE OFFERTORY

Trinity Jazz Ensemble

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as able.

Presider The Lord is here.
People God's Spirit is with us.

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to offer thanks and praise.

The Presider continues:

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son. You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us, offering us the healing riches of salvation and calling us to freedom and holiness. You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended, a new age has dawned, a broken world is restored and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with people of every nation, tribe and language, with the whole Church on earth and in heaven, joyfully we give you thanks and say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father, in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son, we now celebrate the wonder of your grace and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness, we were far off until you brought us near and our hands are empty until you fill them.

As we eat this bread and drink this wine, through the power of your Holy Spirit feed us with your heavenly food, renew us in your service, unite us in Christ, and bring us to your everlasting kingdom. From you, and through you, and for you are all things. To you be the glory for ever,

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the word "Amen". The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the notes: A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter), A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter). The second staff contains the notes: A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter), A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter). The third staff contains the notes: A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter), A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter), A (quarter), - (quarter), men, (quarter). The final note of the third staff is followed by a double bar line and repeat dots.

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.**
Alleluia, alleluia.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive communion from a priest in front of the altar. 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. If you are unable to come forward for communion, it will be brought to you in your pew.



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.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion is prayed by those at home unable to partake of communion in person

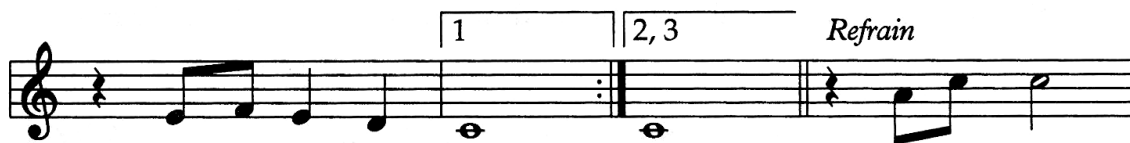
In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.



1. Here is bread, here is wine: }
 2. Here is grace, here is peace: } Christ is with us:
 3. Here we are, joined in one: }



He is with us. { Break the bread; taste the wine:
 Know his grace; find his peace:
 We'll pro-claim till he comes



Christ is with us here. here. In this bread
 Feast on Je - sus here. fied.
 Je - sus cru - ci -



there is heal - ing; in this cup there's life for - ev - er.



In this mo-ment by the Spir - it Christ is with us here.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

Presider Blessed be God who calls us together.
People Praise to God who makes us one people.

Presider Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.
People Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

Presider Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
People Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Presider Blessed be God who alone has called us.
People Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Presider Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
People Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Presider Send us now into the world you love.
**People Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
 in the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

THE 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 upon you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1. The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we
 2. We go to com - fort those who mourn and
 3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to
 4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the



go in Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
 set the bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
 scat - ter joy like seed and, all our days, to
 gos - pel to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
 share a dream and help the blind to see.
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this afternoon.

*Service music printed from Lift Every Voice and Sing II,
An African American Hymnal © 1993
Church Pension Fund. Used by permission.
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*Please note that June 4 is open to host (part/all) coffee hour:
Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online.*



THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN
April 30, 2023 – Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year A

Trinity Episcopal Church | www.trinitymidtown.org
1015 Holman @ Main | 713-528-4100

Sunday In-Person Services

8:00 am and 12:30 pm (Chapel)
10:30 am (Historic Church)

Garden Club – Upcoming Opportunities

The Garden Club is Trinity's longest running ministry. We work to keep the church grounds beautiful and peaceful. We also sponsor and facilitate the making of Chrismons for our Chrismon tree. We would love to have you involved and we are actively inviting new members to the club. You don't have to have lots of gardening experience to join, we are happy to teach you!

- May 5th – Monthly Club Meeting at 10am
- May 7th – Annual self-guided garden tour with refreshments during coffee hour.
- June 2nd – Chrismon making informational session!

