

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 15, 2021
10:30 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

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

Facebook Live Stream. Please be advised that all services, including this 10:30 a.m. service, are live streamed through our Trinity Facebook Page and YouTube channels.

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
Ben Blanding
Jim Castro
Norma Cooper
Terri DiRaddo

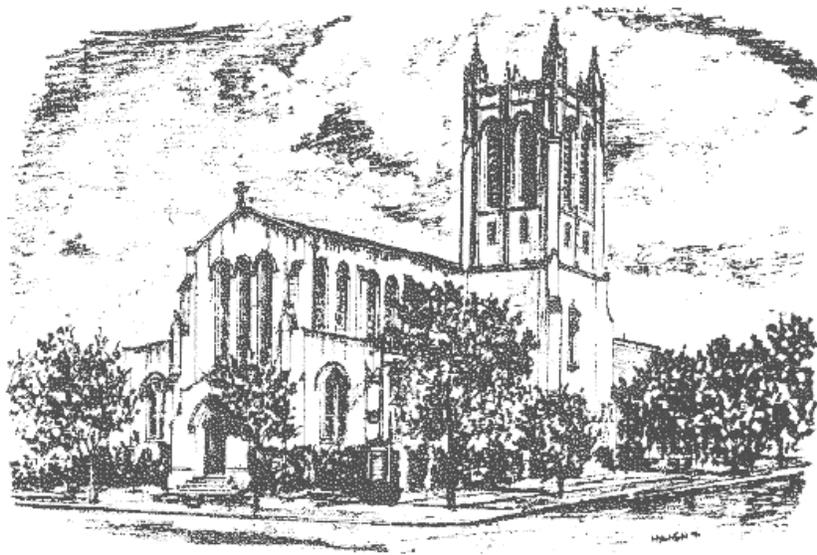
Andy Durham
Pam Lawson
Ann McCoy
David Theis
Michele White

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*

LAY MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Lector: Norma Cooper
Acolytes: Mary Cloud, Joanne Starbuck, L. Blanding
Verger: Alex Bruton
Ushers: Ron Mailloux, Barney Ong, Beatrice Ong

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God



Follow us on:

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HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

VOLUNTARY

Ach Bleib bei Uns

Johann Sebastian Bach

Please stand as able.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 465

Eternal light, shine in my heart

Ach bleib bei uns

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains three lines of lyrics. The second system contains two lines of lyrics. The third system contains three lines of lyrics. The music is a simple harmonic setting of the hymn.

1 E - ter - nal light, shine in my heart; e - ter - nal
2 E - ter - nal life, raise me from death; e - ter - nal
3 un - til by your most cost - ly grace, in - vit - ed

hope, lift up my eyes; e - ter - nal power, be
bright-ness, help me see; e - ter - nal Spi - rit,
by your ho - ly word, at last I come be -

my sup - port; e - ter - nal wis - dom, make me wise.
give me breath; e - ter - nal Sa - vior come to me:
fore your face to know you, my e - ter - nal God.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, page 355

Celebrant 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.**

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
 might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
 on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 9: 1-6

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34: 1-8

Benedicam Dominum

Thomas Atwood Walmisley

Sung by the choir

- 9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
- 11 Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- 12 Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?
- 13 Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 5: 15-20

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 148

Creator of the earth and skies

Uffingham



1 Cre - a - tor of the earth and skies, to whom the
2 We have not known you: to the skies our mon - u -
3 We have not loved you: far and wide the wreck-age
4 For this, our fool - ish con - fi - dence, our pride of
5 Teach us to know and love you, Lord, and hum - bly



1 words of life be - long, grant us your truth to make us
2 ments of fol - ly soar, and all our self - wrought mis - er -
3 of our ha - tred spreads, and e - vils wrought by hu - man
4 know-ledge and our sin, we come to you in pen - i -
5 fol - low in your way. Speak to our souls the quick - ening



1 wise; grant us your power to make us strong.
2 ies have made us trust our - selves the more.
3 pride re - coil on un - re - pent - ant heads.
4 tence; in us the work of grace be - gin.
5 word, and turn our dark - ness in - to day.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6: 51-58

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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."

