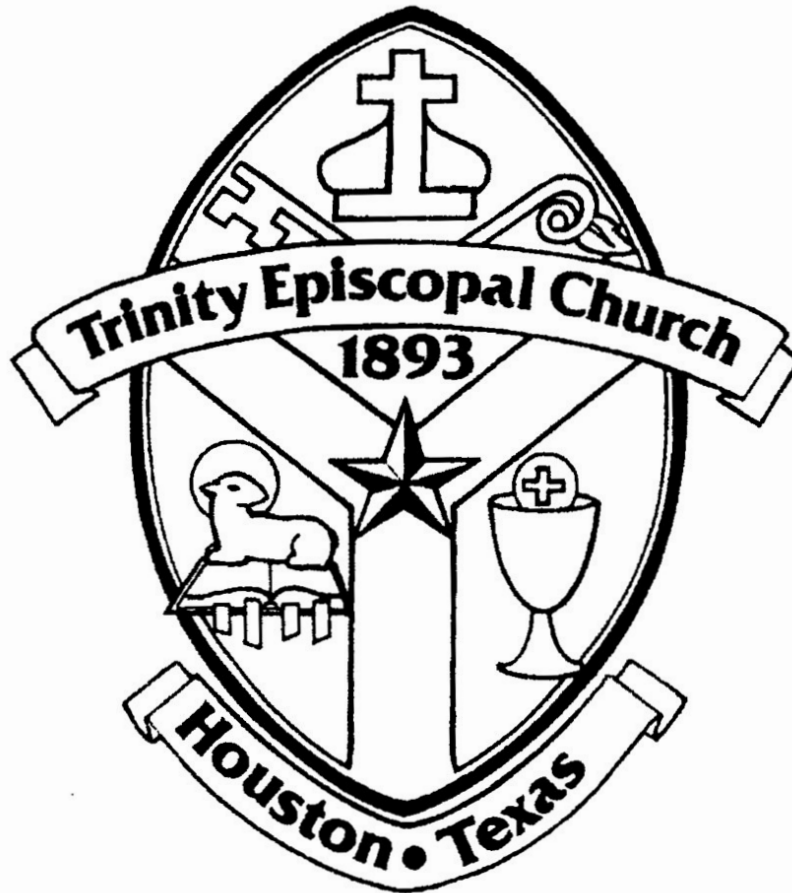


THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2023
8:00 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
Wendy Wentland, pianist

***Making God's Presence Real
By Sharing Christ's Life-Changing Love***

WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We follow the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) to guide our worship. In this leaflet, you'll find everything you need to follow along printed.

Whether you've been attending Trinity your whole life or this is your first time here, we invite you to participate in the service as fully as you feel comfortable doing.

If you're looking for a new church home, know that the Trinity family welcomes you. We would also appreciate your filling out a virtual visitors card, which can be accessed at this link:

<https://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

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*

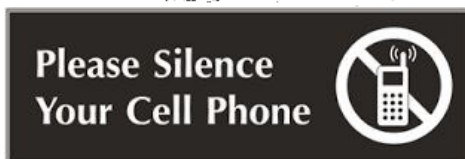
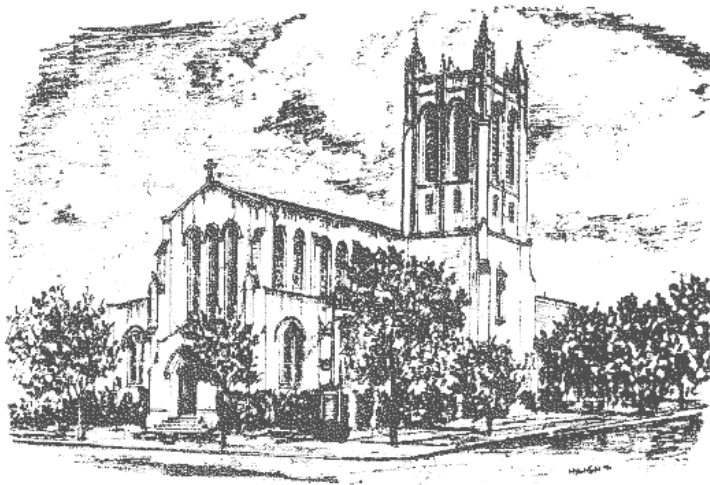
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

SERVING TODAY

Reader: Teddy Adams
LEM: Samantha Rainman
Music: Wendy Wentland, piano
Vestry of the Day: Mary Matteucci

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in celebration of Greg's birthday and our wedding anniversary
by Mindi Lomasang.



Follow us on:

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

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

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



HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Please stand as able.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, page 323

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

People **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

BCP, page 324

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

TRISAGION

BCP, page 324

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85: 1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine
Alternately by whole verse.

BCP, page 708

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1: 1-8

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Wendy Wentland, piano

Please stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, page 326

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

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

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

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

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

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

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend Azad Marshall, and the Church of Pakistan](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [Hope, Houston; San Mateo, Bellaire; and San Romero, Houston](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Mary Cloud and the Funeral ministry](#).

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

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph our president, Kamala, our vice-president, Greg our governor, Lina, our county judge, Sylvester our mayor, and the legislatures and courts, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Carol, Clyde, Monica, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry](#), and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

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

Almighty God, thou lovest all thy children and art a home to those who are in any need or trouble; inspire thy Church with the Spirit of Christ's love, empower us to battle the root causes of homelessness, and help us to live as one with one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever.

We offer you, O Lord, our prayers of thanksgiving, [especially for Mary, Lawrence, Ric, Teddy, Michele, and Savannah](#) as they celebrate their birthdays.

