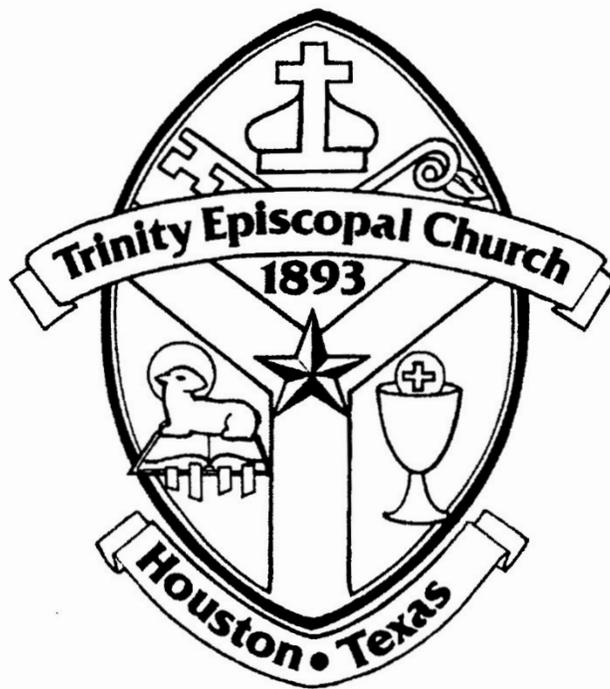


# A SERVICE OF HEALING

POLYCARP OF SMYRNA, BISHOP AND MARTYR,  
156

FEBRUARY 23, 2022  
6:00 p.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector  
The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate  
The Reverend Canon Dr. Henry L. Atkins, Jr., Theologian in Residence

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***

# A Public Service of Healing

## Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr

156

February 23, 2022

### The Word of God

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**People:** And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

*After a period of silence, the Minister then says the following Collects.*

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come here seeking your healing grace for themselves and for others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body; and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole according to your desire, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

O God, the maker of heaven and earth, you gave your venerable servant, the holy and gentle Polycarp, the boldness to confess Jesus Christ as King and Savior and the steadfastness to die for his faith: Give us grace, following his example, to share the cup of Christ and to rise to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Lesson

#### Zephaniah 3: 11-15

On that day you shall not be put to shame because of all the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord—the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

### Psalms 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; \*  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

## Second Lesson

### Revelation 2: 8-11

And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of the first and the last, who was dead and came to life: I know your affliction and your poverty, even though you are rich. I know the slander on the part of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever conquers will not be harmed by the second death.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## The Gospel

### Matthew 20: 20-23

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## A Litany of Healing

*The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding. A Person appointed then leads the Litany*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

***We praise you and thank you, O Lord.***

All you Holy Angels, Archangels, and bodiless powers of heaven;

***Stand beside us to guide and guard us on our way.***

Holy Mary, Mother of God;

***Pray for us and the people of the world.***

For all who grieve the death of family, friends, and citizens;

***Give them courage and strength to meet the days ahead, O Lord, and the consolation of your love.***

Pour out your healing grace on all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are afraid, anxious, or overwhelmed, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Give peace, courage, and hope to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the sick and suffering, keep them safe and healthy, and grant them wisdom and skill, sympathy, and patience;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Open our eyes to see that you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth and that our life and death are with each other;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Give us compassion for those in need, patience in this time of distress in our country, and love for our neighbors;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

Let our hearts be not afraid;

***Hear us, O Lord of life.***

You are the Lord who does wonders:

***You have declared your power among the peoples.***

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

**And in your light we see light.**

Let us pray:

*A period of silence follows.*

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Minister and People:**

**God of all mercy,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,  
and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*Amen.*

### **Prayers for Healing**

*The minister may invite each person to give her or his name and any particular request for prayer. The minister then prays silently, then prays aloud using one of the following forms or similar words.*

I lay my hands upon you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, praying you will be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit. Amen.

