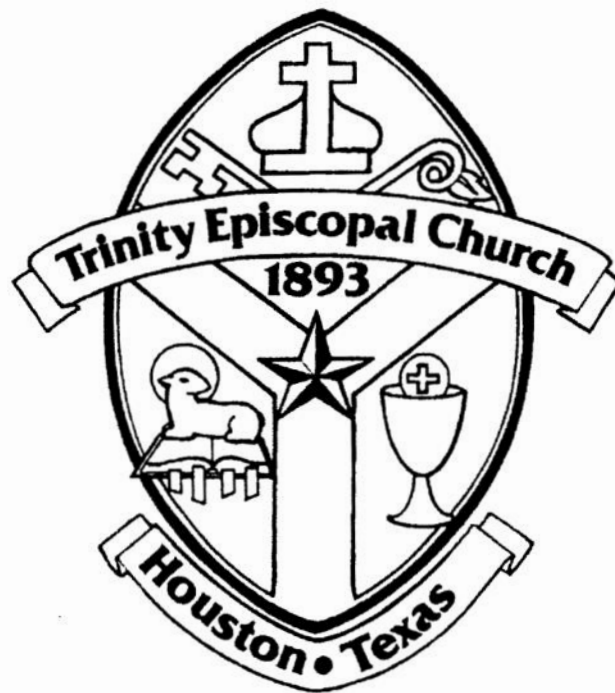


# A SERVICE OF HEALING

ELEVENTH WEDNESDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.



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

## The Eleventh Wednesday after Pentecost

### August 16, 2023

#### 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**

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### First Lesson

##### **Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22**

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land \*  
and destroyed the supply of bread.
- 17 He sent a man before them, \*  
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; \*  
his neck they put in an iron collar.
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, \*  
the word of the Lord tested him.
- 20 The king sent and released him; \*  
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He set him as a master over his household,  
as a ruler over all his possessions,
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will  
and to teach his elders wisdom.

## Second Lesson

### Acts 21: 15-26

After these days we got ready and started to go up to Jerusalem. Some of the disciples from Caesarea also came along and brought us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we were to stay. When we arrived in Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us warmly. The next day Paul went with us to visit James; and all the elders were present. After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. When they heard it, they praised God. Then they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands of believers there are among the Jews, and they are all zealous for the law. They have been told about you that you teach all the Jews living among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, and that you tell them not to circumcise their children or observe the customs. What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. So do what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow. Join these men, go through the rite of purification with them, and pay for the shaving of their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself observe and guard the law. But as for the Gentiles who have become believers, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication." Then Paul took the men, and the next day, having purified himself, he entered the temple with them, making public the completion of the days of purification when the sacrifice would be made for each of them.

*Reader*    The Word of the Lord.

**People**    **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

### Mark 10: 17-31

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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.**









## 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.

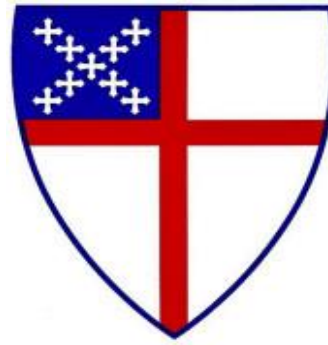
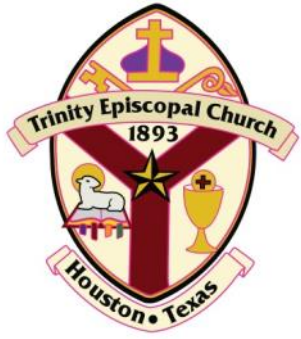
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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