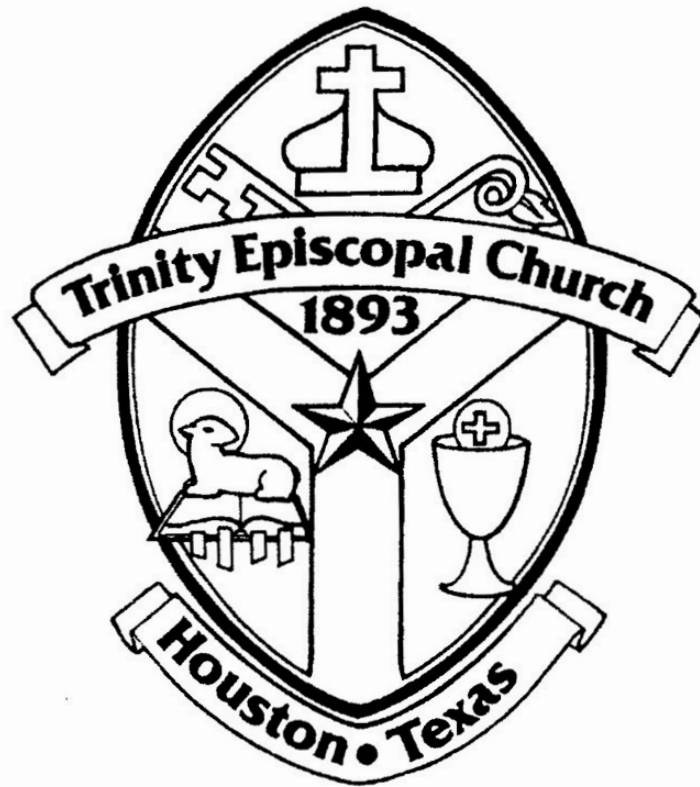


# THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31, 2023  
11:00 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  
April Sloan-Hubert, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble  
Pelayo Parlade, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble

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

# WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad you chose to worship with us. We 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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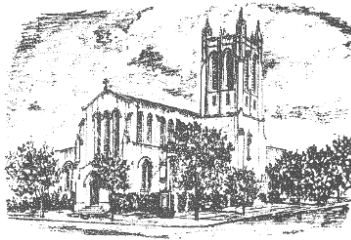
Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*  
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*  
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*  
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

## LAY MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

*Lector:* Donald Hackler  
*Prayers:* Shelby Bradley  
*LEMs:* Larry Laubach and Pat Laubach  
*Acolytes:* A. Sennewald, B. Walton, J. Sennewald, J. Draper, L. Chambers  
*Ushers:* Donald Hackler and Shelby Bradley  
*Verger:* David Villareal  
*Vestry of the Day:* Samantha Rainman  
*Altar Guild:* Joanne Starbuck, Mark Goza  
*Audio Visual:* Jeremy Velasquez

## THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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



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<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

