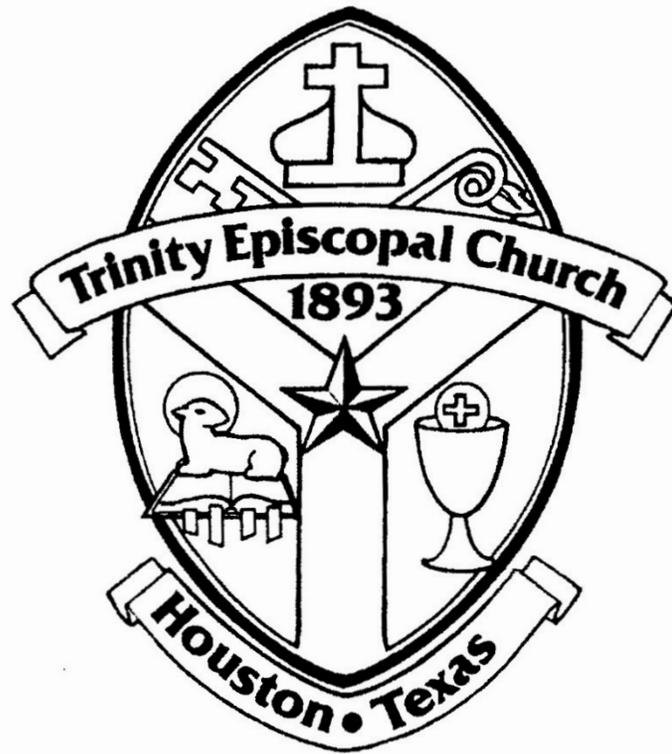


# CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2022

11:00 a.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate

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 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](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)

For questions about how to connect with us, please email  
[connections@trinitymidtown.org](mailto: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.
- Children's activity and worship bulletins are available for download from our website under the "Worship—Bulletins" tab, or following this link:

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/childrens-bulletins/>

### VESTRY

Andy Durham, *Senior Warden*

John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam  
Ben Blanding  
Jim Castro  
Terri DiRaddo  
Pam Lawson

Mary Matteucci  
Ann McCoy  
John Merullo  
Sheila Wainwright  
Michele White

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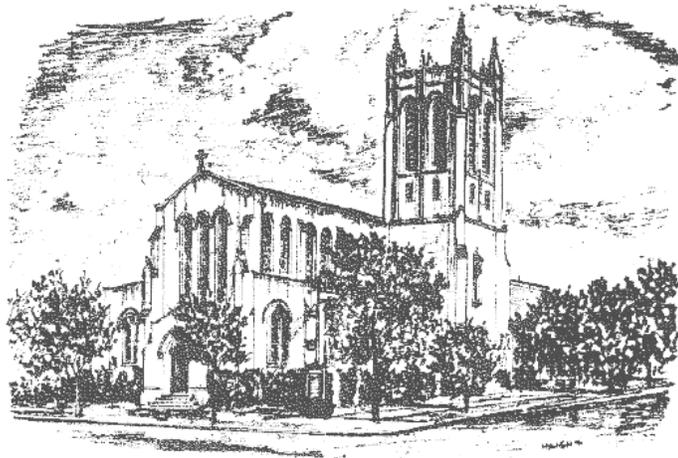
Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*  
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*  
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*  
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Jim Castro, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

## THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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

## SERVING TODAY

Lector: David Theis  
Prayers: Caroline Levander  
Acolytes: Linda Davenport, Mark Goza  
Usher: Bob Davenport  
Audio Visual: Jeremy Velasquez  
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson  
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport, Madeline Mauk, Jeanne Sommerfeld



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# The Liturgy of the Word

## INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

*Please stand as able.*

Presider Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord: Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

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

Presider Let us worship God.

## OPENING HYMN

Joy to the World



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re-ceive her King;— Let ev - 'ry—



heart— pre - pare— Him— room,— And heav'n and na - ture— sing, And—



heav'n and na - ture— sing, And— heav'n, and heav'n— and na - ture sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

## OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and be born of the Virgin Mary; grant that we, who are born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever.

**People Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for

joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

#### THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1: 1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

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

#### THE GOSPEL

*Please stand as able*

John 1: 1-14

Presider The Holy Gospel according to John.  
**People Praise and glory to God!**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

*Please be seated*

SERMON The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

MUSICAL REFLECTION *We will meditate quietly on God's word to us.*

*Please stand as able*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Response**

instrumental intro G<sup>b</sup>maj7 A<sup>b</sup>7sus A<sup>b</sup>7 Hear our -

**A**  
5 F m7 B<sup>b</sup>m7 F m7 B<sup>b</sup>m7  
prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 G<sup>b</sup>maj7 ⊕ A<sup>b</sup>7sus A<sup>b</sup>7  
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

**B**  
13 F m7 B<sup>b</sup>m7 F m7 B<sup>b</sup>m7  
prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 G<sup>b</sup>maj7 A<sup>b</sup>7sus A<sup>b</sup>7  
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord - - -

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next response.