For more information please contact Sylvia Drew at trymahjong@yahoo.com

LOTS Luncheon: May 9th, 11:30am–1:00pm

LOTS annual fundraising and celebration luncheon is just around the corner! Have you bought your ticket or purchased a table yet? Trinity's support of LOTS is crucial to their success and service in our community. For registration and sponsorships please click [here](#).

Thy Kingdom Come: May 18th–28th

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Journals will be available on campus. For general information click [here](#) and for family resources click [here](#).

Trinity Meet and Greet: April 30th

Our Meet and Greet gatherings are held in the Rector's office and give guests and newcomers to Trinity an opportunity to enjoy casual conversation with the Rector in an informal setting. All meetings are at 11:45 am following the 10:30 am service.

Trinity Ministry Fair June 4th

The Ministry Fair is a wonderful way for members and visitors to meet and gather information about the various ministries, committees, mission trips, and educational opportunities that are available within the church. Each ministry will be showcased through the use of a display at a table or booth. Come join us after the 10:30 am service on **June 4th** for coffee hour and fellowship while you discover where God is leading you to serve!

Wear Orange Weekend – June 3rd–5th

In an effort to bring awareness to gun violence in America, we invite you to wear orange in support of gun reform in America on June 3rd–5th. There are many ways to participate during the designated weekend from events, to sharing on social media, to distributing information and much more. For more information and ways to be involved click [here](#).

Episcopal Night at the Ballpark: July 28th

We invite you to mark your calendars for July 28th – Episcopal Night at the Ballpark. More information coming soon on how to purchase your ticket for a Trinity outing!

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, April 30th, 2023

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)
9:30 am Education Hr for All – Adults in Smith Rm, Tweens in Fellowship Hall, Kids in Atrium
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, May 1st, 2023

5:30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023

10:00am Sandwich Makers
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023

10:30 am Staff Meeting
12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)

Thursday, May 4th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, May 5th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoom-with-us/>



PRAYERS

Our custom is to read aloud each week the names of those who request our prayers. We also remember in our Prayer Chain and Bulletin those who desire prayers. Please email to keep us informed. For information or comments about prayer names, please contact the Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero. If you would like to participate as a member of the prayer chain, please contact Norma Cooper.

Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Teresa, Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Livia, Carolyn, Sylvia, Daniel, Kensington, Theorphilis, Lynn, Joyce, Bob, Cindy, Christine, David, Robert, Patty, Jose, Julie, Callie, Billie, Be, Graham, Debbie, Dana, Edgar, Gary, Maryanne, Sam, Samantha, Jarrett, Maddie, Harrison, Eugenia, Emilia, and Gaby.

For the faithful departed:

The Rev. Greg Buffone, all victims of gun violence and all who have perished from contracting the Coronavirus.

Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector
rector@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
associaterector@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate
dale.klitzke@gmail.com

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator
parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, Admin Assistant
adminassistant@trinitymidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner
youth@trinitymidtown.org

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

*Please note we will never ask you for money or gifts via email. Scams are circulating again, so please be aware and cautious.

Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/.

The next available dates: May 14th and May 28th. Mother’s Day and Pentecost Sunday!



Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer [here](#).

Next available dates: April 30th and June 11th.

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 4 pm
Friday 9 am – 1 pm

If you have building concerns please email frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org. Thanks!

Happy Birthday!

Paul Bower, Jacob Davidson, Rob Christie, and Saba Blanding



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let’s Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org



For more information on annual giving visit [2023 Stewardship Campaign](#).

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.

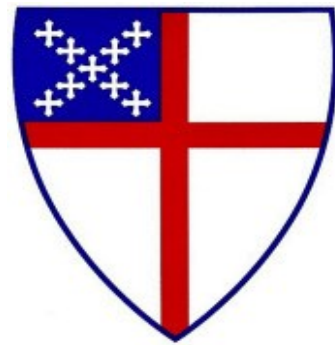
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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