*Please stand as able.*

HYMN IN PROCESSION 83

*O come, all ye faithful*

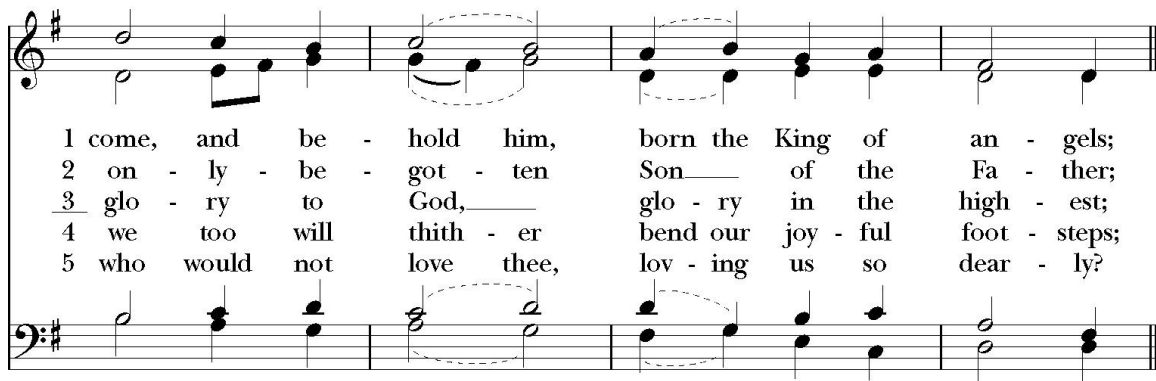
*Adeste Fidelis*



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

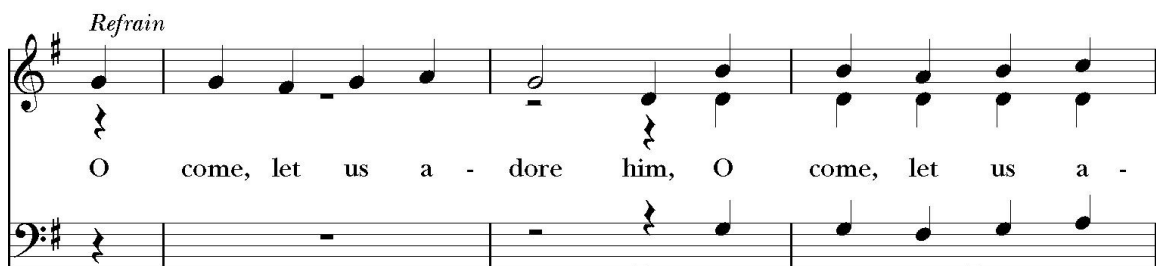


1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*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.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

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.**

CANTICLE S279 Glory to God

Gerald Near

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, —  
— and peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, hea-ven - ly King,  
al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People** **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61: 10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

## THE SECOND LESSON

Galatians 3: 23-25, 4: 4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor — earth sus - tain;  
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
 4 What — can I give him, poor — as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:  
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow — on — snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed  
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a wise — man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord — God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him — give my heart.



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

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

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM VI

BCP, page 392

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

- Reader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
For all people in their daily life and work;
- People** **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**
- Reader* We pray for Joseph, our president; Kamala, our vice-president; Greg, our governor; Lina, our county judge; Sylvester, our mayor; and the legislatures, and courts: For this community, the nation, and the world:
- People** **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**
- Reader* For the end of systemic racism that divides us; for the just and proper use of your creation;
- People** **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**
- Reader* For [all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day, and for all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.](#)
- People** **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**
- Reader* In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend Laurent Mbanda, and the Anglican Church of Rwanda.](#) In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [St. Paul's, Katy; St. Philip the Evangelist, Houston; St. Stephen's, Houston; and St. Thomas', Houston.](#) In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Judith Edgar and the Hospitality ministry.](#) For the peace and unity of the Church of God.
- People** **For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**
- Reader* For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), and Hector, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale, our clergy; for all who minister in this place; and for all bishops and other ministers.
- People** **For all who serve God in his Church.**
- Reader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those who are on our prayer list: [Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Carol, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Gladys, and Brenda.](#)
- Hear us, Lord;
- People** **For your mercy is great.**
- Reader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for [Gladys, Nancy, Sheree, Joyce, Alice, Pamela, Richard, and Don](#) as they celebrate their birthdays.
- We will exalt you, O God our King;
- People** **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**
- Reader* We pray for all who have died, [especially for Chester Joseph Stasney, Jr., Denise Ray, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and all victims of gun violence,](#) that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
- Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
- People** **Who put their trust in you.**

CONFESSIO

BCP, page 392

*Celebrant* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**People** **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

*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.



*(Continued on page 12)*

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?)

Please stand as able.

## HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 115, stanza 3

Greensleeves

*Unison or harmony*

So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,  
 pea - sant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



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,

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 S130

Franz Peter Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Please stand or kneel, as able.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

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

*The Celebrant continues*

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

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

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

**AMEN.**

*The Celebrant then continues*

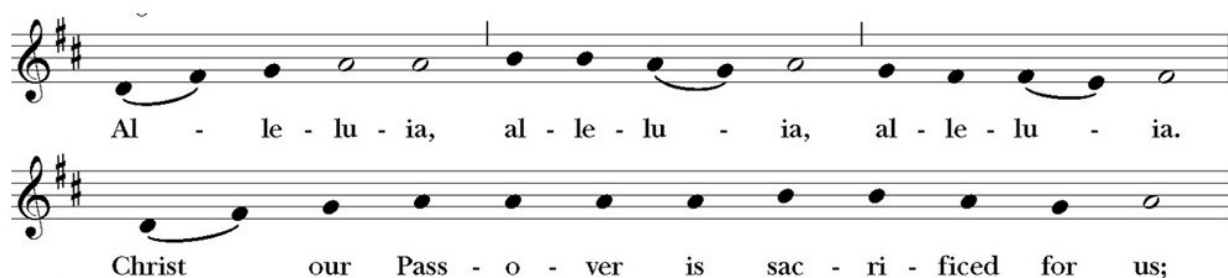
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Celebrant and People**

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

FRACTION ANTHEM S154

David Hurd



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;



there - fore let us keep the feast.

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

AGNUS DEI S164

Franz Peter Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your 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.

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close by me for

1. Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky— looked  
 2. Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes, I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look  
 3. ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

1. down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 2. down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 3. thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Em C

God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let no - thing you dis -  
 From God out Hea - v'nly Fa - ther a bles - sed An - gel  
 "Fear not then," said the An - gel, "Let no - thing you a -  
 Now to the Lord sing pra - ises, all you with - in this

4 B7 Em

may, Re - mem - ber, Christ our Sa - vior was  
 came, And un - to cer - tain Shep - herds brought  
 fright, This day is born a Sa - vior a  
 place, And with true love and bro - ther - hood each

7 C B7 Am

born on Christ - mas day. To save us all from  
 ti - dings of the same: How that in Beth - le -  
 bles - sed ho - ly sight, To free all those who  
 o - ther now em - brace; This Ho - ly Child of

10 G B7 Em D7

Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray, O  
 hem was born the Son of God by Name,  
 trust in Him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."  
 Christ - mas shall fill our hearts with grace:

13 G B7 Em D7

ti - dings of com - fort and joy, Com - fort and joy O

17 G B7 Em

ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

*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

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 our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

**Amen.**

Please stand as able

HYMN IN PROCESSION

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

DISMISSAL

Officiant  
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

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

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.*

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and Lift Every Voice and Sing II,  
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**Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!**  
**This is the last Sunday for poinsettias to be displayed,  
so please feel free to take some home!**



## Christmas Flower Dedications



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

*Ina Yvonne Porter and Robert Earl Porter, Jr. by Libby Tsubai*

*John Cloud by Mary Cloud*

*Burndette Babin by Norma and Charles Cooper*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*The health and happiness of my family and friends by Toni Longino*

*Our Clergy, the Reverends Hannah, Luz, and Dale by the Vestry*

*Our Church family by Stan Tubbs and Randy Goswick*

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

*Florence Talbot Cooley by her sisters Mary Cooley Craddock, Susan Cooley,*

*Louise Cooley Davies and Helen Cooley Fraser*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*Olivia and Ed Adams by Siva and Teddy Adams*

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

*Cleo Feltenberger by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh*

*Jean Marsh by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh*

*Lois Wright by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh*

*Helen Lueders by Robert Feltenberger and David Marsh*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*My wonderful husband Kevin Kirby by Caroline Levander*

*Lucy Treadwell and Henry Atkins and our children Magaly, Sara, Samuel, and Daniel*

