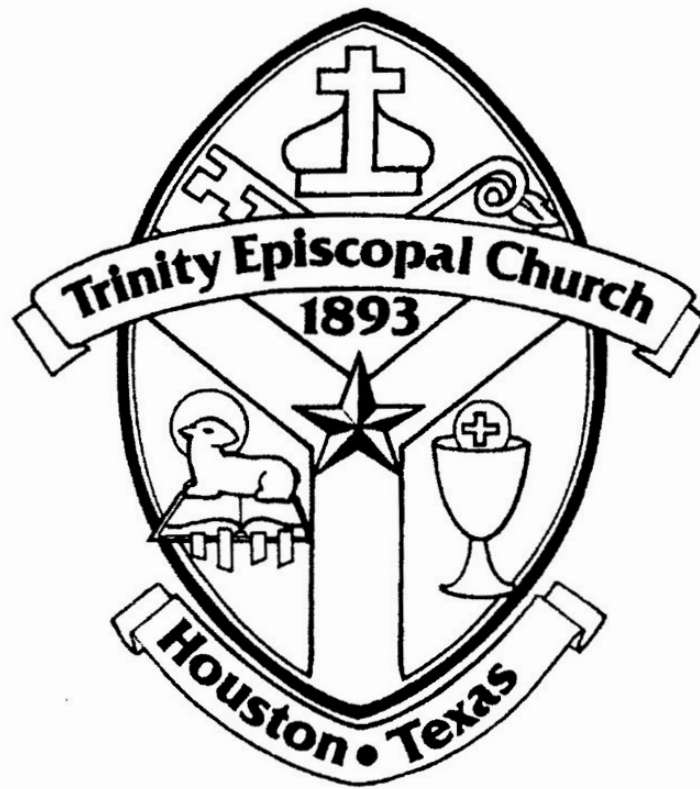


THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023
10:30 a.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

***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. 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://www.trinitymidtown.org/contact-card-page/>

For more information, please visit our website:
www.trinitymidtown.org

Facebook Live Stream. Please be advised that this service is live streamed through our Trinity Facebook Page and YouTube channels. By participating in the service, you are consenting to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your children who participate.

Children 3yrs through 3rd grade *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* Meets in room 112 at 9:30 a.m. and the children return to their parents at the passing of the peace.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Your children are welcome here at Trinity! First, please relax and enjoy your time here. We know that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it.
- Each Sunday, your child may pick up a pew activity in the back of the church.
- To make things easier for your family, dare to sit closer to the front where your child can see what's going on at the altar. Guide them in the liturgy and be models for them. Help them sing the hymns and encourage them to stand/sit when appropriate, say "Amen" and "Thanks be to God," and generally help them be a part of the service. The liturgy belongs to them too.
- If you have to leave, hurry back! Jesus wants the children here, and we do too. If you need help, just ask. There are many here who are willing to lend you a hand.

VESTRY

Andy Durham, *Senior Warden*
John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam
Ben Blanding
Pam Lawson
Mary Matteucci
Ann McCoy

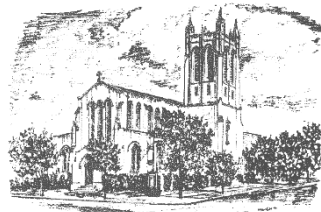
John Merullo
Samantha Rainman
Gladys Vallés
David Villarreal
Michele White

Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

LAY MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Lector: Andy von Holten
Prayers: John Merullo
LEMs: Joanne Starbuck, Ron Starbuck
Acolytes: B. Walton, K. Lomasang, L. Chambers, A. Lomasang, H. Hensman
Ushers: Dana Gannon, Jason Hruska, Robert Feltenberger, Elmer Romero
Verger: David Villarreal
Altar Guild: Carolyn Reyes, Shelby Bradley
Audio Visual: Christian Bearup
Vestry of the Day: Pam Lawson

The High Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in celebration of Liam's 7th birthday
by the Christianson family.



Follow us on:

Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston>

Instagram
<https://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown>

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



HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

10:30 a.m. Historic Church

Please enter in a spirit of prayerful contemplation.

VOLUNTARY

The Liturgy of the Word

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Christianson family

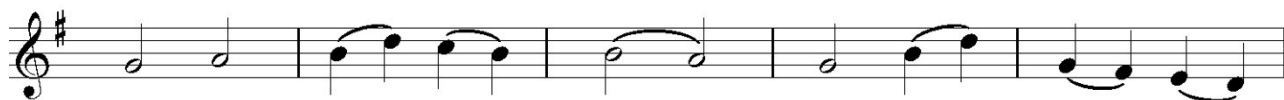
Please stand as able.