Let us pray for the preservation of the earth. We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth.

Give us and all peoples grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.

Let us pray for peace and shared prosperity, and for the end of systemic racism that divides us.

We pray for leaders to serve the common good: Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in 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 we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

**Response**

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend George Takeli and the Anglican Church of Melanesia](#); for [St. Paul's, Katy](#); [St. Philip the Evangelist, Houston](#); [St. Stephen's, Houston](#); and [St. Thomas', Houston](#); and for [the Episcopal Children's Curriculum Tweens ministry](#). For the peace and unity of the Church of God.

We give thanks for the good news of salvation for all people. Strengthen us for our work in the world, empower your Church to proclaim the gospel in service, word and sacrament.

Unite in the truth all who confess your name, that we may live together in love to your glory.

Let us pray for ourselves and our community. We give thanks for the fellowship of the communities in which we live and work, especially Trinity Church.

We pray for our bishops and other ministers, especially 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.

We commend to your keeping ourselves and each other, our families, those with whom we work and learn, our neighbors and our friends. Enable us by your Spirit to live in love for you and for one another.

### **Response**

We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness.

Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially for those we now name: [Bill, Eula, Joyce, Maryanne, Gary, John, Edgar, Larry, Nick, and Jarrett](#).

[Heavenly Father, our neighbor has nowhere to call home: help us be aware. Our neighbor needs love and community: help us be active. Our neighbor is crying out for justice: help us be adamant to see an end to homelessness.](#)

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, [especially for all victims of gun violence, and all who have perished from contracting the Coronavirus](#). Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfillment of your kingdom.

We give you thanks for your servants in every age, especially for these who are celebrating their birthdays: [Colette, Christine, Stephen, Monica, Gladys, and Stephen](#).

### **Response**

O God, we who come before you this day are many and diverse, with different needs and desires.

We ask you to accept our thanksgivings, to guide our ways, and to receive our praise. O God, hear the prayers of your people.

*The people may offer their own specific petitions, praises or thanksgivings.*

## Response

instrumental intro  $G^{\flat}maj7$   $A^{\flat}7sus$   $A^{\flat}7$

Hear our -

**A**

5  $Fm7$   $B^{\flat}m7$   $Fm7$   $B^{\flat}m7$

prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9  $G^{\flat}maj7$   $\oplus$   $A^{\flat}7sus$   $A^{\flat}7$

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

**B**

13  $Fm7$   $B^{\flat}m7$   $Fm7$   $B^{\flat}m7$

prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17  $G^{\flat}maj7$   $A^{\flat}7sus$   $A^{\flat}7$

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord \_\_\_\_\_

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next response.

21  $\oplus$   $G^{\flat}maj7$   $A^{\flat}7sus$   $A^{\flat}7$   $D^{\flat}maj7$

A - nd Gra - nt - us Thy - Pe - ace \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.**

MUSIC AT THE PEACE

This Christmas

Don Hathaway

## 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](http://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

Mary, Did You Know?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?  
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?  
This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm the storm with his hand?  
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?  
When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God

Mary, did you know? (Did you know?)  
Mary, did you know?  
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)  
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)  
Mary, did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again  
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the lamb!

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?  
Did you know that your baby boy is Heaven's perfect Lamb?  
That sleeping child you're holding is the great I am

Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)  
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)  
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)

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.

Above all we give you thanks and praise for your grace in sending Jesus Christ, not for any merit of our own but when we had turned away from you. In him the light which shines for all has come into the world, and he has become one with us that we may become one with you.

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,

A - men, A - men,  
A - men, A - men,  
A - men, A - men, A - men.

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, 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

Silent Night

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright, Round you  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight, Glo - ries  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant  
4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won-drous star, lend thy light; With the

vir - gin moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
stream from heav-en a - far, Heav-en-ly hosts sing: "Al - le - lu - ia;  
beams from Thy ho-ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,  
an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

Sleep in heav-en-ly peace, Sleep in heav-en-ly peace.  
Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born."  
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Chord markings: B $\flat$ , F, B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , F, B $\flat$ , F, B $\flat$

COMMUNION HYMN

Christmas Time Is Here

5 **A** Fmaj7 Eb7#11 Fmaj7 Eb7#11

Christ-mas time is here, hap-pi-ness and cheer.  
Snow-flakes in the air, car-ols ev-'ry-where.