The people then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

Reader For [all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day, and for all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.](#)

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend Thabo Makgoba and the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.](#) In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [St. Paul's, Waco; St. Thomas', Rockdale; and Waco Church Plant, Waco.](#) In the ministry cycle of prayer for the [Trinity Vestry and the Stewardship Campaign.](#) For the peace and unity of the Church of God.

People For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Hector and Kai our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Henry, our clergy; for all who minister in this place; and for all bishops and other ministers.

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those who are on our prayer list: [Bill, Barbara, Eula, Kensington, Pat, Jeanne, Jimmie, Charlee, Reiss, Karen, Susan, Wanda, and Andy.](#)

Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Reader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for [Jeffrey, Kaycie, Natalie, Heidi, Ford, and Richard,](#) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader We pray for all who have died, [especially Tommy Theis, Geoffrey Nesossi, the Reverend John Price, all who have perished by contracting the Coronavirus, and all victims of gun violence,](#) that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People Who put their trust in you.

CONFESSION

BCP, page 392

Celebrant We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**People Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

BCP, page 360

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

People Amen

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please pass the peace in a socially distanced manner.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated

OFFERING

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

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

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

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERTORY

Let All the World

Eric H. Thiman

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.
The Church with psalms must shout,
No door can keep them out;
But above all the heart must bear the longest part.
Amen.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS S128

William Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Please kneel or stand as able.

The celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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

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

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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

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

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

People AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 364

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 S155

Gerald Near

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is

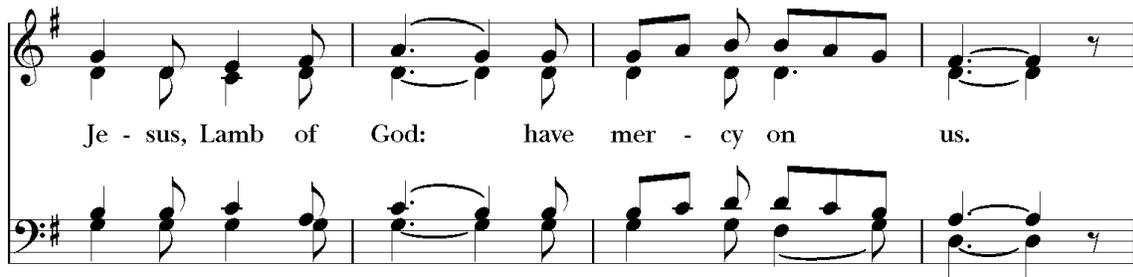
sac - ri - ficed for us; There-fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

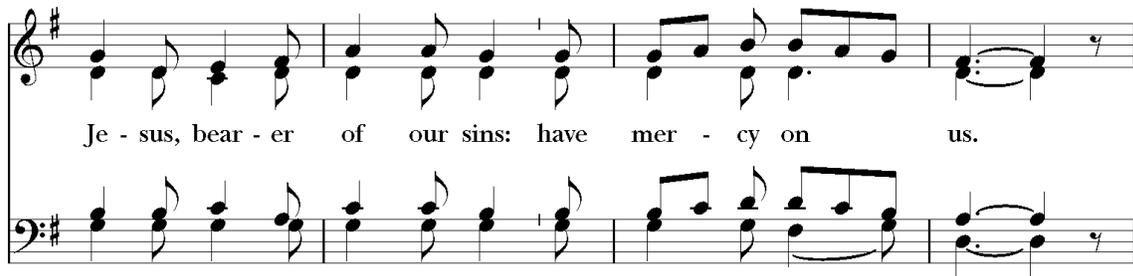
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