HYMN IN PROCESSION 57 *Lo! He comes, with clouds descending*

Helmsley



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

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

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

ADVENT BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, let it be our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city of Houston.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, those on our prayer list, especially: [Bill](#), [Nick](#), [Bob](#), [Dale](#), [Edith](#), [Phil](#), [Graeme](#), [Christopher](#), [Rose](#), [Junetta](#), [Bart](#), [Marie](#), [Donna](#), [Jason](#), and [Don](#), as well as all those who know not the Lord Jesus Christ, or who love him not.

Lastly, let us remember before God his faithful Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

People **Amen.**

CANTICLE Kyrie Eleison

Harold Darke

from Communion Service in A Minor

(sung by the choir)

Kyrie, eleison
Christe, eleison
Kyrie, eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence -- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil -- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80: 1-7, 16-18

Qui regis Israel
(sung by the choir)

Walford-Davies, #182

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 61

*Sleepers, awake! A voice astounds us
(on page 8-9)*

Wachet auf

Please stand as able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 61

Sleepers, awake! A voice astounds us

Wachet

1 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The music is in a common time signature and features a variety of note values and rests.

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

Please stand as able.

NICENE CREED

**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.

We invite you to offer any prayers you wish to share in the comment section.

Reader With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), Hector, and Scott, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale, our clergy; for all who minister in this place; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For [the Most Reverend Bijaya Kumar Nayak, and the Church of North India](#); for [Epiphany, Houston](#); [Holy Apostles, Katy](#); and [Holy Spirit, Houston](#); and for [Elmer Romero and Foundation Cristosal](#), let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For Joseph our president, Kamala our vice-president, Greg our governor, Lina our county judge, Sylvester our mayor, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader God our hope, keep us blameless before you that we may meet the coming of our Lord Jesus with joy. Remembering [especially Larry Payne, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and all victims of gun violence](#), may we, and all who have died, rise to life immortal with all your saints.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For all the blessings of this life, especially for [Rhettrick, Elliott, Oliver, Stephen, Beatrix, Winifred, Marilyn, Maxwell, Lindsey, Samuel, Matthew, and Melinda](#) as they celebrate their birthdays, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People **To thee, O Lord our God.**

CONFESSION

BCP, page 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. 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 children who attended Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will return at this point so that they can participate with their families in the Holy Communion.

Please stand as able.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

Please be seated.

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERING

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**. Be sure to type heartofmidtown with no spaces, or autocorrect may insert information about a different church. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come
(sung by the choir)

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell there-in,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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

Harold Darke
from *Communion Service in A Minor*

(sung by the choir)

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 or kneel, as able.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues

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

Celebrant and People

**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 S154

David Hurd

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

(sung by the choir)

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to come participate in Holy Communion. If for any reason you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms across your chest for a blessing.

Our tradition is to receive both bread and wine, sharing in the common cup. Please assist the chalice bearer by guiding the cup to your lips, or you may "intinct" by dipping the wafer into the chalice. If you prefer, you may also receive the bread only: After consuming the wafer, simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you do not wish to receive the wine.

If you do not wish to "intinct" from the common cup, there will be a third chalice, for intinction only, available in the baptistery. If you wish to partake of this chalice, please proceed to the baptistery after receiving a wafer from the priest .



We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when the priest administering the bread approaches you.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion is prayed by those at home unable to partake of communion in person

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Come Thou, Redeemer of the Earth* Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
arr. by Stephen Cleobury (1948-2019)
(sung by the choir)

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall, Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God, in flesh arrayed, The Savio, now to man displayed.

Forth from that chamber goeth he, That royal home of purity,
A giant in two-fold substance one, Rejoicing now his course to run,

From God the Father he proceeds, To God the Father back he speeds,
Run out his course to death and hell, Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day, Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

The Celebrant distributes a communion kit saying,

Celebrant On behalf of God and Trinity Parish, we send forth these holy gifts
that those who will be visited may share with us in the communion of
Christ's Body and Blood.

People Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please kneel or stand as able.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

THE BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us
in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free
from all sin.

People Amen

Presider May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make
you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

People **Amen**

Presider May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

People **Amen**

Presider And the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

People **Amen**

Please stand as able

HYMN IN PROCESSION 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall immediately following this service.

Those who wish to listen to the closing Voluntary are invited to come and sit in the Choir.

Service music printed from The Hymnal ©1982 Church Pension Fund. Used by permission. Additional licensing from OneLicense.net #A-705504.

