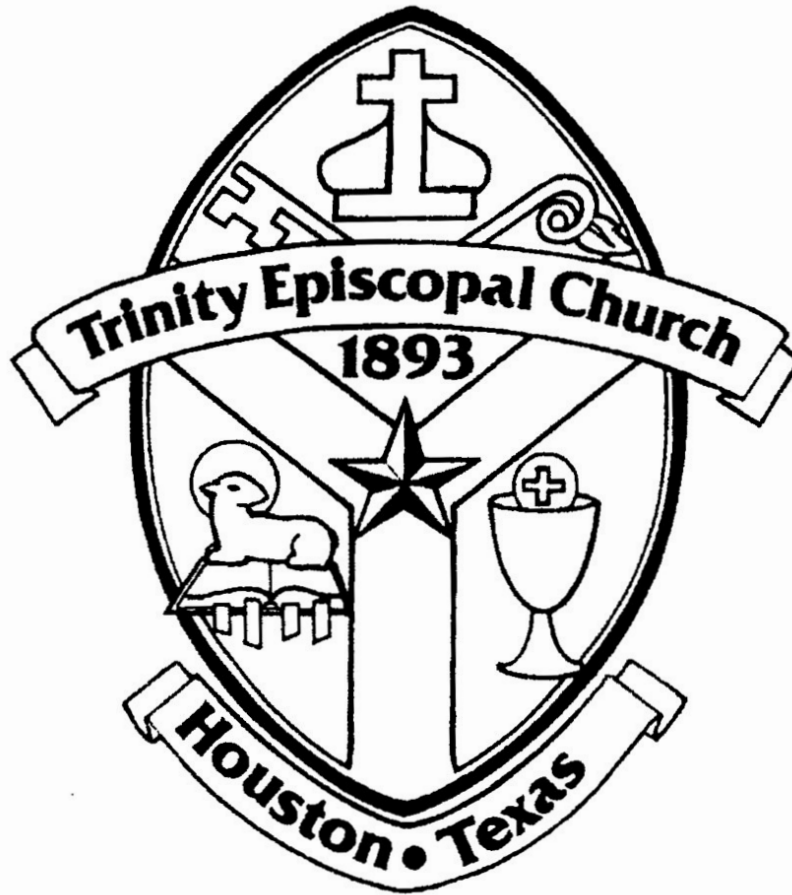


# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 21, 2024  
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](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)

For questions about how to connect with us, please email

[connections@trinitymidtown.org](mailto: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.

### 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*

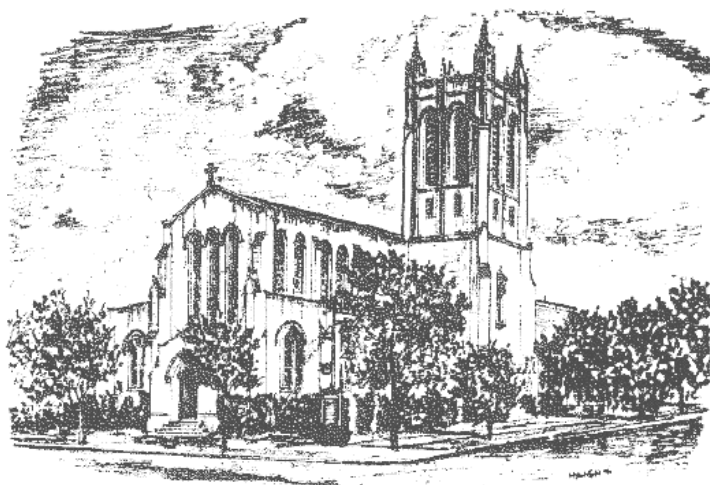
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

## SERVING TODAY

Reader: Teddy Adams  
LEM: Samantha Rainman  
Music: Wendy Wentland, piano  
Vestry of the Day: Michele White

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of John Cloud  
by Mary Cloud



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

*Please stand as able.*

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, page 323

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

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

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Officiant* 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.**

### THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

BCP, page 324

*Officiant* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### CANTICLE

*Gloria in excelsis*

*Read in unison.*

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and all the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People** **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 62: 6-14

*Nonne Deo?*

BCP, page 669

*Alternately by whole verse.*

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \*  
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

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

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

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

SERMON

The Reverend Bradley Sullivan, Vicar of LOTS

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP, page 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever-living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), and Hector, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale our clergy, and for all who minister in this place, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Right Reverend Dr. K. Reuben Mark, and the Church of South India](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [Jubilee Church, Austin; Resurrection, Austin; San Francisco de Asis, Austin; and SoCo, Austin](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [David Theis, Pat Laubach, and the Lay Ministers](#).

