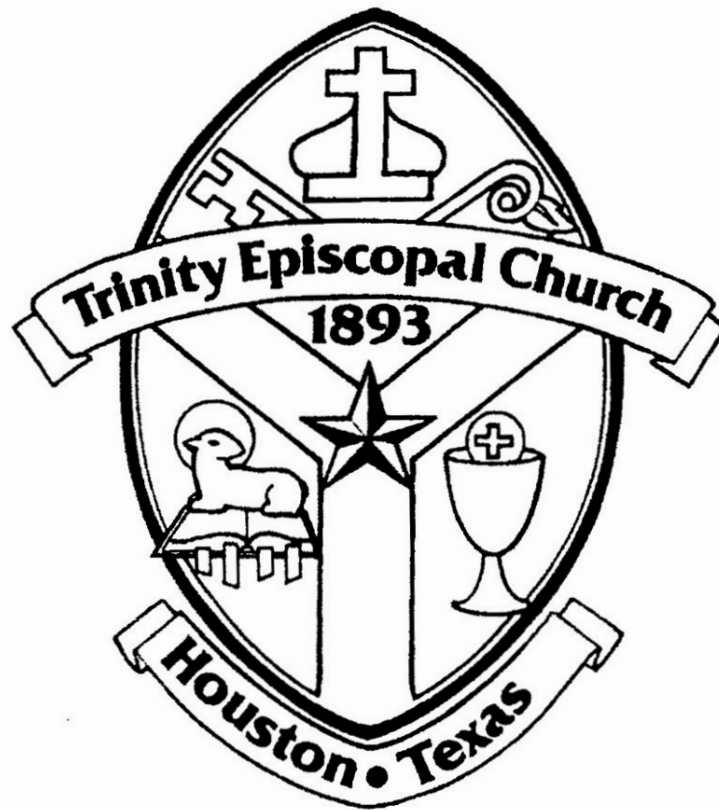


THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023
12:30 p.m.



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

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***

WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad you chose to worship with us. We adapted the liturgy for this service from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* 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

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

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.
- 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*

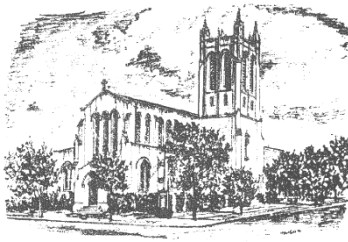
THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Vocals: April Sloan-Hubert
Piano: Pelayo Parlade
Flute, Clarinet: Ernesto Vega
Bass: Alfred Kennedy

SERVING TODAY

Acolyte: Barrett Hess
Usher: Andy Durham
Lector: Mary Matteucci
Prayers: Marcella Marino
Audio Visual: Harold Robertson
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport
Vestry of the Day: Pam Lawson

The 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>



The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Please stand as able.

Presider Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

People God is with us, here we find new life!

Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

LEVAS, page 11

Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord.

Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord.

1.-4. *Final ending* **Fine**

1. Make straight in the
2. Fill ev - 'ry
3. Go up to a
4. Say to all

D.S.

1. des - ert a high - way for our God.
2. val - ley, bring all moun - tains low.
3. moun - tain and shout with a loud voice.
4. peo - ple, here is your God.

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.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64: 1-9

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People Thanks be to God.

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Please stand as able

Mark 13: 24-37

Presider The Holy Gospel according to Mark.
People Praise and glory to God.

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 cock-crow, 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."

Presider This is the Gospel of Christ.
People Praise to Christ, the Word.

Please be seated

SERMON

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader My brothers and sisters, may God strengthen your hearts in holiness. Trusting in God, let us pray, O come, O come, Emmanuel; be our hope and our salvation."

God our hope, make us increase and abound in love for one another. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), Hector, and Scott, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale our clergy, and for all who minister in this place. Keep your Church on the paths of love and faithfulness.

Silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Reader **Be our hope and our salvation.**
God our hope, usher in your reign of justice and righteousness. May all the world know your peace and safety.

Silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Reader **Be our hope and our salvation.**
God our hope, you place signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Give us the eyes to see, the wisdom to prepare, and the faith to trust in you.

Silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Reader **Be our hope and our salvation.**
God our hope, under your reign divisions are overcome, unity restored: bring the people of this region — from city, village and town — together in a spirit of love and respect. We give you thanks for your servants in every age, especially for these who are celebrating their birthdays: [Rhettrick, Elliott, Oliver, Stephen, Beatrix, Winifred, Marilyn, Maxwell, Lindsey, Samuel, Matthew, and Melinda](#) .

The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Reader **Be our hope and our salvation.**
God our hope, remember your compassion and love. Heal and restore the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the grieving.

The congregation is invited to add their petitions, followed by silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Reader **Be our hope and our salvation.**
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.

Silence

People O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Be our hope and our salvation.

THE CONFESSION

Presider Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. I will confess my sins to the Lord. I will not conceal my wrongdoings.
God forgives and heals us.

People **We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance.**
Some sins are plain to us; some escape us; some we cannot face.
Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us; set us free to serve you.

Presider God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

THE PEACE

Presider Blessed be Christ, the Prince of Peace.

People **Who breaks down the walls that divide.**

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

People **Praise to Christ who makes us one.**

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Liturgy of the Table

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, 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.



THE OFFERTORY

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as able.

Presider

The Lord is here.