And we also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [especially for Robert Vaughan, Dr. Phil Turley, Larry Payne, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and all victims of gun violence](#), beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

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

CONFESSION

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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

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

THE PEACE

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

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see our complete announcements and the Weekly Window at the back 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, 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.



VERSE AND RESPONSE AT PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord
People **and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

Please stand as able.

SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant *The Lord be with you.***People** **And with thy spirit.***Celebrant* *Lift up your hearts.***People** **We lift them up unto the Lord.***Celebrant* *Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.***People** **It is meet and right so to do.***Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.****Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.****Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.****Hosanna in the highest.***The celebrant continues*

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

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

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

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

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.

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

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

People AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 336

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

BCP, page 338

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

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 the priest administering the bread approaches you.

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

THE BLESSING

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 Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People Amen.

DISMISSAL

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning.

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."

We would like to thank the Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero and Pat Laubach
for hosting this morning's coffee hour.

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 10, 2023 – Second 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)

Upcoming Advent Dates:

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/>

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.

St. Nicholas Visit – Dec. 10th, 11:45am Fellowship Hall

Join us for our annual visit from St. Nicholas in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour for refreshments, a Christmas story, and pictures with St. Nick!

Chrismon Tree Decorating – Dec. 15th, 10:30am

The Trinity Garden invites you to join us December 15 at 10:30 am as we put out and decorate the Chrismon tree. There will be light refreshments and beverages as we join together in the wonderful holiday gathering. The Chrismon tree will be dedication on Sunday, December 17th during the 10:30am service.

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.

Tidings of Comfort Service – Dec. 20th, 6pm Morrow Chapel

This Liturgy also known as "Blue Christmas," or the "Longest Night," is held on the Winter Solstice. This service recognizes that not everyone is rejoicing during this season. We will have prayers appropriate to the season that acknowledge our struggles during this time. We are pleased to welcome back the Rev. Cannon Dr. Henry Atkins as our guest preacher. This service will be available in person and also via Zoom.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, Dec 10th, 2023

7:30am – 1:30pm Nursery Open
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)
9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom)
9:30 am Education Hour for All
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)
11:45 am St. Nicholas Visit (Fellowship Hall)
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)
2:00 pm Piano Lessons Midtown Recital
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, December 11th, 2023

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

Tuesday, December 12th, 2023

12:00pm The Listening Post
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Property Committee (Zoom)
6:30 pm Finance Committee (Zoom)
6:30pm Vestry Meeting (Hybrid)

Wednesday, December 13th, 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 14th, 2023

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

Friday, December 15th, 2023

8:30 am LOTS Christmas Angel Tree (Fellowship Hall)
12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)

Saturday, December 16th, 2023

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

Christmas Services

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



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, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Carol, Clyde, 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, Bryce, Rose, Junetta, Bart, Marie and Monica.

For the faithful departed:

Dr. Phil Turley, Robert Vaughn, Larry Payne, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine and Ukraine and all victims of gun violence.

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 17th and 31st, 2023 and January 7, 2024.



Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup 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, 14th, and 21st – 2024.



Happy Birthday!

Mary Dowdy, Lawrence Dickerson, Ric Byrd, Teddy Adams, Michele White, Savannah Dorsett



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org

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

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

Office Hours

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

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



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



BULLETIN INSERTS

December 10, 2023 – Advent 2 (B) Second Week of Advent: Journeying with Family and Friends

As we continue our Advent walk, we invite you to see the Way of Love as a journey that can expand to include family and friends. Mary said “yes” to the call to birth Jesus, God’s Word, into the world and immediately went in haste to share her good news with her cousin, Elizabeth—a four-day journey into the Judean hills. Isn’t that what happens when we hear good news? We are driven to go and tell others. The Way of Love is good news that demands to be shared.

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 10 **WORSHIP**

Read Luke 3:1-6. How does the story of John the Baptist fill your heart with hope?

Monday, December 11 **TURN**

Turn away from the busyness of the world right now. Turn your heart and mind toward giving thanks for this time of reflection, refreshment, and renewal.

Tuesday, December 12 **LEARN**

Read Luke 1:45. Share your faith story with one new person this week. It can be someone you have known for a while who has not heard the faith part of your story.

Wednesday, December 13 **PRAY**

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 2, found on page 211 of *The Book of Common Prayer*. As you are out and about for the rest of this week, notice the people you pass. Ask God to bless them in their lives and work. See how this changes the way you go about your week.

Thursday, December 14 **BLESS**

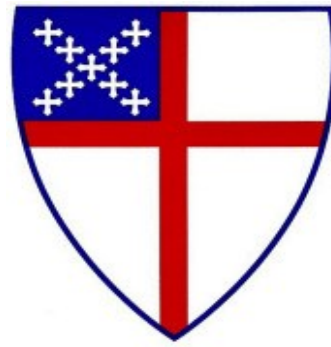
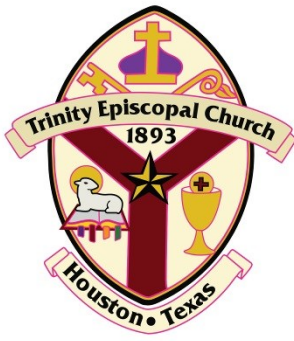
Spend a significant amount of time today discerning if there is a special blessing or gift you can share with your church, a local ministry, or with your community. Ask God to inspire and equip you with the fortitude and tools to make this gift something truly memorable and heartfelt.

Friday, December 15 **GO**

Go out of your way to have a conversation with someone you might not normally visit with today. Ask God to open your heart to hear this person as God does.

Saturday, December 16 **REST**

Put your phone on airplane mode and leave it in a dresser drawer for an hour or two. Whatever happens in that time, you can handle later. Give this time to yourself and Jesus, to rest and recharge for the week ahead.



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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.