9 Bø7 Bb-7 A-7 Ab-7 G-7 C7 Fmaj7

Fun for all that chil-dren call their fa-v'rite time of year.  
Old-en times and an-cient rhymes of love and dreams to share.

13 **B** Dbmaj7 Gb7#11 Dbmaj7 Gb7#11

Sleigh-bells in the air, beau-ty ev-'ry-where.

17 A-7 D7#9 G-7 C13

Yule-tide by the fire-side and joy-ful mem-'ries there.

21 **A** Fmaj7 Eb7#11 Fmaj7 Eb7#11

Christ-mas time is here, we'll be draw-ing near.

25 Bø7 Bb-7 A-7 Ab-7 G-7 C7 Fmaj9

Oh, that we could al-ways see such spir-it through the year.

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
 2. ✕ Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 3. ✕ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n a - bove;  
 ✕ Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him born the King of an - gels;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

REFRAIN

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ, the Lord. A - MEN.

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.**

COMMUNITY LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENT

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

THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

**Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

**Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**



1. The vir - gin Ma - ry had a ba - by boy, the  
 2. The an - gels sang when the ba - by was born, the  
 3. The shep - herds came where the ba - by was born, the  
 4. The Wise Men came where the ba - by was born, the



vir - gin Ma - ry had a ba - by boy, the  
 an - gels sang when the ba - by was born, the  
 shep - herds came where the ba - by was born, the  
 Wise Men came where the ba - by was born, the



vir - gin Ma - ry had a ba - by boy, }  
 an - gels sang when the ba - by was born, } and they  
 shep - herds came where the ba - by was born, }  
 Wise Men came where the ba - by was born, }

*Refrain*



say that his name is Je - sus. He come from the glo - ry,



he come from the glo - rious king - dom. He come from the



glo - ry, he come from the glo - rious king - dom. Oh,



yes! be - liev - er! Oh, yes! be - liev - er! He come from the





## Christmas Flower Dedications



### **The High Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and In Loving Memory of**

*Louise and Denton Cooley by Susan Cooley  
Florence Talbot Cooley by Susan Cooley  
Moses Phipps and Anne Campbell by Karen Christianson*

### **In Celebration of**

*Our Anniversary by Greg and Mindi Lomasang*

### **The Baptistry Flowers are given to the glory of God and In Loving Memory of**

*Bernadette Babin by Norma and Charles Cooper  
Cleo Feltenberger by Robert Feltenberger  
Jean C. Marsh by David Marsh*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*our many blessings by Mary Johns and Eric Beam*

### **The Wreaths and Greenery are given to the glory of God and In Loving Memory of**

*Chester Stasney by Leah Stasney  
Pearlie Martin by Leah Stasney  
my late mother, Edna Lee Brown by Andrea Shiloh  
my late brother, Garland Shiloh by Andrea Shiloh*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*the health and happiness of my family by Toni Longino  
Marie Stasney by Leah Stasney  
God's loving gift of our Savior and the hope of eternal life by Wendy Wentland  
my loves Elmer, Samuel, Daniel, Sara and Magaly by the Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero  
my parents Henry and Treadwell Atkins by the Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero  
my brother Henry and Li's marriage by the Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero  
The wonderful staff, ministry heads, and vestry of Trinity  
by the Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero*

### **Flowers in the Columbarium**

*The flowers in the Columbarium are given to the glory of God and  
in loving memory of Mike Deily by Linnet Deily,*



