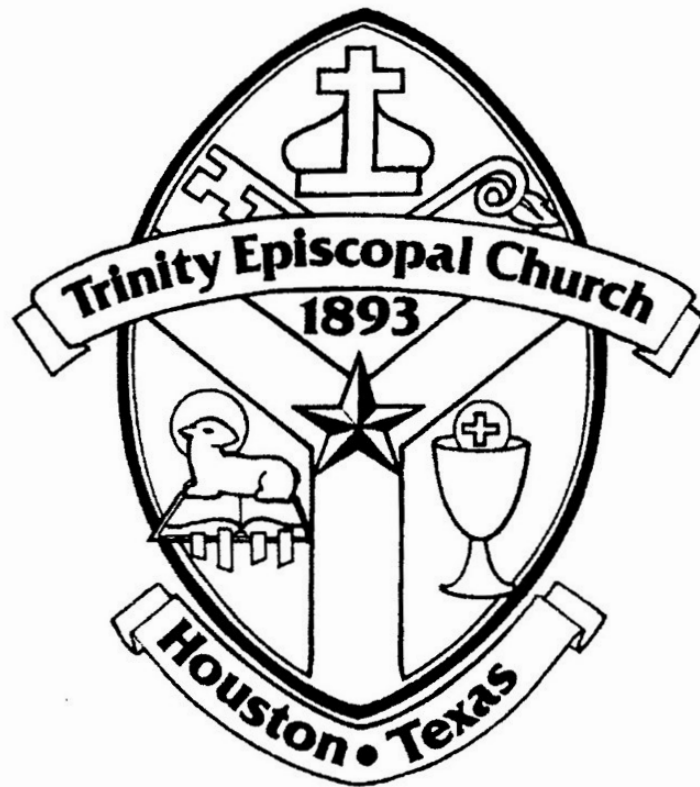


# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

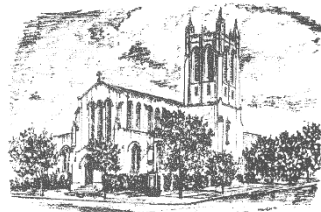
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Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*  
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*  
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*  
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

## LAY MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

*Lector:* Harrison G. Moore, IV  
*Prayers:* John Merullo  
*LEMs:* Larry Laubach, Stan Tubbs  
*Acolytes:* B. Walton, A. Sennewald, J. Sennewald, L. J. Draper, S. Chambers  
*Ushers:* Ken Jones, Barrett Hess  
*Verger:* Ron Mailloux  
*Altar Guild:* Mark Goza, Catherine Guthrie, David Villarreal  
*Audio Visual:* Jeremy Velasquez  
*Vestry of the Day:* Mary Matteucci

The High 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 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 Hensman family

*Please stand as able.*

HYMN IN PROCESSION 64

*O heavenly Word, eternal Light*

*O Heiland, reiss*



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light, be - got - ten  
2 pour light up - on us from a - bove, and fire our  
3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh, the se - crets  
4 O let us not, for e - vil past, be driv - en  
\* 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



1 of the Fa - ther's might, who in these lat - ter days wast  
2 hearts with ar - dent love, that, as we hear thy truth to -  
3 of our hearts to try, to rec - om - pense each hid - den  
4 from thy face at last, but with thy saints for ev - er -  
5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry



1 born for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;  
2 day, all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;  
3 sin and bid the saints their reign be - gin;  
4 more be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.  
5 be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, page 355

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, page 355

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

**People** **Amen.**

Kyrie, eleison  
Christe, eleison  
Kyrie, eleison

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

COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you 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.**

- 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.**

*Please stand as able.*

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 67

*Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Psalm 42



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert  
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -  
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
let the val - leys rise to meet him  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
and the hills bow down to greet him.  
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

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

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

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 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 Azad Marshall, and the Church of Pakistan](#); for [Hope, Houston](#); [San Mateo, Bellaire](#); and [San Romero, Houston](#); and for [Mary Cloud and the Funeral ministry](#), 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 [Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Carol, Clyde, Monica, and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry](#), 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 Robert Vaughan, Dr. Phil Turley, 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 [Mary, Lawrence, Ric, Teddy, Michele, and Savannah](#) 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](http://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.

