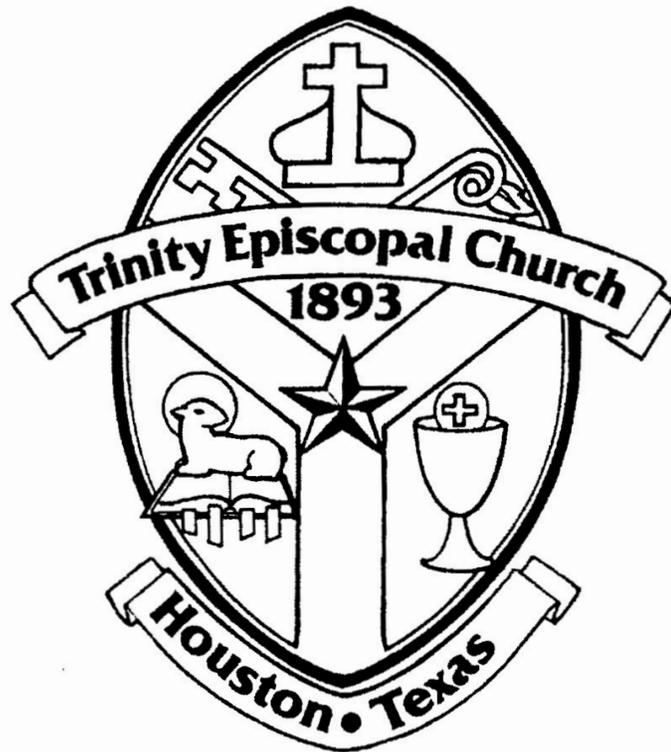


TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 1, 2021
12:30 p.m.



All attending please wear masks and maintain 6 feet social distancing with those not in your household

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

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 this afternoon. 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://forms.gle/dvuRW2FUDny2hpRz5>

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 all services, including this 12:30 p.m. service, are live streamed through our Trinity Facebook and Youtube pages.

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

Amy Luke, *Senior Warden*
John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam	Andy Durham
Ben Blanding	Pam Lawson
Jim Castro	Ann McCoy
Norma Cooper	David Theis
Terri DiRaddo	Michele White

Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Jim Castro, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*
Gayle Davies-Cooley, *Historian and Archivist*

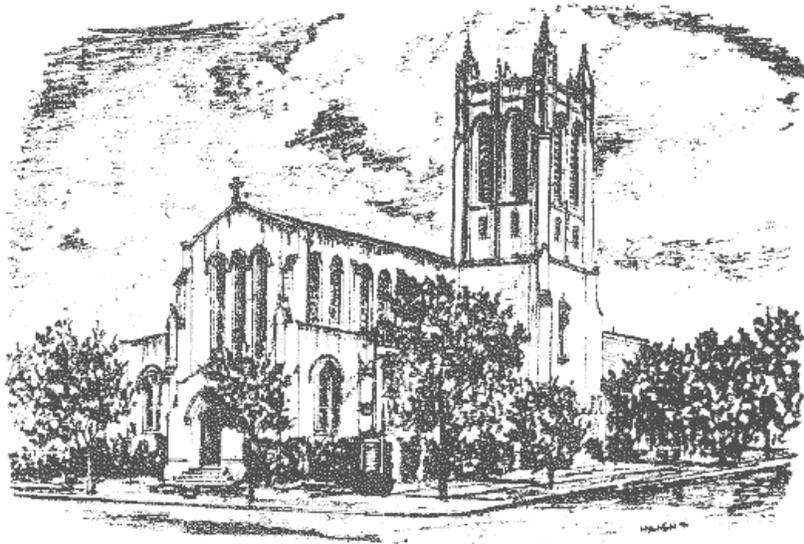
THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Vocals: April Sloan-Hubert
Piano: Pelayo Parlade
Flute, Clarinet: Ernesto Vega
Bass: Will Story, guest musician

SERVING TODAY

Readers: Susan Gallagher, Sheila Wainwright
Usher: Andy Durham
Greeter: Paul Bower
Audio Visual: Angel Williams

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in memory of Romana Lippelt
by Erma Dewispelaere and family



Follow us on:

Facebook

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Instagram

<https://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown>

Youtube

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



The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider God rained down manna upon them to eat and gave them grain from heaven: So mortals ate the bread of angels; he provided for them food enough.

