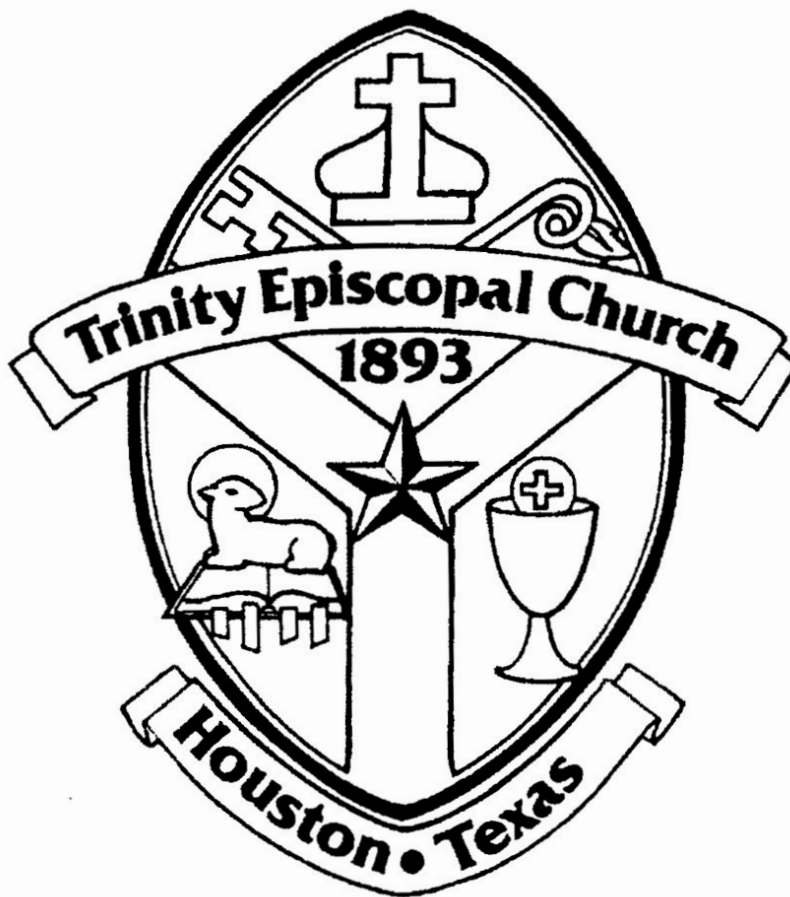


THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

8:00 a.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector
The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
The Reverend Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate

Wendy Wentland, Pianist

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

WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

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

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

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

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/contact-card-page/>

For more information, please visit our website:

www.trinitymidtown.org

For questions about how to connect with us, please email
connections@trinitymidtown.org

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Your children are welcome here at Trinity! First, please relax and enjoy your time here. We know that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it.
- To make things easier for your family, dare to sit closer to the front where your child can see what's going on at the altar. Guide them in the liturgy and be models for them. Help them sing the hymns and encourage them to stand/sit when appropriate, say "Amen" and "Thanks be to God," and generally help them be a part of the service. The liturgy belongs to them too.
- If you have to leave, hurry back! Jesus wants the children here, and we do too. If you need help, just ask. There are many here who are willing to lend you a hand.
- 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*

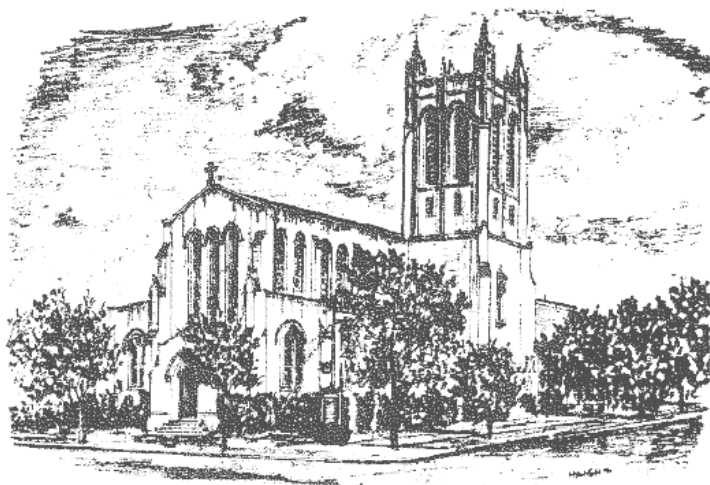
Eric Beam
Ben Blanding
Pam Lawson
Mary Matteucci
Ann McCoy

John Merullo
Samantha Rainman
Gladys Vallés
David Villarreal
Michele White

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

SERVING TODAY

Reader: Edgar Marston
LEM: Ann McCoy
Music: Wendy Wentland, piano
Vestry of the Day: Samantha Rainmani



Follow us on:

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

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

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



HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE GREAT LITANY

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

Have mercy on us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Holy immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy, from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,

Savior, deliver us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,

Savior, deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,

Savior, deliver us.