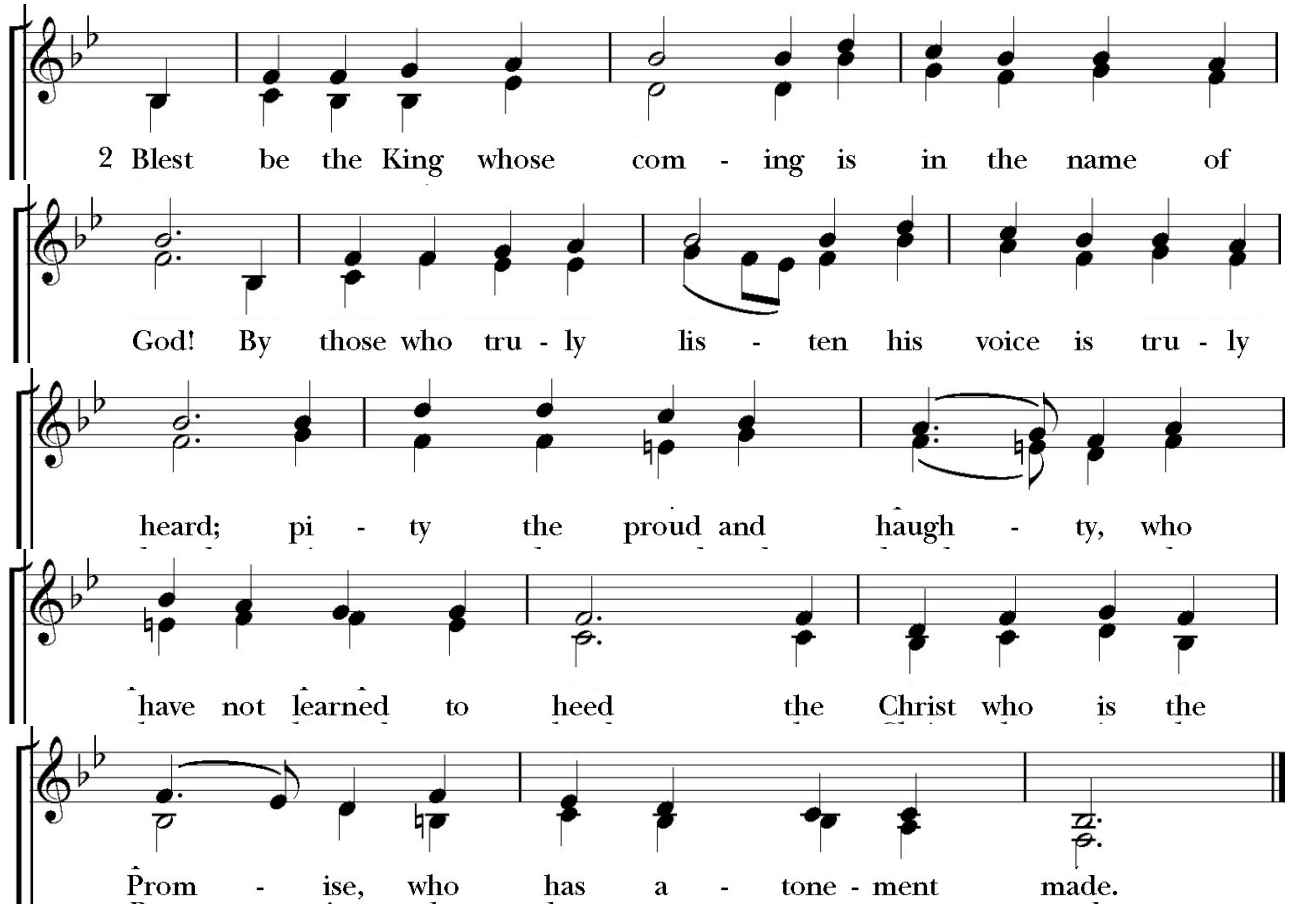


### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Never Weather-Beaten Sail*  
*(sung by the choir)*

Richard Shepherd (1949-2021)