People

God's Spirit is with us.

Presider

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Presider

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son. You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us, offering us the healing riches of salvation and calling us to freedom and holiness. In his coming among us, the day of our deliverance has dawned, and through him you will make all things new when he comes in power and majesty to judge the world.

Therefore with people of every nation, tribe and language, with the whole Church on earth and in heaven, joyfully we give you thanks and say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

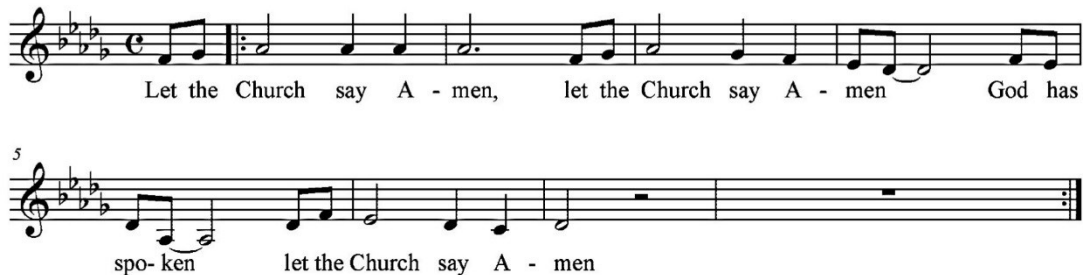
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father, in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son, we now celebrate the wonder of your grace and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness, we were far off until you brought us near and our hands are empty until you fill them.

As we eat this bread and drink this wine, through the power of your Holy Spirit feed us with your heavenly food, renew us in your service, unite us in Christ, and bring us to your everlasting kingdom. From you, and through you, and for you are all things. To you be the glory for ever,



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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.
Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive communion from a priest in front of the altar. If you wish to partake of the chalice, you may do so by intinction. Intinction is done by dipping a host into the wine, and is completely optional. If you prefer, it is perfectly fine to continue receiving the host only. If you are unable to come forward for communion, it will be brought to you in your pew.



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 you come forward for communion.

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 HYMN

Better Be Ready

LEVAS, page 4

The musical score is written for a hymn in 2/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system includes a repeat sign at the beginning. The lyrics for the first system are: "Bet - ter be read - y; Bet - ter be read - y; Bet - ter be" on the top staff, and "Read - y; read - y" on the bottom staff. The second system continues with: "read - y; Ready to try try your on your" on the top staff, and "read - y to try your" on the bottom staff.

1. | 2. **Fine**

Bet - ter be

1. Oh! — rise — up chil - dren, —
 2. What a glo - ri - ous morn - ing —
 3. O — shout — you Christ - ians, you're
 4. I — soon — shall reach that —

Fine

long white robe! long white robe — Hm

1. get your crown, And by your Sav - ior's
 2. that will be, Our friends and Je - sus
 3. gain - ing ground, We'll shout old Sa - tan's
 4. gold - en shore, And sing the songs we

Bet - ter be read - y to try on your

Read - y to try your long white robe! — Hm

to try your

1. side sit down. 1.2.3.4. Bet - ter be
 2. we shall see.
 3. king - dom down!
 4. sang be - fore.

Bet - ter be read - y to try on your

Read - y to try try your on your long white robe!

To try your

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

Presider

Blessed be God who calls us together.

People

Praise to God who makes us one people.

Presider

Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.

People

Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

Presider

Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

People

Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Presider

Blessed be God who alone has called us.

People

Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Presider

Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.

People

Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Presider

Send us now into the world you love.

People

**Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit. 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

CLOSING HYMN

Soon and Very Soon

LEVAS, page 14

1. Soon and ver - y soon_____ we are goin' to see the King,_____

2. No more cry - in' there_____ we are goin' to see the King,_____

3. No more dy - in' there_____ we are goin' to see the King,_____

4. Soon and ver - y soon_____ we are goin' to see the King;_____

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, _____ we're goin' to see the King!

1.2. _____ Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -
 3.4. _____ jah, Hal - le - lu -

jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **We go in the name of Christ.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this afternoon.

*Service music printed from Lift Every Voice and Sing II,
An African American Hymnal © 1993
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 consider signing up to help livestream this service once a month.
Training will be provided.*

*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)

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 michelereenee12@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](#)

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>



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



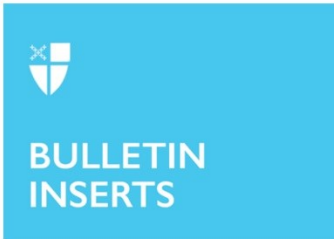
@trinityepiscopalchurch



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



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.



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.

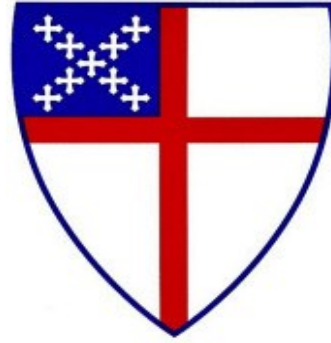
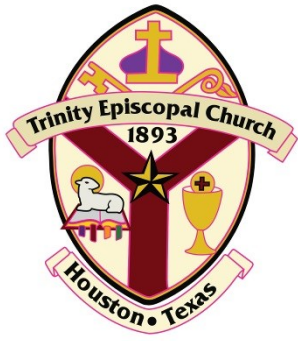
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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