AGNUS DEI S164

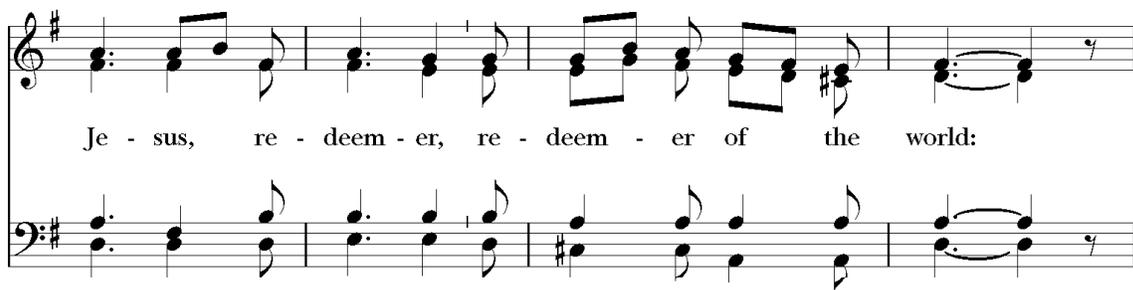
Franz Peter Schubert



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

For the duration of the current pandemic we will offer communion in one kind, the bread only. Please come forward to receive communion from a priest at the chancel steps.



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.



1 I am the bread of life; they who
 2 (The) Bread that I will give is my
 3 (Un-) less you eat of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,
 5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve that



1 come to me shall not hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of Man and
 4 I am the life. They who be -
 5 you are the Christ, the



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat of this bread, they shall live for
 3 drink of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve in me, e - ven if they
 5 Son of God who has



1 me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. they shall live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die, they shall live for ev - er.
 5 come in - to the world,

Descant

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. 1-4 *Final Ending*

5 Yes, (♯) day.

last day. 2 The

3 Un- day.

4 —

5 Yes, (♯)

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

COMMUNITY LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENT

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

BLESSING

Celebrant The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People Amen.

Please stand as able.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 420

When in our music God is glorified

Englebert



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, _____
2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found _____
3 So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song, _____
4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night _____
5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! _____



1 and a - dor - a - tion leaves no room for pride, _____
2 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound, _____
3 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, _____
4 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the Light? _____
5 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise! _____



1 it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried _____
2 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found _____
3 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue, _____
4 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight, _____
5 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways _____



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

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.*

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THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – Year B

August 15th, 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.



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up for a flower dedication by clicking [here](#)

**SAVE THE DATE
10/10/21
TO BLESS YOUR
PETS**

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, August 15th, 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)
- 11:45 am Sandwich Makers Ministry Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (live in-person and on Facebook)
- 8:00 pm Compline (In Spanish via Zoom)

Monday, August 16th, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Tuesday, August 17th, 2021

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting (via zoom)

Wednesday, August 18th, 2021

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

Thursday, August 19th, 2021

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, August 20th, 2021

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

Saturday, August 21st, 2021

- 9:00 am Evening Prayer Training Workshop



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.

For More Information click [here](#)

Sandwich Makers Sunday starts immediately after 10:30 Service in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider staying to help make Sandwiches to help us with our daily outreach.



Let's help Emergency Aid Coalition (EAC) help our neighbors by donating canned goods. They can always use another peanut butter! Trinity collects nonperishable food offerings at the back of the church every Sunday. Thank you! Questions? Contact Mary Johns [mkjohns@wt.net](mailto:mjohns@wt.net)

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, 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, Rev. John Price, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus and victims of gun violence.

For our Iona Seminarian

Carrie Hirdes



Jeffrey Edgar
Kacie Fielder
Natalie Wood
Heidi Edgar
Ford Frost
Richard Hutton



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
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**Hank Carrillo, interim
Organist/Choirmaster**
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Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner
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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.

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YouTube

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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
phone: (713) 528-4100.

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



Harris County is currently in the Red Threat level of Covid-19 cases. We must continue to do our part to end the virus. Please remember to mask up, wash your hands, and social distance. Vaccinations are available for free from most healthcare providers in the city.

7-Day Totals, Rates, Percentages, and % Change in Last 7 Days
Cases
14184
(300.93 per 100k)
13.99 % change

For More Info from the CDC about Covid-19 please click [here](#) for the following link.