*After all are anointed*

May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **Blessing**

May God the Father bless us, God the Son heal us, God the Holy Spirit give us strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard our bodies, save our souls, and bring us safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Dismissal**

*Officiant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People**        **Amen.**

## **Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr, 156**

Polycarp, born in the year 69, was one of the leaders of the church who carried on the tradition of the apostles through the troubled controversies around Gnosticism in the second century. According to Irenaeus, who had known him in his early youth, Polycarp was a pupil of John, "the disciple of the Lord," and had been appointed a bishop by "apostles in Asia."

We possess a letter from Polycarp to the Church in Philippi. It reveals his firm adherence to the faith, and his pastoral concern for fellow Christians in trouble.

An early account of the martyrdom of Polycarp on February 23rd is also preserved. It probably occurred in the year 156. The account tells of Polycarp's courageous witness in the amphitheater at Smyrna. When the proconsul asked him to curse Christ, Polycarp said, "Eighty-six years I have served him, and he never did me any wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?" The account reports that the magistrate was reluctant to kill the gentle and harmless old man, but his hand was forced by the mob, who clamored that he be thrown to wild beasts, as was the fate of other Christians on that day.

Instead, Polycarp was burned at the stake. Before his ordeal, he is reported to have looked up to heaven, and to have prayed: "Lord God Almighty, Father of your beloved and blessed child Jesus Christ, through whom we have received knowledge of you, God of angels and hosts and all creation, and of the whole race of the upright who live in your presence, I bless you that you have thought me worthy of this day and hour, to be numbered among the martyrs and share in the cup of Christ, for resurrection to eternal life, for soul and body in the incorruptibility of the Holy Spirit. Among them may I be accepted before you today, as a rich and acceptable sacrifice just as you, the faithful and true God, have prepared and foreshown and brought about. For this reason and for all things I praise you, I bless you, I glorify you, through the eternal heavenly high priest Jesus Christ, your beloved child, through whom be glory to you, with him and the Holy Spirit, now and for the ages to come. Amen."

*From Revised Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018, page 148*



THE WEEKLY  
**WINDOW**  
of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

February 20th, 2022

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany – Year C

**Sunday In-Person Services.**

**8:00 am and 12:30 pm are in the Chapel.  
10:30 am is held in the Historic Church. Please make sure to continue to mask up and social distance.**

**Announcements**



Wholehearted Faith Study  
Thursday evenings in Lent  
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm Via Zoom  
March 3, 10, and 17

This 3 week study will be based on Rachel Held Evans' book Wholehearted Faith and the early stories of Jesus' ministry found in the gospel of Luke.

For More information and how to register click on the link or go to <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/blog/wholehearted-faith-study/>

**Laudato Si Lecture Series**

On Sunday, Feb 20, 2022, and on Sunday, March 6, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. our Theologian In Residence Canon Atkins will give two lectures on what he considers to be one of the most important religious documents of our time. This lecture will be given in the Smith Room, but will also be available via Zoom. If you are interested in attending online please email [frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org) by Noon on Friday 18th

For more information about the lectures click [here](#)

**International Women's Day Author's Talk and Lunch with Dr. Sarah Flick**

On her book Desire, Mystery, Belonging, March 8, 12 pm-1:30 pm; pre-registration is required, for more information on the event and how to register click [here](#)

On February 27th, 2022 we will have **Mardi Gras** Coffee Hour with Bishop Hector Monterroso.

**This Week at Trinity**

Sunday, February 20th, 2022

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:30 am Sunday Meditations (via Zoom)
- 9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in Atrium rm 112
- 9:30 am ECC Tweens rm 207
- 9:30 am Youth Forum
- 9:30 am Laudato Si Lecture (Smith Room)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III
- 8:00 pm Compline (In Spanish via Zoom)

Monday, February 21st, 2022

- 2:00 pm Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, February 22nd, 2022

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, February 23rd, 2022

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer
- 6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, February 24th, 2022

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, February 25th, 2022

- 12:00 pm Listening Post
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

**Outreach**

Let's share our blessings with the EAC Food Pantry

Peanut Butter, Tuna, Beans, Stews, Soups, Cereals & Pastas, Canned Fruits & Vegetables



In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

For More Info on how you can help With this year's Souper Bowl Scan the QR code below