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

Savior, deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,

Savior, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy Incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

Savior, deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,

Savior, deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial

Savior, deliver us.

By your mighty Resurrection; by your glorious Ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

Savior, deliver us.

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God,

Hear us, O Christ.

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit,

Hear us, O Christ.

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived,

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet,

Hear us, O Christ.

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your wisdom and strength to Joseph, the President of the United States, Greg, the Governor of Texas, Lina, the County Judge of Harris County, and Sylvester, the Mayor of Houston that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give to the Congress of the United States, the Vice-President and members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth,

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless the Justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all,

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless and keep all your people,

Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed,

Hear us, O Christ.

Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril,

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially [Bill](#), [Nick](#), [Eugenia](#), [Harrison](#), [Byron](#), [Theresa](#), [Florence](#), and [Vinod](#); and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute,

Hear us, O Christ.

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

Hear us, O Christ.

Show your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble,

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers and turn their hearts,

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died, especially for Cintra Todd, Thomas Leone, Patricia Feuerborn, victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, all victims of gun violence, and all who have perished from contracting the Coronavirus, and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory,

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us.**

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, page 323

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 5: 12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Reverend Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Wendy Wentland, piano

Please stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, page 326

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

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

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

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

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

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

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

CONFESSION

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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

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

THE PEACE

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

Please pass the peace in a socially distanced manner.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERING

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, click:

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477>

Texting. Send the message **heartofmidtown** to **73256**. Be sure to type heartofmidtown with no spaces, or autocorrect may insert information about a different church. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.



VERSE AND RESPONSE AT PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

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

Please stand as able.

SURSUM CORDA

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

People AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 336

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

BCP, page 338

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive communion from a priest in front of the altar. If you wish to partake of the chalice, you may do so by intinction. Intinction is done by dipping a host into the wine, and is completely optional. If you prefer, it is perfectly fine to continue receiving the host only. If you are unable to come forward for communion, it will be brought to you in your pew.



We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when the priest administering the bread approaches you.

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

THE BLESSING

Presider The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning.

*We would like to thank the Blanding family for this week's coffee hour.
 Please note the following dates are open to host (part/all) coffee hour
 on March 5, March 26, and April 16.
 Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online.*

*We also have flower dedication dates available for
 April 9 (Easter Sunday), April 16. and April 23.
 Easter flower orders are now available on our website*



THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN
February 26, 2023 – First Sunday of Lent Year A

Trinity Episcopal Church | www.trinitymidtown.org
1015 Holman @ Main | 713-528-4100



Sunday In-Person Services
8:00 am and 12:30 pm (Chapel)
10:30 am (Historic Church)

The Black Christ Book Study:

On Monday, February 27th, 2023 at 7 pm Trinity will have a Zoom book study on "The Black Christ" the 25th Anniversary Edition by Kelly Brown Douglas. We hope you will join us for conversation, learning, and fellowship, RSVP [here](#).

Stations of the Cross:

March 1st: Outdoor Installation by Adam Kufeld begins.

March 3rd: Indoor Installation, Contemporary Stations of the Cross by Esael Araujo begins.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Friday Stations of the cross will be livestreamed at 12pm

We invite you to take time to meditate on the Stations of the Cross as you reflect during the Lenten season. Thank you to those who have contributed this year.

Blood Drive

It takes just one hour to donate blood, but that one hour can change everything. Let's make a difference and save lives in our community! Join us this Sunday from 9am-1pm to give the gift of life. We are once again partnering with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center and we hope to see you at the Donor Coach!

Click [HERE](#) to schedule your appointment!

Want to save time at your donation?

Complete your health history interview in advance with [CFL Express Pass!](#)

Women's Retreat/Quiet Half Day:

The Women's ministry will sponsor a quiet retreat time on Mar. 25, 9:30am-1pm. Our schedule includes Morning Prayer; Labrynth Walk; Intro to Wil Gafney's Women's Lectionary; Writing/Journaling; Sharing; Stretching and Meditation; Midday Prayer and Lunch. We hope to see you there. You can RSVP [here](#).