Advent is the first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for “coming”. The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord’s nativity, and for the final coming of Christ “in power and glory.”

*Please note that all Sundays in the new year from January 7 are open to host (part/all) coffee hour..
Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online, or scan this QR code:*



To order Christmas flowers, please scan this QR code:





THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN

December 3, 2023 – First Sunday in Advent, Christ the King, Year B

Trinity Episcopal Church | www.trinitymidtown.org
1015 Holman @ Main | 713-528-4100

Sunday In-Person Services

8:00 am and 12:30 pm (Chapel)

10:30 am (Historic Church)

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, Dec 3rd, 2023

7:30am – 1:30pm Nursery Open
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)
9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom)
9:30 am Advent Wreath Making (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)
12:00 pm Stained Glass Tour (Church)
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, December 4th, 2023

12:00 pm Yoga w/Saba (Atrium 2)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, December 5th, 2023

10:00am Sandwich Makers (Fellowship Hall)
12:00pm The Listening Post
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Drag Me to Church (KIKI Bar)

Wednesday, December 6th, 2023

10:30 am Staff Meeting (Weekly)
12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)
6:30 pm Listening Prayer (Masterson)

Friday, December 8th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)

Saturday, December 9th, 2023

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoom-withus>

Vestry Nominations – Accepting Submissions until Dec. 31st

The Vestry of Trinity is elected by the congregation to oversee the governance of the church in the areas of finance, facilities, stewardship and the calling of a rector when needed. To serve on the Vestry, one must be at least 18 years of age, a confirmed communicant, regular in worship, a member for at least a year, and a financial supporter of the parish. The nominating committee, which is composed of four outgoing Vestry members, will create a slate of nominees. The election will take place at the Annual Parish Meeting in January 2024. If you think you may be called to this ministry, please reach out to Michele White at michelerenee12@gmail.com.

Upcoming Advent Dates:

12/3: First Sunday of Advent, Advent Wreath Making (Fellowship Hall)
12/10: Second Sunday of Advent, St. Nicholas Visit (Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall)
12/15: Decorate the Chrismon Tree, 10:30am
12/17: Third Sunday of Advent, Lessons and Carols and Chrismon Tree Dedication
12/20: Tidings of Comfort Service (Morrow Chapel, 6pm)
12/24: Fourth Sunday of Advent, Epiphany Blessing Kits Available, 11 am service
12/24: Christmas Eve Services, 6:00pm (Carols), 6:30pm (Rite II Choral Eucharist), 10:00pm (Carols), 10:30pm (Rite I Choral Eucharist)
12/25: Christmas Day, 11am Jazz/Gospel Service
12/31: First Sunday after Christmas, 11am Combined Service

Information online at: <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/advent2023/>

Stained Glass Tour – Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 12pm

Learn about the beautiful, historic, and whimsical stained-glass windows that make our church more beautiful. Learn about the elephant, the kangaroo, and the king. Meet John Merullo at the chancel steps Sunday, December 3rd, at 12 noon.

Drag Me To Church – 2 More Days Left! December 5th, 6pm

Tuesday, December 5th at 6pm: Grab your tickets and sponsorships for our fabulous winter FUNdraiser – Drag Me To Church! Visit www.trinitymidtown.org/dmtc to purchase tickets/sponsorships and learn more. Tickets will be available at the door.

Christmas Caroling at Trinity – Dec. 17th, 2–4pm

Gather at the church's Holman Street foyer at 2 pm to carpool to three locations to bring cheer to some of our homebound and limited mobility parishioners. Caroling booklets will be provided– but bring treats to share. It is awesome if you can sing like the choir, but also wonderful if you just make a joyful noise.

2024 Annual Giving Stewardship Campaign Update

Campaign Goal: \$500,000
Pledge Update as of Nov. 11th
\$344,499.00
Total # of Pledges: 76
New Pledges: 4

[Pledge Here](#)



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.

Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Phil, Graeme, Christopher, Rose, Junetta, Bart, Marie Donna, Jason, Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Theresa, Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Sylvia, Joyce, Bob, Cristine David, Robert, Susan, Cindy, Patty, Dana, Emilia, Gaby, Florence, Carolyn, Rick, Charles, Harrison, Kathy, Erma, Mary, Chris, Jane, Mark, Eliana, Laura, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Guillermo, Holly, Ray, Thomas, Barbara, Antrina Howard, Claudie, Romy, Carol, Gary, Johnny, Yvonne, and Bryce.