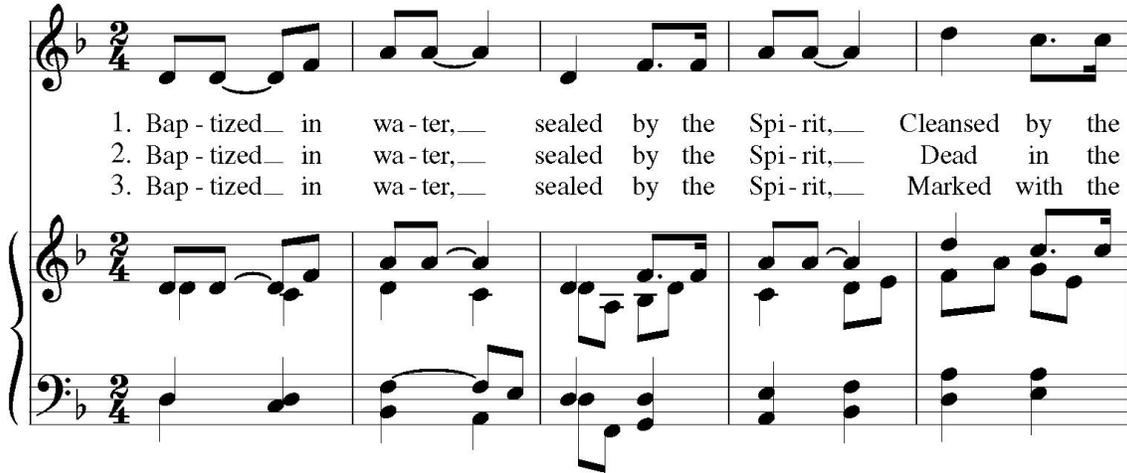
People God is with us, here we find new life!

Presider Let us worship God.