**Building Update:**  
**Currently, we are working on the heating system, until it is resolved please consider wearing or bringing a sweater on Sundays. If you have any building concerns please remember to email [frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org) about them. Thanks!**

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



**A FUTURE WITH HOPE**

TRINITY MIDTOWN ANNUAL GIVING 2022

For More Information On Our Annual Giving Click [Here](#)

### 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, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Vivian Jane, Bob, Theresa, Marvin, Sue, Tom, Nick, Ric, Margaret, Livia, Joyce, Gus, Joshua, Sandi, Barbara, Larry, Monica, Carolyn, Sylvia, Daniel, Lynelle, Mary, Leonard, Jim, Elise, Be, Norma, Jeanne, Karen, Susan, Charlee.

For the faithful departed

Roger Clay Lynch and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus and victims of gun violence.

For our Iona Seminarian

Carrie Hirdes



- 20 - Elizabeth Davidson
- 21 - Paula Lewis-Patterson
- 22 - Jane Schilmoeller
- 23 - Mary Ann Collier
- 23 - Sarah Frazier
- 23 - Tristan LeGrande
- 24 - Marcy Antiuk
- 26 - Alexander Obregon
- 26 - Soraya Blanding



### Trinity Episcopal Church

1015 Holman@Main  
713-528-4100



**Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector**  
rector@trinitymidtown.org

**Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate**  
currently on Maternity leave until May 2022

**Rev. Dr. Henry Atkins**  
Theologian in Residence  
hleatkins@aol.com

**Ryan Mire, Front Office Manager**  
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**Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster**  
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**Carol Turley, Membership Secretary**  
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**Larry Laubach, Treasurer**  
finance@trinitymidtown.org

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

### Follow us on:

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

Trinity Believes in a Future with Hope!

Here is an easy way to give!

TEXT

heartofmidtown  
to 73256.

For assistance and/or questions please contact  
Trinity Finance Office  
email: [finance@trinitymidtown.org](mailto:finance@trinitymidtown.org)  
phone: (713) 528-4100.

### Ash Wednesday Services Ashes and Dust Prayer Stations March 2nd in the Morrow Chapel 8 am - 11pm and 5 pm -7 pm

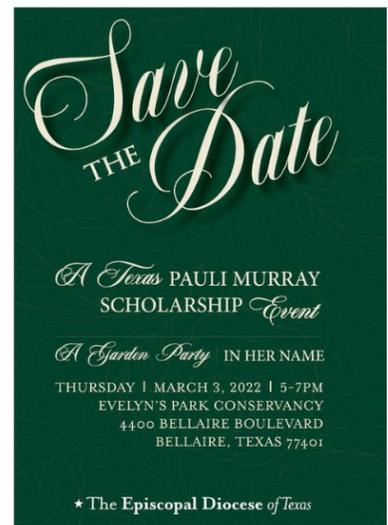
Readings for this week

Genesis 45: 3-11, 15  
Psalm 37: 1-12, 41-42  
1 Corinthians 15: 35-39. 42-50  
Luke 6: 27-38

### THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God and in celebration of their marriage by Jackson and Katherine Griffon

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up for a flower dedication by clicking [here](#)



For more information on how you can attend the event [click here](#)



## 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.

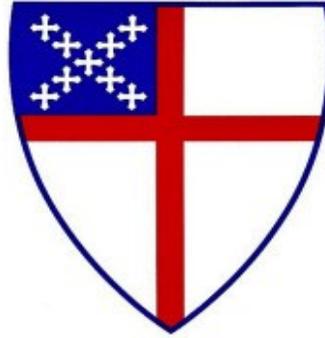
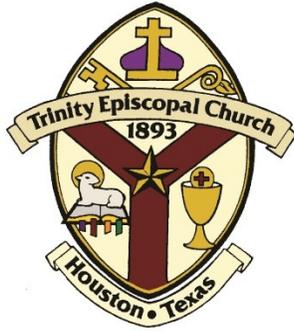
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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

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Until May, 2022)

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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.**

*Trinity Episcopal Church*  
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