## Christmas Flower Dedications



### **The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and In Loving Memory of**

*Tony Davidson by Suzanne Kupiec  
 Bill and Billie Davidson by Suzanne Kupiec  
 Stephen P. Kupiec, Jr. by Suzanne Kupiec  
 Marjorie and Bill Lipsky by Suzanne Kupiec  
 Nellie Lipsky by Suzanne Kupiec  
 Jeanne Devine by Joanne and Ron Starbuck  
 Lucille Dittimore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck  
 Gerard Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck  
 Rocco and Mary Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck  
 Edna and Robert Starbuck by Joanne and Ron Starbuck  
 John Cloud by Mary Cloud  
 Ann, Jack, and Dennis Roach by Karen Roach  
 The Reverend Adam Nygren by John Merullo and George Zemanek  
 Max Maxwell by John Merullo and George Zemanek  
 Ina and Robert Porter, Sr. by Libby and Kenzo Tsubai  
 Robert Porter, Jr. by Libby and Kenzo Tsubai  
 Beulah Gruber by Libby and Kenzo Tsubai  
 Our parents Clarence and Mildred Laubach, Ralph Lee and Maurine McMillan  
 by Pat and Larry Laubach  
 My son, Christopher, my cousin, the Rev. Carlotta E. Madison, and my family members  
 and friends who have entered the Spirit World by Shelby Bradley  
 Albert and Elizabeth Cloteaux by Donna Cloteaux  
 Erine Blackman, Patricia Braithwaite, Pat Jung, and Marsha Reed  
 by Timothy and Pamela Lawson*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*Our Trinity family and friends by Rev. Henry and Treadwell Atkins  
 Alex Jones and the Trinity Choir by Mark Goza  
 April Sloan Hubert, Pelayo Parlade and the Trinity Jazz Ensemble by Mark Goza  
 The Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero and her family by Mark Goza  
 The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes and her family by Mark Goza  
 The Reverend Dale Klitzke and his family by Mark Goza  
 Ryan Mire, Pat Laubach, and all Trinity staff and volunteers by Mark Goza  
 Sofia Isabela Montes by Jaylah and Marcia Quintanilla  
 Our daughters Lisa and Amy and our grandchildren  
 Hannah, Madeline, Alexis, Olivia, and Cole by Pat and Larry Laubach  
 Our clergy Hannah, Luz, and Dale by Pat and Larry Laubach  
 Trinity staff and Trinity volunteers by Pat and Larry Laubach  
 God's continued blessings of love, friendship, mercy, and comfort given to me  
 and those I've encountered throughout 2022 by Shelby Bradley*

### **In Honor of**

*Elmer and Hannah Atkins Romero by Bob and Carol Wells*



**THE WEEKLY WINDOW**  
 OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN  
 December 25, 2022 and January 1st, 2023 – Christmas Year A  
 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)

**Christmas Eve**  
 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm  
**Christmas Day and New Years Day**  
 11:00 am One Combined Service



**THIS WEEK AT TRINITY**

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**  
 11:00 am One Combined Service– Church  
 8:00 pm Compline

**Monday, December 26, 2022 through Friday, December 30th**  
 Church and Church Offices are closed.

**Sunday, January 1st, 2023**  
 11:00 am One Combined Service– Church  
 8:00 pm Compline

**Monday, January 2nd, 2023**  
 Church and Church Offices are closed

**Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023**  
 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

**Wednesday, January 4th, 2023**  
 10:30 am Staff Meeting  
 12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm  
 5:30 pm Evening Prayer  
 6:00 pm Healing Service –Zoom  
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 5th, 2023**  
 12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm  
 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

**Friday, January 6th, 2023**  
 12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm  
 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

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

**The Trinity Vestry proudly presents the 2023-2026 slate of Vestry candidates:**

**Andy Durham, Samantha Rainman, David Villarreal, and Gladys Báiles**

**Council Delegates :**  
**Madeline Mauk, Jeanne Sommerfeld**

**Vestry members will be elected at Trinity’s Annual Parish Meeting on January 22, 2023, in Fellowship Hall from 9:15 am – 10:15 am**

**Nursery will be available beginning at 6 pm for 6 pm service only.**

The services will begin with a thirty-minute prelude. Our come-as-you-are Christmas Pageant, held on Christmas Eve at the 6:30 pm service, is open to children of all ages. We want every child to know they are welcome to participate as much or as little as they choose. There are no speaking parts. Children are invited to join us beginning at 5:30 pm to pick a costume and hear the Christmas Story at 6 pm. Parents can stay to listen to the story with their child or can join the congregation for the choral prelude. Children will then gather in Fellowship Hall at 6:15 to process and join in the blessing of the creche. After the blessing of the creche, children will return to be with their families for the remainder of the service. We ask that you please return the costumes after the service.

Please note our Christmas Day and New Year’s Day services will be one combined service at 11:00 am on each day. Regular services will resume at regular times on Sunday, January 8th, 2023.

**Gifts that Matter**

If you are looking for a unique Christmas gift for someone special this year, but you don’t want to just buy more “stuff”, we have an opportunity for you to honor that special person and to honor and help Trinity at the same time! Our clergy and staff have put together a wish list of items that will help Trinity and its ministries.

To see the full list of Gifts <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/blog/gifts-that-matter/>



**Pick up your Home Blessing Kits:**

Please pick up your Home Blessing Kits to use on the Feast of the Epiphany today. Kits are in the back and at the entrance of the church. Each kit includes chalk and a short liturgy for you to use at home.