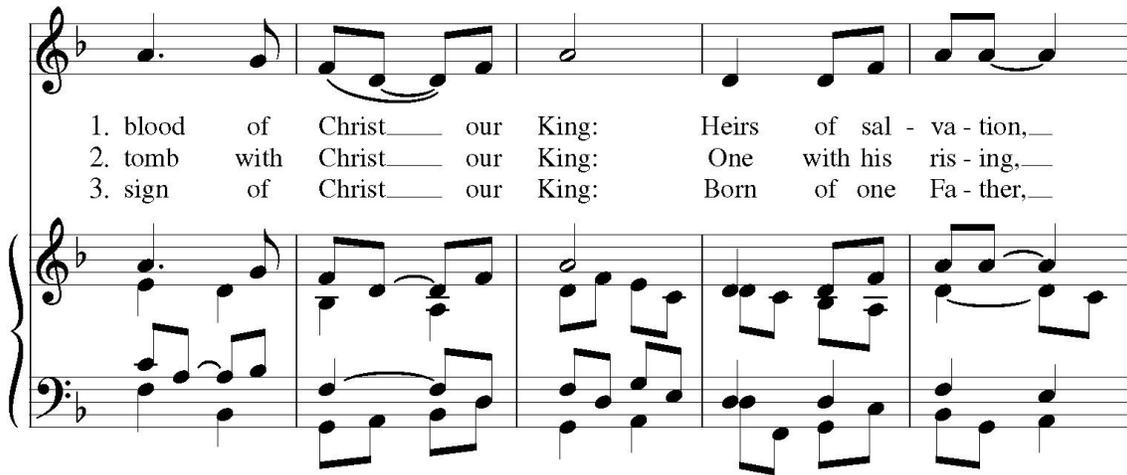
OPENING HYMN

Baptized in Water

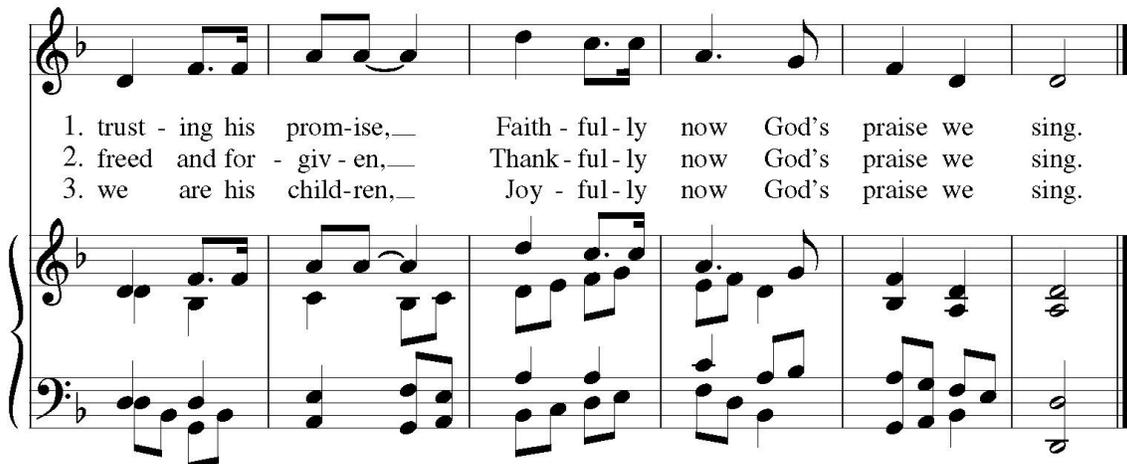
LEVAS, page 121



1. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, Cleansed by the
2. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, Dead in the
3. Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spi - rit, Marked with the



1. blood of Christ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion,
2. tomb with Christ our King: One with his ris - ing,
3. sign of Christ our King: Born of one Fa - ther,



1. trust - ing his prom - ise, Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
2. freed and for - giv - en, Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
3. we are his child - ren, Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider Father, imprint upon our hearts that because we belong to you no one can pluck us from your hand, and because we fear you we need fear no other. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15

Reader The first lesson is from Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

Reader Here ends the first lesson.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4: 1-16

Reader The second lesson is from Ephesians.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response

instrumental intro $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7
Hear our -

A
5 $Fm7$ B^bm7 $Fm7$ B^bm7
prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

B
13 $Fm7$ B^bm7 $Fm7$ B^bm7
prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ 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; Sylvester, our mayor; Lina, our county judge; and for 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 Melter Tais and the Church of the Province of South East Asia](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [Holy Spirit, Waco](#); [St. Alban's, Waco](#); and [St. Christopher's, Killeen](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Erma de Wispelaere, Bob Dorries, and the Sandwich Makers](#). 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, Hector, Jeff and Kai, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Henry our clergy.

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

Response

instrumental intro $G^b\text{maj}7$ A^b7_{sus} A^b7

Hear our -

A

5 $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$ $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$

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

9 $G^b\text{maj}7$ \emptyset A^b7_{sus} A^b7

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

B

13 $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$ $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$

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

17 $G^b\text{maj}7$ A^b7_{sus} A^b7

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

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next 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, Barbara, Eula, Kensington, Pat, Jeanne, Jimmie, Charlee, and Reiss.](#)

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 [Esther Fiteni, Margaret Hunter, Romana Lippelt, all who have perished by contracting the Coronavirus, and all victims of gun violence.](#) Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfillment of your kingdom.

We give you thanks for your servants in every age, especially for these who are celebrating their birthdays: [Lilian, Talbot, Terri, Angel, Alina, and Bobby.](#)

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.

Final Response

instrumental intro $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7

Hear our -

A

5 $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$ $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$

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

9 $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7

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

B

13 $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$ $F\text{m}7$ $B^b\text{m}7$

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

17 $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7

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

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

21 $G^b\text{maj}7$ $A^b7\text{sus}$ A^b7 $D^b\text{maj}7$

A - nd Gra - nt - us Thy - Pe - ace

THE CONFESSION

Presider Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. I will confess my sins to the Lord. I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

God forgives and heals us.

People **We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us; some escape us; some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us; set us free to serve you.**

Presider God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

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.**

The Liturgy of the Table

Please be seated.

OFFERING

For those worshiping in person, there is an offering plate by the door.

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.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

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.

Presider 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.

When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin. You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit.

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.