For the faithful departed:

Larry Payne, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine and Ukraine and all victims of gun violence.

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

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
associaterector@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate
dale.klitzke@gmail.com

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator
parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, Parish Life Coordinator
plc@trinitymidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

*Please note we will never ask you for money or gifts via email. Scams are circulating again, so please be aware and cautious.

Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/.

The next available dates: December 10th, 17th and 24th.



Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please sign up online to volunteer [here](#) or scan QR code below. For questions or further information please click [here](#) to contact Jamie Chambers

Next available dates: Jan 7th and 14th.



Happy Birthday!

Oliver Snell, Stephen Plumb, Beatrix Harvey, Winifred Harvey, Marilyn Dorries, Maxwell Jefferson, Lindsey vol Holten, Samuel Hyde, Matthew Edgar, Melinda Cueller, Rhettrick Heath, Elliot Heath

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 3 pm
Friday 9 am – 1 pm

If you have building concerns please email parishadministrator@trinitymidtown.org.



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org



For more information on annual giving visit www.trinitymidtown.org/give.



BULLETIN INSERTS

December 3, 2023 – Advent 1 (B)

First Week of Advent: Saying “Yes” to the Journey

As Advent begins this week, we invite you to orient yourself to the coming of Jesus at Christmas through the practices of *Journeying the Way of Love*. This journey begins by saying “yes” to God’s call to birth new life into the world—a call that is both powerful and gentle, a call that will, if fully embraced, grow beyond our imaginations, spilling out of ourselves and into our family, friends, community, and the whole world. Over the course of this holy season, we invite you to respond to that call using these daily practices, and encourage you to offer them to your friends, family, and neighbors.

For more Advent resources related to the Way of Love, visit episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. There, you’ll find links to the full Advent curriculum *Journeying the Way of Love*, as well as *Living the Way of Love in Community*, a nine-session curriculum for use anytime.

Sunday, December 3

WORSHIP

Read Luke 21:25-36. How do the symbols of the Advent season help you understand the story of Jesus? Where do you see them in your worship today?

Monday, December 4

TURN

Read Isaiah 58. How does this reading challenge you to think about feasts and festivals differently? How might this lesson change the way you celebrate or recognize this holy season?

Tuesday, December 5

LEARN

Read Matthew 4:18-22. How do these verses from Matthew inspire you to read Scripture with new eyes? Try reading several different translations of this passage. See how the language might change your reading of it.

Wednesday, December 6

PRAY

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 1, found on page 211 of *The Book of Common Prayer*. Set a timer for three minutes to sit in silence and hear what God might be saying back to you.

Thursday, December 7

BLESS

Call or write a letter to a family member with whom you would like to have a closer relationship. Make plans in the new year to chat on the phone or meet over Zoom or in person. Let them know how much you love them and look forward to knowing them better.

Friday, December 8

GO

Read or watch your local news. Ask God to open your heart and eyes to ways you can promote reconciliation and healing in your community.

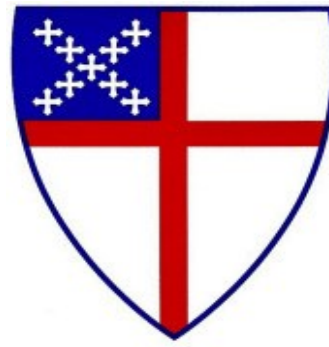
Saturday, December 9

REST

Spend at least 45 minutes outside today, without doing yard work or fixing lights or redoing bows on the garland. Take some time to just sit outside and let the air wash over you, taking away the stress and worry of the moment. Read Psalm 100 before and after your outside time. See how this psalm may help you rest and recharge your spirit.



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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ext. 402

The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes,
Associate Rector
AssociateRector@TrinityMidtown.org
ext. 403

The Reverend Dale Klitzke, *Priest Associate*
Dale.klitzke@gmail.com

Alex Jones, *Organist and Choirmaster*
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Ryan Mire, *Parish Administrator*
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Lauren Santerre, *Parish Life Coordinator*
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April Sloan-Hubert, *Co-Director*
Pelayo Parlade, *Co-Director*
of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble
aprildst82@icloud.com

VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Volunteer@TrinityMidtown.org
ext. 408

Carol Turley, *Membership Secretary*
Membership@TrinityMidtown.org



WEAPONS POLICY:

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.05, PENAL CODE (CRIMINAL TRESPASS), A PERSON MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A FIREARM.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.06, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN), A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.07, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH AN OPENLY CARRIED HANDGUN), A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A HANDGUN THAT IS CARRIED OPENLY.

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