Lent Brochure and Parish Life Guide:

For a complete guide to all our offerings during Lent at Trinity Episcopal, please click [here](#).

For our Spring 2023 Parish Life Guide please click [here](#).

More Upcoming Events:

2/26: Bishop Kathryn M. Ryan visits Trinity Episcopal / Gulf Coast Blood Drive

3/26: Family Picnic, 3pm Francis St. Lawn (RSVP [here](#))

3/29: Pub Theology, 7pm The Brass Tap with Guest Brad Sullivan author of [For the Hurt, the Blessed, and the Damned](#)

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, February 26th, 2023

Bishop Ryan Visit

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I Chapel

9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom)

9:00 am Blood Drive

9:30 am Education Hr for All – Adults in Smith Rm, Tweens in Fellowship Hall, Kids in Atrium

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Church

12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III Chapel

8:00 pm Compline

Monday, February 27th, 2023

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

7:00 pm The Black Christ Book Discussion (Zoom)

Tuesday, February 28th, 2023

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 1st, 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

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 2nd, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

10:00 am Garden Club

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 4th, 2023

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoom-with-us/>



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, Dick, Teresa, Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Livia, Carolyn, Sylvia, Daniel, Kensington, Theophilis, Lynn, Joyce, Bob, Cindy, Christine, David, Robert, Phil, Richard, Patty, Jose, Julie, Callie, Billie, Be, Graham, Debbie, Dana, Edgar, Gary, Maryanne Sam, Samantha, Vinod, and Jarrett.

For the faithful departed

Cintra Todd, Thomas Leone, Patricia Feuerborn, victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, all victims of gun violence and all who have perished from contracting the Coronavirus.

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

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
associaterector@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate
dale.klitzke@gmail.com

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator
parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, Admin Assistant
adminassistant@trinitymidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner
youth@trinitymidtown.org

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/.

The next available dates: April 9th (Easter Sunday), 16th, and 23rd.



For Easter Flower ordering click [HERE](#).

Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer [here](#).

Next available dates: March 5th, March 26th, April 16th.

Happy Birthday!

Alexander Obregon, Soraya Blanding, Mary Peterson, Emma Treadwell, Leila Blanding, Charles Cooper, Tony Sessions, Les Prebilsky, Kevin Smith

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 4 pm
Friday 9 am – 1 pm

If you have building concerns please email frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org. Thanks!



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org



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

THE SEASON OF LENT

Early Christians observed “a season of penitence and fasting” in preparation for the Paschal feast, or Pascha (BCP, pp. 264-265). The season now known as Lent (from an Old English word meaning “spring,” the time of lengthening days) has a long history. Originally, in places where Pascha was celebrated on a Sunday, the Paschal feast followed a fast of up to two days. In the third century this fast was lengthened to six days. Eventually this fast became attached to, or overlapped, another fast of forty days, in imitation of Christ’s fasting in the wilderness. The forty-day fast was especially important for converts to the faith who were preparing for baptism, and for those guilty of notorious sins who were being restored to the Christian assembly.

In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, and the last three days of Holy Week are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Purple is the traditional color of Lent, as it represents for us both repentance and royalty. Jesus was dressed in a purple robe during his Passion as a mockery of his being “the king of the Jews”; since long before his time, purple had been a symbol of royalty. For example, in Exodus, we can read how Moses ordered the tabernacle to be made of “ten sheets woven of fine linen twine and of violet, purple, and scarlet yarn” (Exodus 26:1) and in 2 Chronicles 3:14 we read that Solomon ordered the temple in Jerusalem to be decorated with fabric of the same colors. The Church decided to keep the color purple as a symbol, not just of penance and mourning (in anticipation of the crucifixion, and with reference to Jesus), but also as a reminder of the need to confront our own sins, to prepare ourselves spiritually, and to help our neighbors to draw closer to God and his kingdom (conserving in this way the solemn character traditionally assigned to purple).

All Christians are invited “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word” (BCP, p. 265).

In accordance with ancient custom the Book of Common Prayer provides that in Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter season (BCP, p. 337).

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.

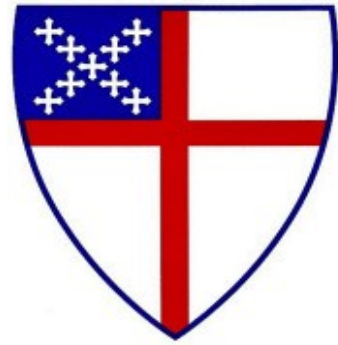
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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





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