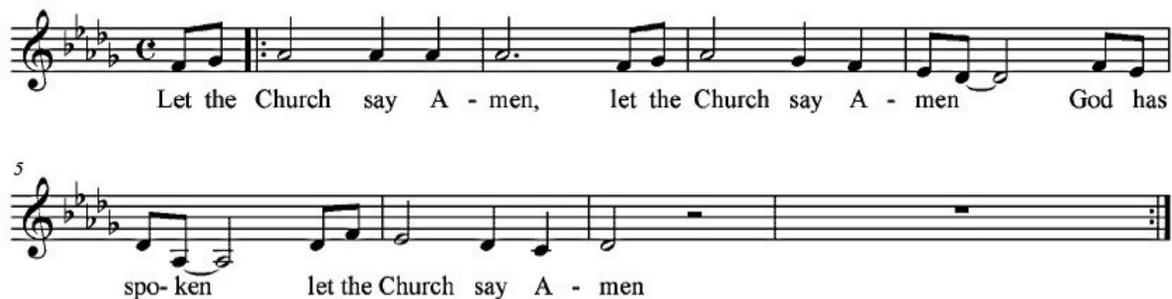
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

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,



As Christ teaches us, we pray:

**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

For the duration of the current pandemic we will offer communion in one kind, the bread only. The priest will bring communion to your seat.



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 the priest administering the bread approaches you.

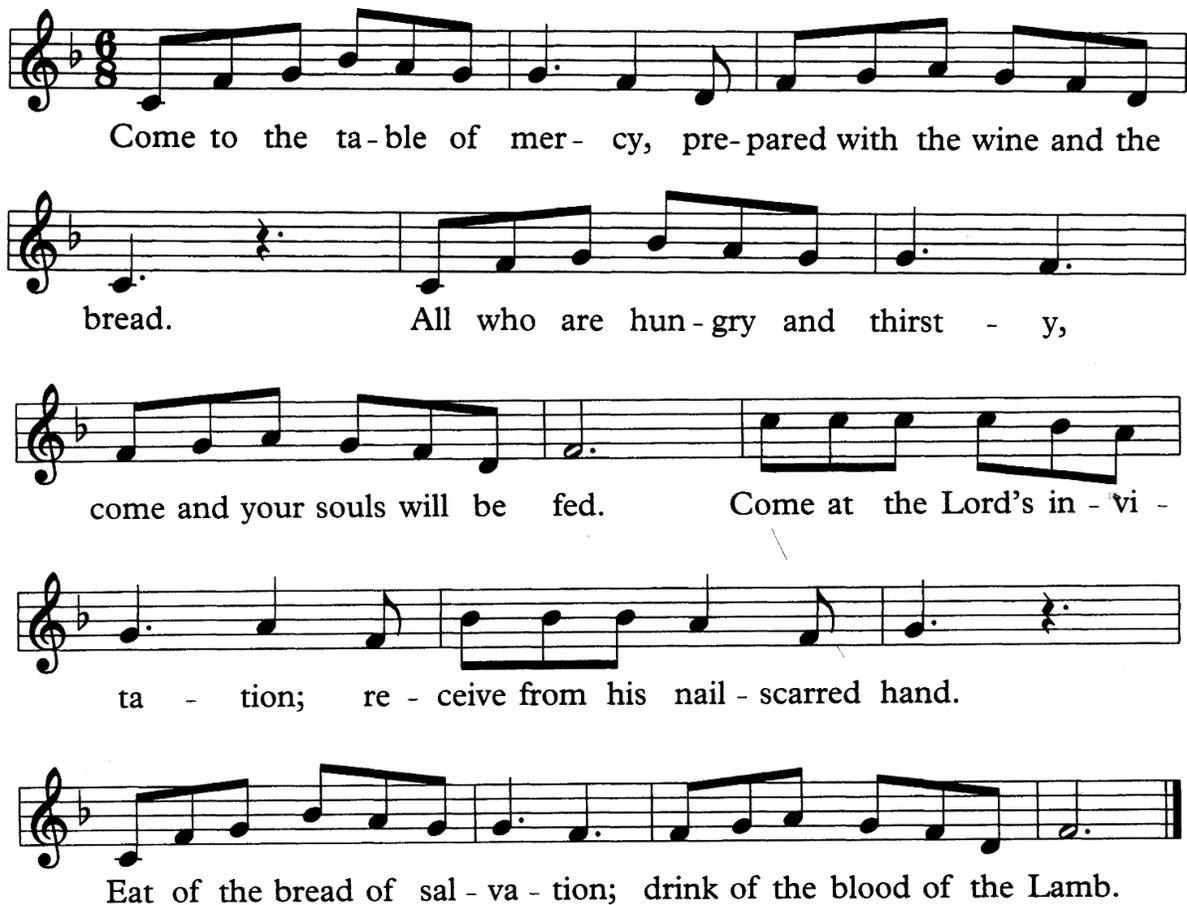
PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come to the Table



Come to the ta-ble of mer-cy, pre-pared with the wine and the
bread. All who are hun-gry and thirst - y,
come and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's in - vi -
ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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.**

COMMUNITY LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Please see our complete announcements and the Weekly Window at the end of this bulletin.