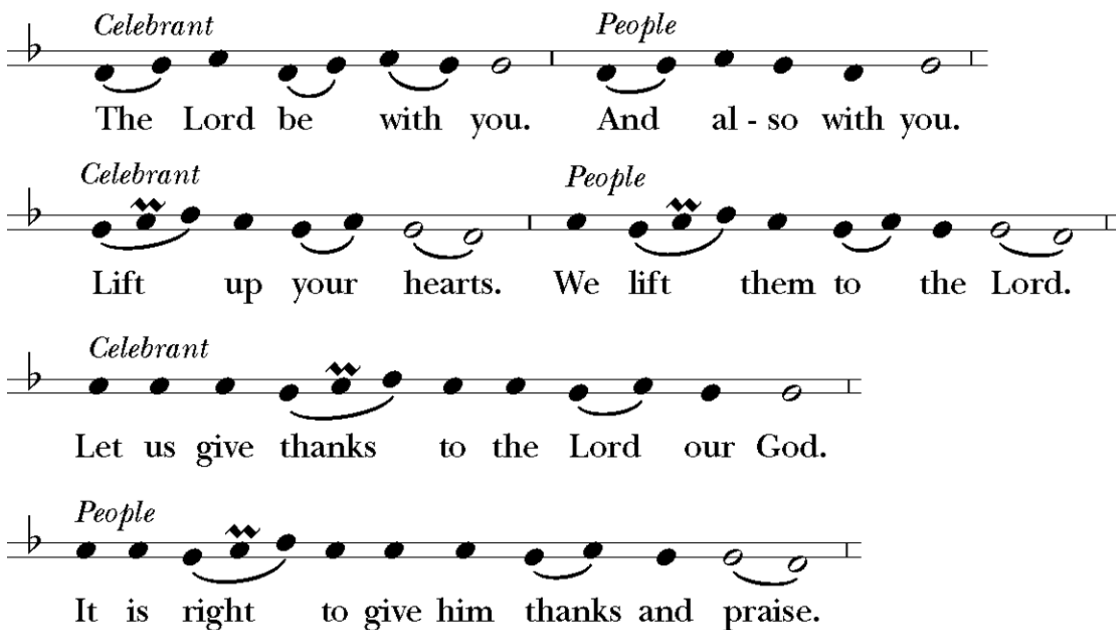
Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,  
Never tired limbs affected slumber more;  
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast.  
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.  
Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise,  
Cold age deafs not, nor vapor dims our eyes;  
Glory there the sun out shines; whose beams the blessed only see.  
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee.



2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of  
God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly  
heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who  
have not learned to heed the Christ who is the  
Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.

GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

SURSUM CORDA S120



*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*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  
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

Douglas Hurd

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

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 *Drop Down Ye Heavens* Heathcote Statham (1889-1973)

*(sung by the choir)*

Drop down ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness:  
Let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation,  
And righteousness spring up together.

Mercy and truth are met together:  
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
Truth shall flourish out of the earth:  
And righteousness hath looked down from heaven.

*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.**



*Descant*

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

DISMISSAL

Officiant  
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**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  
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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](http://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/](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 [michelereene12@gmail.com](mailto:michelereene12@gmail.com).

### 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>

### 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.

### 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.

**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**  
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**Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster**  
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**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.

#### Office Hours

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

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

### Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at [www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/](http://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 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, 14th, and 21st – 2024.



*Happy Birthday!*

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



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch

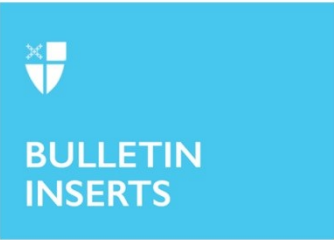


Let's Connect | [www.trinitymidtown.org](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)



For more information on annual giving visit [www.trinitymidtown.org/give](http://www.trinitymidtown.org/give).





**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](http://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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## 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.

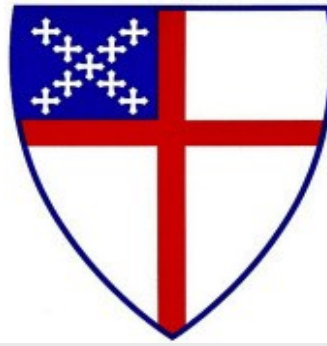
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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





### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, *Rector*  
Rector@TrinityMidtown.org  
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The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes,  
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April Sloan-Hubert, *Co-Director*  
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#### **VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

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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.**

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