*by Hannah Atkins Romero and Elmer Romero Chavarría*

*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*

*Alex Jones and the Trinity Choir by Mark Goza*

*April Sloan Hubert, Pelayo Parlade and the Trinity Jazz Ensemble by Mark Goza*

*Ryan Mire, Lauren Santerre, Pat Laubach, and all Trinity staff and volunteers by Mark Goza*

### **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**

*Jeanne Devine by Joanne and Ron Starbuck*  
*Lucille Dittimore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck*  
*Gerard Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck*  
*Mary and Rocco Lepore by Joanne and Ron Starbuck*  
*Edna and Robert Starbuck by Joanne and Ron Starbuck*  
*Robert David Vaughan and Jane Vaughan by Yvonne Meyer*  
*Ann, Jack and Dennis Roach by Karen Roach*  
*Florence Talbot Cooley by her sisters Mary Cooley Craddock, Susan Cooley,  
Louise Cooley Davies, and Helen Cooley Fraser*  
*Stephen Wentland by Wendy Wentland*  
*Merle Moore by Donna Cloteaux*  
*Jean and Edgar Marston by Graeme and Edgar Marston*  
*Alice Baker and John Meyers by Graeme and Edgar Marston*  
*My mother Churmey McClellan by Theresa McClellan*  
*My father Franck McClellan by Theresa McClellan*  
*My sister Connie McClellan by Theresa McClellan*  
*Chester Stasney, Sr. by Leah Stasney*  
*Chester Stasney, Jr. by Leah Stasney*  
*Pearlie Martin by Leah Stasney*  
*Phil Turley by Carol Turley*  
*Patricia Moss Braithwaite, Erine Blackman, Michele Blackman, Marsha Reed, Pat Jung,  
Dennis Braithwaite, and Kenneth Davis by Pamela and Timothy Lawson*  
*Tio and Tia Bob and Joan Ransom by Ana and Alex Bruton*  
*Tio Purdy Jordan by Ana and Alex Bruton*  
*Barbara H. Jones by Shelby Bradley*  
*Allen Doering by Shelby Bradley*  
*Victims of drugs, guns, and war by Shelby Bradley*

### **In Thanksgiving for**

*Our church family by Stan Tubbs and Randy Goswick*  
*Trinity Choir by Carol Turley*  
*The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero by Carol Turley*  
*The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes by Carol Turley*  
*Steve Turley and Family by Carol Turley*  
*Gwendolyn Harrison and Family by Carol Turley*  
*Trinity Church by Bob and Carol Wells*  
*My brother Bryan M. Jones by Shelby Bradley*  
*My cousins Sandra R. Clark and Pamela Greere by Shelby Bradley*

### **In Honor of**

*Marie Stasney by Leah Stasney*  
*Our mothers, Mary Merullo and Jeanette Zemanek by John Merullo and George Zemanek*  
*Those serving in our Armed Forces, educating our youth, and practicing medical services  
In this country by Shelby Bradley*



## 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.

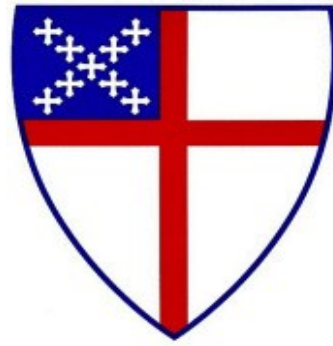
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street 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. 402

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

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

Alex Jones, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com  
ext. 407

Ryan Mire, *Parish Administrator*  
ParishAdministrator@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 404

Lauren Santerre, *Parish Life Coordinator*  
plc@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 410

April Sloan-Hubert, *Co-Director*  
Pelayo Parlade, *Co-Director*  
*of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble*  
aprilst82@icloud.com

### VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Pat Laubach, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Volunteer@TrinityMidtown.org  
ext. 408

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



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*Trinity Episcopal Church*  
1015 Holman Street, Houston, Texas 77004  
Phone 713.528.4100 Fax 713.942.0117  
www.TrinityMidtown.org