THE BLESSING

Presider The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts
and minds in Christ Jesus, and the blessing of God our Creator,
Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

People Amen

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Be Glorified



1. In our lives, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied.
(my) (life)



In our lives, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to - day.
(my) (life)

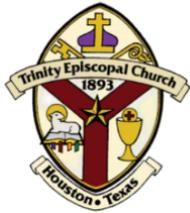
- 2. In our homes ...
- 3. In your church ...
- 4. In your world ...

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People We go in the name of Christ.

*Thank you for worshipping with us this afternoon.
Please remember to maintain social distancing as you depart.*

*Service music printed from Lift Every Voice and Sing II,
An African American Hymnal © 1993
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THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – Year B

August 1st, 2021

Announcements

Sunday In-Person Services have resumed.

8:00 am and 12:30 pm are in the Chapel. 10:30 am is held in the Historic Church. Please make sure to continue to mask up and social distance.

There will be a sign in sheet for each service at the entrances.

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, August 1, 2021

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (live in-person)
- 9:30 am Parenting with Grace (via Zoom)
- 9:30 am Sunday Meditations (via Zoom)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (live in-person and on Facebook)
- 12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (live in-person and on Facebook)
- 8:00 pm Compline (In Spanish via Zoom)

Monday, August 2nd, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021

- 10:00 am Sandwich Makers (Fellowship hall)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 1:00 pm Newcomers outreach

Wednesday, August 4th, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
- 6:00 pm Healing Service (via Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 5th, 2021

- 1:00 pm TLC (Masterson Room)
- 5:00 pm TLC (Masterson Room)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, August 6th, 2021

- 10:00 am Yoga and Meditations
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer



We are considering bringing back in September some ministries that have helped us connect with those living around us. Join us.

The ministries focus on those who have no roof over their head. The Listening Post, our ministry of presence; Evening Prayer, where we lead our visitors in prayers in the sanctuary read by the volunteer; and the Sandwich Makers who gather 15 minutes a day to make dozens of sandwiches and put together brown bags of food to be distributed daily after evening prayer.

For More Information click [here](#)



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of Romana Lippelt by Erma Dewispelaere and family

If you would like to make a flower dedication we have the following Sundays available August 15th, and August 29th You can sign up for a flower dedication by clicking [here](#)

Say Hello to Carver Mathis, Trinity's New Youth Missioner



Houston "Carver" Mathis is a native Houstonian with deep roots in The Episcopal Church. Carver is well versed in the breadth and versatility of Episcopal church liturgy. As a kid, Carver was in church anytime the doors were open. He served as an acolyte, was a member of the choir, and was actively involved in his youth group (Rev. Rich Houser+ was his youth minister! Trinity ties!!).

Carver is passionate about many things, he truly believes his strong suits are tailored toward making an impact on the next generation...youth! He believes strongly that they are the future of The Episcopal Church and society as a whole! As a community of believers, we must uplift and support them in their daily walk with Christ. Carver's greatest hope upon his arrival at Trinity is that he would nurture and support our youth, be an encouraging presence in the lives of everyone at Trinity, and work alongside our community in furthering the kingdom of God. Looking forward to meeting you all very soon!

Carver's first official Sunday will be on August 29th

SCAN ME



www.trinitymidtown.org

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.

- Myron, Allegra,
- Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie,
- Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Vivian
- Jane, Bob, Theresa, Marvin, Sue, Ester,
- Tom, Nick, Ric, Margaret, Livia,
- Joshua, Sandi, Barbara, Larry, Monica,
- Carolyn, Randy, Sylvia, Danielle, Lynelle,
- Minnie, Mary, Richard, Leonard, Jim,
- Elise, Be, Reiss, Phil, Carol

For the faithful departed

Margaret Hunter, Romana Lippelt, Esther Fiteni, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus and victims of gun violence.