The home blessing at Epiphany is a tradition many churches practice. The tradition marks the visit of the Magi to the home of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. You can find an explanation of this ritual in this video recorded by Rev. Hannah. Please note that the example used in the video is from 2022 so please be sure to update it with the correct year.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7XcZrPdpz4&t=696s>



### 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.

Allegra, Gareth, Mary, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Linelle, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Kensington, Theresa, Marvin, Ric, Margaret, Livia, Barbara, Larry, Carolyn, Sylvia, Be, Linda, Shelby, Stephen, Barbara, Daniel, Minnie, Jeanette, Eddie, Theophilis, Lynn, Vanessa, Ellis, Margaret, Cindy, Cristine, Tony, Dick, Maribel, Emma, Armando, Susan, Joyce, Bob, David, Steven, Robert, Phil, Susan, Virginia, Renard, Richard, Patty, Tom, Tony, Jim, Jose, Julie, Callie, Rodney, Billie, Graham, Erma, Debbie, Dana, and Kathy.

#### For the faithful departed

All who have perished by contracting the coronavirus, and all victims of gun violence.

## Altar Flower Dedications This Week

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God.

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/)



Sign-ups for Coffee hour hosts for this January are also now available, please email Pat at [volunteer@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:volunteer@trinitymidtown.org) if you are interested. Please remember without continued volunteer support coffee hours will only happen on Sundays that have a volunteer signed up.



Greg Lomasang, Benjamin Gonzalez, Colette LeGrande, Christine Oramasionwu, Stephen Borden, Monica Weis, Gladys Valles, Stephen Sunquist, Sheree Thompson, Joyce Drew, Vicki Varteressian, Pamela Lawson, and Richard Schey.

**Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector**  
[rector@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:rector@trinitymidtown.org)

**Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate**  
[curate@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:curate@trinitymidtown.org)

**Rev. Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate**  
[dale.klitzke@gmail.com](mailto:dale.klitzke@gmail.com)

**Ryan Mire, Front Office Manager**  
[FrontOffice@TrinityMidtown.org](mailto:FrontOffice@TrinityMidtown.org)

**Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster**  
[alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com](mailto:alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com)

**Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner**  
[youth@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:youth@trinitymidtown.org)

**Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator**  
[volunteer@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:volunteer@trinitymidtown.org)

**Carol Turley, Membership Secretary**  
[membership@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:membership@trinitymidtown.org)

**Larry Laubach, Treasurer**  
[finance@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:finance@trinitymidtown.org)

#### Trinity Vestry

Andy Durham, Senior Warden  
John Escoto, Junior Warden  
Eric Beam, Ben Blanding, Jim Castro, Terri DiRaddo, Pamela Lawson, Mary Matteucci, Ann McCoy, John Merullo, Sheila Wainwright, and Michele White.

#### Winter Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 4 pm  
Friday 9 am – 1 pm  
Closed Week of December 26–Jan 2, 2023  
Offices Re–open Tuesday, Jan 3rd, 2023  
Closed for MLK day on Jan 16, 2023

If you have building concerns please email [frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org). Thanks!

@trinitychurchhouston

@trinityepiscopalmidtown

@trinityepiscopalchurch

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



For more information on annual giving visit [2023 Stewardship Campaign](#).



## 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.

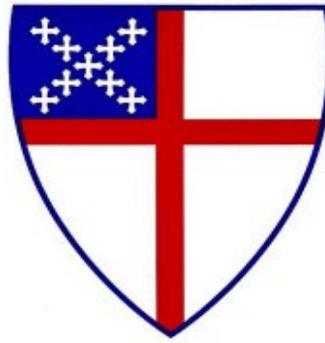
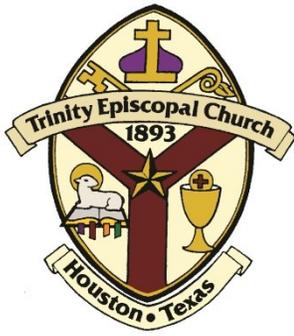
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street 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  
ext. 13

The Reverend Canon Dr. Henry Atkins,  
*Theologian in Residence*  
hleeatkins@aol.com

The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, *Curate*  
Curate@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 17

Alex Jones, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
Music@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 21

Ryan Mire, *Front Office Manager*  
FrontOffice@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 10

April Sloan-Hubert, *Co-Director*  
Pelayo Parlade, *Co-Director*  
*of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble*  
apildst82@icloud.com

Carver Mathis, *Youth Missioner*  
Youth@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 18

### VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Volunteer@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 22

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



### WEAPONS POLICY:

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

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

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

*Trinity Episcopal Church*  
1015 Holman Street, Houston, Texas 77004  
**Phone 713.528.4100 Fax 713.942.0117**