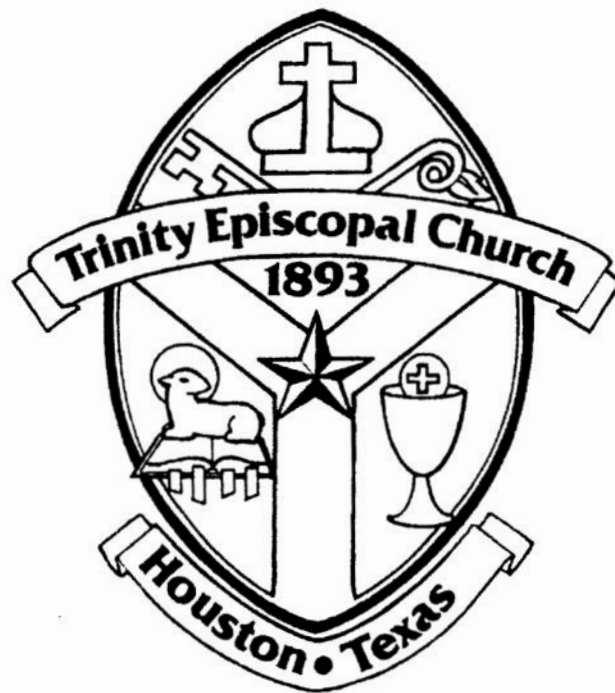


# A SERVICE OF HEALING

JOANNA, MARY, AND SALOME  
MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

AUGUST 3, 2022  
6:00 p.m.



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

Alex Jones, Organist and Choirmaster  
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***

# A Public Service of Healing

Joanna, Mary, and Salome

Myrrh-Bearing Women

August 3, 2022

## The Word of God

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**People:** And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

*After a period of silence, the Minister then says the following Collects.*

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come here seeking your healing grace for themselves and for others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body; and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole according to your desire, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, who revealed the resurrection of your Son to Joanna, Mary and Salome, as they faithfully came bearing myrrh to his tomb: Grant that we too may perceive the presence of the risen Lord in the midst of pain and fear, that we may go forth proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Lesson

### Proverbs 4: 10-18

Hear, my child, and accept my words,  
that the years of your life may be many.  
I have taught you the way of wisdom;  
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.  
When you walk, your step will not be hampered;  
and if you run, you will not stumble.  
Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;  
guard her, for she is your life.  
Do not enter the path of the wicked,  
and do not walk in the way of evildoers.  
Avoid it; do not go on it;  
turn away from it and pass on.  
For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;  
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.  
For they eat the bread of wickedness  
and drink the wine of violence.  
But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,  
which shines brighter and brighter until full day

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 50

- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
for God himself is judge.
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; \*  
for I am God, your God.
- 8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; \*  
your offerings are always before me.
- 9 I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, \*  
nor he-goats out of your pens;
- 10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine, \*  
the herds in their thousands upon the hills.
- 11 I know every bird in the sky, \*  
and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, \*  
for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.
- 13 Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, \*  
or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and make good your vows to the Most High.
- 15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; \*  
I will deliver you, and you shall honor me."
- 16 But to the wicked God says: \*  
"Why do you recite my statutes, and take my covenant upon your lips;
- 17 Since you refuse discipline, \*  
and toss my words behind your back?
- 18 When you see a thief, you make him your friend, \*  
and you cast in your lot with adulterers.
- 19 You have loosed your lips for evil, \*  
and harnessed your tongue to a lie.
- 20 You are always speaking evil of your brother \*  
and slandering your own mother's son.

21 These things you have done, and I kept still, \*  
and you thought that I am like you."

22 "I have made my accusation; \*  
I have put my case in order before your eyes.

23 Consider this well, you who forget God, \*  
lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.

24 Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; \*  
but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."

## **Second Lesson**

### **Acts 2: 29-36**

Peter said, "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'" Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## **The Gospel**

### **Mark 16: 1-8**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## **A Litany of Healing**

*The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding. A Person appointed then leads the Litany*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

All you Holy Angels, Archangels, and bodiless powers of heaven;

***Stand beside us to guide and guard us on our way.***

Holy Mary, Mother of God;

***Pray for us and the people of the world.***

For all who grieve the death of family, friends, and citizens;

***Give them courage and strength to meet the days ahead, O Lord, and the consolation of your love.***

Pour out your healing grace on all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are afraid, anxious, or overwhelmed, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Give peace, courage, and hope to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the sick and suffering, keep them safe and healthy, and grant them wisdom and skill, sympathy, and patience;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Open our eyes to see that you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth and that our life and death are with each other;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Give us compassion for those in need, patience in this time of distress in our country, and love for our neighbors;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Let our hearts be not afraid;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

You are the Lord who does wonders:

**You have declared your power among the peoples.**

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

**And in your light we see light.**

Let us pray:

*A period of silence follows.*

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Minister and People:**

**God of all mercy,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,  
and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,**

**the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **Prayers for Healing**

*The minister may invite each person to give her or his name and any particular request for prayer. The minister then prays silently, then prays aloud using one of the following forms or similar words.*

I lay my hands upon you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, praying you will be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit. **Amen.**

*After all are anointed*

May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

May God the Father bless us, God the Son heal us, God the Holy Spirit give us strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard our bodies, save our souls, and bring us safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Dismissal**

*Officiant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People**        **Amen.**

## **Joanna, Mary, and Salome, Myrrh-Bearing Women**

Joanna, Mary, and Salome, are traditionally counted as the three women who came to Jesus' tomb early in the morning on the day of the resurrection in order to anoint the Jesus' body with myrrh and other spices. They were followers of Jesus during his earthly ministry and remained with him throughout his arrest, crucifixion, and burial, and discovered the empty tomb.

Little is known about the lives of Joanna, Mary, and Salome beyond their faithful and unwavering devotion and service to Christ. Joanna is identified in the Gospel of Luke as the wife of Chuza, a steward of Herod and in Luke 8:2-3 is counted among the women who followed and provided for Jesus after having been healed by him.

The Gospel of Mark includes Salome in a list of women present at the crucifixion without any further information; there is a tradition that Salome was the sister of Mary the Mother of Jesus.

In addition to Joanna, Salome, and Mary Magdalene, Matthew 28:1 lists a woman it refers to as "the other Mary." Mark 16:1 refers to her as Mary the mother of James. John 19:25 recounts that Mary the wife of Cleopas was present at the crucifixion, and historically the Christian tradition has tended to assume that all three of these Marys are actually the same person.

The little information that we do have about these women shows them to be faithful disciples and worthy of our commemoration and, more importantly, emulation. There is a particular devotion to these "Holy Myrrh-bearers" in the Orthodox Church, and the second Sunday after Easter is celebrated as "Myrrh-bearers Sunday."

from *Revised Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018*, page 398







## 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.

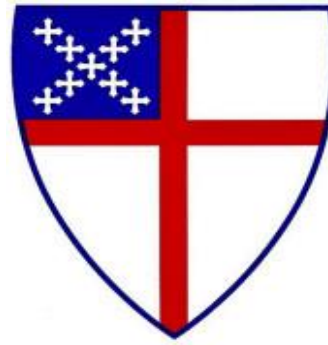
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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