For our Iona Seminarian

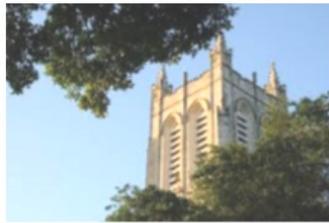
Carrie Hirdes



Lilian Warren
 Talbot Cooley
 Terri DiRaddo
 Angel Williams
 Alina Montemarano
 Bobby Hillier

Trinity Episcopal Church

1015 Holman@Main
 713-528-4100



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

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate
curate@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Dr. Henry Atkins
Theologian in Residence
hleeatkins@aol.com

Ryan Mire, Front Office Manager
FrontOffice@TrinityMidtown.org

Hank Carrillo, interim
Organist/Choirmaster
music@trinitymidtown.org

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

Trinity Vestry

Amy Luke, Senior Warden
 John Escoto, Junior Warden
 Ben Blanding, Jim Castro, Norma Cooper,
 Terri DiRaddo, Andy Durham, Ann McCoy,
 David Theis, Michele White, Pamela Lawson,
 and Eric Beam.

Trinity Beating Strong For & With You!

Here is an easy way to give!

TEXT
heartofmidtown
to 73256.

For assistance and/or questions please contact Trinity Finance Office
email: finance@trinitymidtown.org
phone: (713) 528-4100.

If you would like to subscribe or resubscribe to church email correspondence please click [here](#)

GIVE BLOOD

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday, August 8
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Donor Coach

FREE SUMMER BEACH TOWEL FOR ALL DONORS

Scan the QR code to sign up:




Katelyn, Blood drive organizer

Know when your blood has been delivered

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

Follow us on:

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Instagram

www.instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown

YouTube

www.youtube.com/trinityepiscopalchurch



www.trinitymidtown.org



Readings this Sunday

Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15
 Psalm 78: 23-29
 Ephesians 4: 1-16
 John 6: 24-35

Blessings Friends,

We are considering bringing back in September some ministries that have helped us connect with those living around us. Join us.

The ministries focus on those who have no roof over their head. The **Listening Post**, our ministry of presence; **Evening Prayer**, where we lead our visitors in prayers in the sanctuary read by the volunteer; and the **Sandwich Makers** who gather 15 minutes a day to make dozens of sandwiches and put together brown bags of food to be distributed daily after evening prayer.

We are looking for volunteers for all three ministries. And let me tell you, these will nourish your soul and your prayer life.

Everyone yearns to be seen and heard, and this is most true for those who find their shelter on the streets and are often dismissed, shamed, and overlooked.

While the Lord of the Streets provides tangible goods such as mail, clothing, healthcare, and Bible study, "The Listening Post" is an opportunity for those clients and anyone on the street to stop for respite.

Every Friday from noon to 2 p.m., we create an oasis on the street in front of Trinity Church beneath the old oak tree. We provide anyone walking a chair to rest their bodies, refreshments, and someone to talk to about their day, their joys, their sadness, or anything on their mind.

With a simple gesture of hospitality and a listening ear, we allow them to sit in silence if they want to, without filling out forms. It allows them to express their concerns and to have someone to talk to, have someone to listen, someone to witness. It gives them time to breathe, to think, to vent, to release, and in so doing, allows them the space to hear their thoughts. By providing a non-judgmental presence, we give a safe space to find their path to a solution.

In the Book of Job, the most powerful thing his friends could do for seven days was sit in silence and honor his grieving. So many of those we encounter who are homeless or near homeless are so set upon they feel like JOB. We are their witness. We see them. We hear them. And in so doing, we empower them.

We are not counselors. We are listeners. We will provide training. But some skills you will need are to be a good listener without trying to fix them, empathetic, and the ability to remain calm, non-judgmental.

Over the next few Sundays, we will share moments from those ministries in this space in the hopes you will want to get involved.

If interested, contact our Curate Luz at Curate@TrinityMidtown.org or me at Theresa@theresawriter.com

In joy,
Theresa D. McClellan
Theresa@theresawriter.com

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.

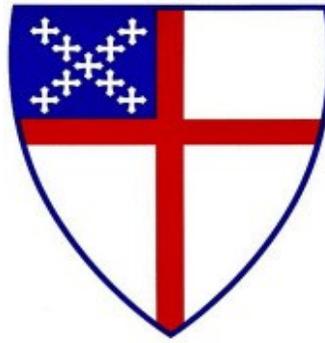
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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