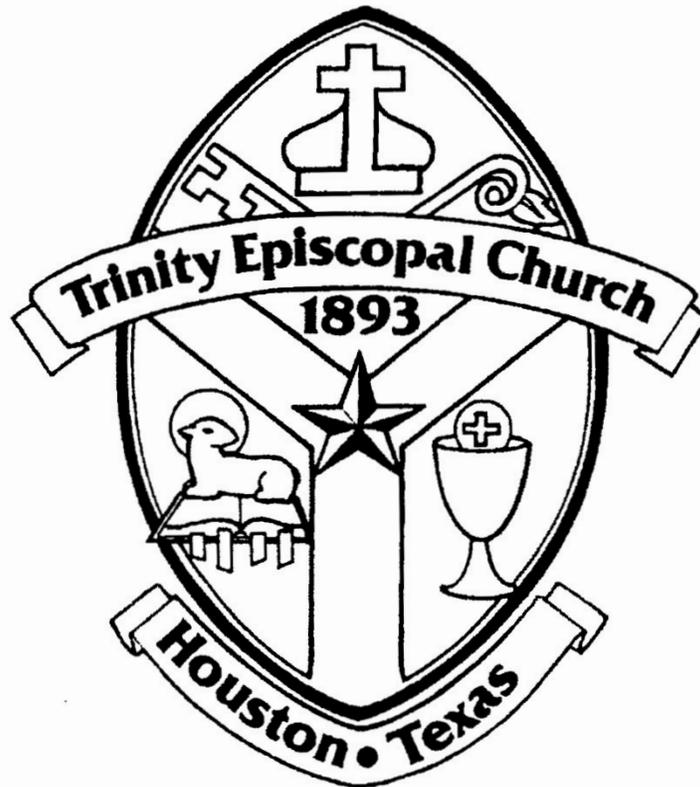


# ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 8, 2021  
8:00 a.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

Hank Carrillo, Interim 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 this morning. 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://forms.gle/dvuRW2FUDny2hpRz5>

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.trinitymidtown.org](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)

For questions about how to connect with us, please email  
[connections@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:connections@trinitymidtown.org)



### 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

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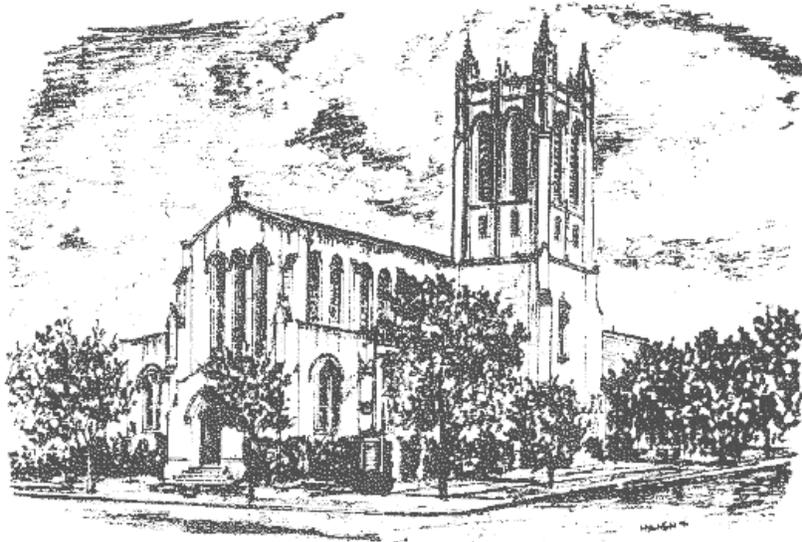
Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*  
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*  
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*  
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Jim Castro, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*  
Gayle Davies-Cooley, *Historian and Archivist*

## SERVING TODAY

Reader: Donna Cloteaux

Music: Wendy Wentland, piano

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God  
and in celebration of the life of  
the Reverend Henry L. Atkins, Jr.  
by his family



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# HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

WELCOME

*Please stand as able.*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*BCP, page 323*

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Officiant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

**People** **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

*BCP, page 324*

*Officiant* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

CANTICLE

*Gloria in excelsis*

*Read in unison.*

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give you thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot exist without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People** **Amen.**

Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34: 1-8

Benedicam Dominum

BCP, page 627

*Alternately by whole verse.*

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; \*  
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; \*  
let the humble hear and rejoice.**
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; \*  
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me \*  
and delivered me out of all my terror.**
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, \*  
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me \*  
and saved me from all my troubles.**
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, \*  
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; \*  
happy are they who trust in him!**

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4: 25-5:2

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People** **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

SERMON The Reverend Canon Dr. Henry L. Atkins, Jr., Theologian in Residence

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Wendy Wentland, piano

*Please stand as able.*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, page 326

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever-living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Hector, Jeff and Kai, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Henry our clergy, and for all who minister in this place, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend A. Dharmaraj Rasalam and the Church of South India](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [St. Francis', Temple; St. John's, Marlin; St. Joseph's, Salado; and St. Martin's, Copperas Cove](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Vic Powell and the Sound Operators](#).

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and 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 they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [Bill, Barbara, Eula, Kensington, Pat, Jeanne, Jimmie, Charlee, Jeff, Reiss, Stewart, Andy,](#) and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Almighty God, thou lovest all thy children and art a home to those who are in any need or trouble; inspire thy Church with the Spirit of Christ's love, empower us to battle the root causes of homelessness, and help us to live as one with one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, ever world without end.

We offer you, O Lord, our prayers of thanksgiving, [especially for Theresa, Michaela, Jacob, Ruth, Anthony, and Janet](#) as they celebrate their birthdays.

And we also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [especially Esther Fiteni, Margaret Hunter, Romana Lippelt, Thom O'Brien, Tommy Theis, Geoffrey Nesossi, all who have perished by contracting the Coronavirus, and all victims of gun violence](#), beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.  
**Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

*Officiant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

*Officiant* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### OFFERING

For those wishing to leave an offering, there is an offering plate by the door.

**Online Giving** is available through AccessACS.

Go to [www.trinitymidtown.org](http://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.

SURSUM CORDA

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People** It is meet and right so to do.

*Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please stand as able.*

*The celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.

Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

**People AMEN.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*BCP, page 336*

**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.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*BCP, page 338*

*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.*

*Please stand as able.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*BCP, page 339*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou has prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end.  
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

DISMISSAL

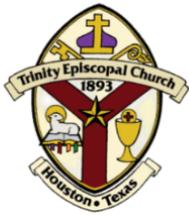
*Officiant*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**

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



# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – Year B

August 8th, 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'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of the life of the Reverend Henry L. Atkins, Jr. by his 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](#)

## This Week at Trinity

### Sunday, August 8th, 2021

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (live in-person)
- 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Gulf Coast Blood Drive
- 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 9th, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

### Tuesday, August 10th, 2021

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting (via zoom)
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting (via zoom)

### Wednesday, August 11th, 2021

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

### Thursday, August 12th, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

### Friday, August 13th, 2021

- 10:30 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 and put together brown bags of food to be distributed daily after evening prayer.

For More Information click [here](#)



Let's help Emergency Aid Coalition (EAC) help our neighbors by donating canned goods. They can always use another peanut butter! Trinity collects non perishable food offerings at the back of the church every Sunday.

Thank you!

Questions? Contact Mary Johns [mjohns@wt.net](mailto:mjohns@wt.net)

SCAN ME



[www.trinitymidtown.org](http://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, 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, Stewart

For the faithful departed  
Margaret Hunter, Romana Lippelt, Geoffrey Nesossi, Esther Fiteni, Tommy Theiss, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus and victims of gun violence.

For our Iona Seminarian  
Carrie Hirdes



Theresa McClellan  
Michaela Jefferson  
Jacob Tull  
Ruth Wyche  
Anthony Thornton  
Janet Greene



### 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.

### Follow us on:

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YouTube

[www.youtube.com/trinityepiscopalchurch](http://www.youtube.com/trinityepiscopalchurch)



[www.trinitymidtown.org](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)

### 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](mailto: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:



### Readings this Sunday

1 Kings 19: 4-8

Psalms 34: 1-8

Ephesians 4: 25-5:2

John 6: 35, 41-51

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 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](mailto:Curate@TrinityMidtown.org) or me at [Theresa@theresawriter.com](mailto:Theresa@theresawriter.com)

In joy,

Theresa D. McClellan

[Theresa@theresawriter.com](mailto:Theresa@theresawriter.com)

Head of Evening Prayer and Listening Post Ministries

## 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.





### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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