Readings this Sunday

Proverbs 9: 1-6
Psalm 34: 9-14
Ephesians 5: 15-20
John 6: 51-58

Physical and Spiritual Sustenance
The Evening Prayer and Sandwich Maker Ministries
By Theresa D. McClellan

At 5:30 p.m. every weekday, the church bell tolls, and footsteps head toward the front doors of Trinity Episcopal Church Midtown. They come from street benches, from beneath the freeway, from buses, from halfway houses, from newly acquired apartments, from minimum wage jobs, neighborhood jobs, and occasionally from the community.

They come in search of a place of respite from the streets, to get cool, to hear prayers, to receive food, to feel welcome.

The officiant, usually wearing a choir robe or vestments, greets them with a smile from the podium, welcoming them to evening prayer. She thanks them for coming and tells them, "this is your time. Time to get still, to hear prayers, perhaps a message that will touch you, make you think. This is your time to pray and to be prayed for. Welcome."

The security guard who greets them reminds them to enter and be seated on the left side of the sanctuary where the officiant will be speaking. He tells them to remove their hats and place their sometimes extensive belongings on the floor, so it doesn't scratch the pews. The congregation of about 20-40 visitors is predominately male, but some women have joined. Some of the men and women are regular visitors.

The officiant, standing behind the lector podium, reads Scripture, Psalms, and Prayers from the Book of Evening Prayer, according to the daily lectionary. Some officiants have prepared a mini-sermon based on the day's Scripture, but it is not required.

After the prayers have ended, our visitors line up single file to exit out the side door and receive a fresh brown bag of two bologna and cheese sandwiches, condiments, and crackers. A water cooler with cups is outside the sanctuary.

For some, it is their first and only meal of the day, and they often grasp the officiant's hand in gratitude for the physical and spiritual sustenance. This is a ministry that nurtures your soul and requires many hands.

To make these meals possible, volunteers from the **Sandwich Makers Ministry** gather at Trinity on the first Tuesday of the month and the third Sunday of the month to make sandwiches. More than **800 sandwiches** are made at each of those gatherings. The need is great.

The sandwiches are individually stored in plastic bags and placed in the freezer to extend freshness. This season when we begin the **Evening Prayer Ministry** on **Monday, September 27**, we will need two volunteers to arrive daily **before the 5:30 p.m. service** to assemble the pre-made sandwiches into brown bag meals. These volunteers will also serve as greeters who may be the only friendly face our Evening Prayer visitors have encountered that day. When we see the face of God in everyone, it is easy to offer a smile.

Since we have been offering Evening Prayer nightly online, we will provide live streaming of the prayer service. Rev. Luz's husband Thanh will provide training **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, August 21**, for volunteer greeters to learn these skills so we may offer the service to a wider audience.

Friends, the Evening Prayer Ministry, and the Sandwich Makers Ministry is an opportunity for faith in action. I hope this inside look inspires you to join. Volunteers have committed to weekly services or just twice a month. Our long-time leader John Merullo will train newcomer Officiants.

If interested, contact our Curate the Rev. Luz Montes at Curate@Trinitymidtown.org or me at theresa@theresawriter.com.

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

Head of the 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.

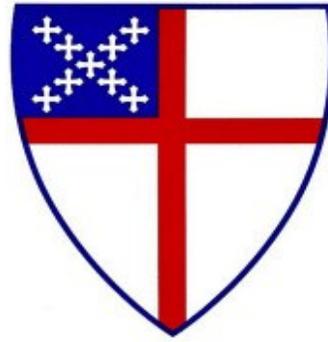
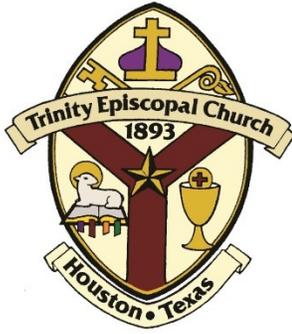
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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





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