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph our president, Kamala, our vice-president, Greg our governor, Lina, our county judge, John our mayor, and the legislatures and courts, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Brenda, Pamela, Danya, Sylvia, Ella, Julie, Leland](#), and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Almighty God, thou lovest all thy children and art a home to those who are in any need or trouble; inspire thy Church with the Spirit of Christ's love, empower us to battle the root causes of homelessness, and help us to live as one with one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever.

We offer you, O Lord, our prayers of thanksgiving, [especially for Rebecca, Byron, Elmer, Olivia, Sofia, Andy, and Susan](#) as they celebrate their birthdays.

And we also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [especially for the victims of war in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and all victims of gun violence](#), beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **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 with thy spirit.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

## 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](http://www.trinitymidtown.org) and click the "Give" button on the top right, click:

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

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



## 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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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     May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.  
**Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of a new birth.  
**Amen.**

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.  
**Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.*

*We would like to thank everyone who helped with this morning's coffee hour.*

*Please note that the upcoming Sundays, January 28, and February 4 are available to host (part/all) coffee hour.*

To sign up, please scan the QR code below or contact Jamie Chambers: [jamielynnchambers@hotmail.com](mailto:jamielynnchambers@hotmail.com) or call/text at 832-370-7155 if you need assistance.  
Thank you!





# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN  
January 21, 2024 – Third Sunday after Epiphany, Year B

Trinity Episcopal Church | [www.trinitymidtown.org](http://www.trinitymidtown.org)  
1015 Holman @ Main | 713-528-4100

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

## A Case for Love – Jan. 23rd (Showing at Select Locations)

Please mark your calendars to attend one of the showings for the film “A Case for Love” featuring Bishop Michael Curry on January 23rd. Rev. Hannah will be attending the 7pm showing at Greenway Movie Theater. Get tickets [here](#).

## Jazz Festival – Planning Committee Meeting, Jan. 23rd, 6:30pm

Volunteers Needed! The Jazz Planning Committee is looking for volunteers. If you love Jazz, planning, and bringing people together, come join us! Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. Please contact Ann McCoy ([ann.mccoy@att.net](mailto:ann.mccoy@att.net) and/or Michele White ([michelerenee12@gmail.com](mailto:michelerenee12@gmail.com)) to sign up.

## Reproductive Freedom Workshop – January 27th, 10am

Join Texas Freedom Network and Shan Shaffer for a workshop on becoming a Reproductive Freedom Congregation. Shan will explore how even progressive faith communities perpetuate silence around reproductive health issues. This workshop will present ways to become inclusive and welcoming of all women, providing safe space to worship and share their reproductive stories. Please RSVP [here](#).

## Vestry Candidates 2024

The Trinity Vestry proudly nominates the following slate of Vestry Candidates for 2024: Tony Huffman, Jeanne Sommerfeld, Brent Chambers, and Andréa Shiloh.

## Annual Meeting – January 28th 9:15am–10:15 am

Please plan to join us for our Annual Parish Meeting on January 28th from 9:15am–10:15 am in the fellowship hall. We will have some brief presentations from the Vestry, Ministry heads, and Clergy on various church matters including our annual giving report, church budget, voting for new vestry, 2024 plans, and more! A simple breakfast will be served. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Stewardship Update As of 1/16/24

**Total Pledged Amount: \$402,904.00**  
**Total # of Pledges: 89**

**Have not pledged yet? It's not too late!**  
**Let's reach our \$500,000 goal!**

## Pub Theology – January 31st, 7pm at The Mucky Duck

Please plan to join us for our first Pub Theology of 2024! We look forward to seeing you at The Mucky Duck at 7pm for fellowship, discussion, and prayer!

## Church Retreat! April 12th–14th– Registration Coming Soon!

Please mark your calendar for our all church retreat at Camp Allen for April 12–14, 2024! We will have more information and registration coming soon. We hope you will be a part of this special weekend of fellowship and learning as we gather together as a church community.

## THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

### Sunday, Jan 21st, 2024

7:30am – 1:30pm Nursery Open  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)  
9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom)  
9:30 am Education Hour for All  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)  
11:45 am Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)  
11:45 am Meet and Greet (Rector's Office)  
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)  
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

### Monday, January 22nd, 2024

12:00pm Yoga (Atrium 2)  
5:30pm Evening Prayer

### Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024

12:00pm The Listening Post  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer  
6:30 pm Jazz Festival Meeting

### Wednesday, January 24th, 2024

10:30 am Staff Meeting (Weekly)  
12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer  
6:00 pm Healing Service  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 25th, 2024

12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)  
6:30pm Listening Heart (Masterson)

### Friday, January 26th, 2024

12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)

### Saturday, January 27th, 2024

10:00 am Just Texas Discussion on Women's Reproductive Freedom (Fellowship Hall)

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoom-withus>



### PRAYERS

Our custom is to read aloud each week the names of those who request our prayers. We also remember in our Prayer Chain and Bulletin those who desire prayers. Please email to keep us informed. For information or comments about prayer names, please contact the Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero. If you would like to participate as a member of the prayer chain, please contact Norma Cooper.

Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Brenda, Pamela, Danya, Sylvia, Ella, Julie, Leland, Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Sylvia, Joyce, Bob, David, Robert, Susan, Cindy, Patty, Dana, Emilia, Gaby, Florence, Carolyn, Rick, Charles, Harrison, Kathy, Erma, Mary, Chris, Guillermo, Holly, Ray, Barbara, Howard, Claudie, Romy, Gary, Bryce, Rose, Bart, and Marie.

#### For the faithful departed:

The victims of war in Israel, Palestine and Ukraine and all victims of gun violence.

### Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at [www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/](http://www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/).

The next available dates: Feb. 4th and 11th.

Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please sign up online to volunteer [here](#) or scan QR code below. For questions or further information please click [here](#) to contact Jamie Chambers

Next available dates: Jan. 28th, and Feb. 4th, and 11th.



*Happy Birthday!*

Rebecca Wood, Byron Walton, Elmer Romero, Olivia Adams, Sofia Montes, Andy von Holten, Susan Cooley



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



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

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

**Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector**  
associatorector@trinitymidtown.org

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

**Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator**  
parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

**Lauren Santerre, Parish Life Coordinator**  
plc@trinitymidtown.org

**Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster**  
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

**Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator**  
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

**Carol Turley, Membership Secretary**  
membership@trinitymidtown.org

**Larry Laubach, Treasurer**  
finance@trinitymidtown.org

\*Please note we will never ask you for money or gifts via email. Scams are circulating again, so please be aware and cautious.

#### Office Hours

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

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



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



**January 21, 2024 – Epiphany 3 (B)  
Religious Life Sunday**

Did you know that there are monks, nuns, sisters and brothers, and friars in The Episcopal Church? We invite you to learn what religious life can offer you and to observe Religious Life Sunday on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany.

**What is “Religious Life Sunday”?**

General Convention approved resolution 2022-B004, “Foundation of Religious Life Sunday,” to be held each year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany. On this Sunday, we reach out to Episcopalians to spread the message that monastic and Christian communities exist in The Episcopal Church, who we are, and how to find out what we can offer you.



**What are the “religious” communities in The Episcopal Church?**

Religious communities in The Episcopal Church include monastic communities, whose members live together under a rule of life and under vows such as poverty, chastity, and obedience. “Religious life” also includes Christian communities whose members are from all walks of life, who live in their own homes and have jobs, and who form unified, vowed communities.

**What can religious life do for me and for my faith journey?**

In religious life, over the centuries, traditions and practices have been developed to assist spiritual growth and discernment. Religious in the Episcopal Church teach about prayer practices, lead retreats, give spiritual direction, assist in writing and living a rule of life, give presentations about the spiritual journey, and provide spiritual friendship. Many of our monastic communities offer hospitality for short visits or longer retreats. The website [religiouslifesunday.org](http://religiouslifesunday.org) includes resources, videos, a speakers list, and much more.

Once you have made a connection with one religious community, you might want to explore becoming an associate or oblate. The process usually begins with discernment and preparation, followed by a formal service of commitment. Associates and oblates pray for the members of the community and other associates and oblates, and they usually give financial and other support, commit to a rule of life, and attend retreats. We also discern with those exploring a vocation to religious life.

**How can I connect with a religious community?**

We welcome your interest in our lives and our communities! To learn more about monastic communities in The Episcopal Church, visit [caroa.net](http://caroa.net). Form more information on Christian communities, visit [naecc.net](http://naecc.net). For more resources and information, visit [religiouslifesunday.org](http://religiouslifesunday.org).

**Collect For Monastic Orders and Vocations**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



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## A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Episcopal Church of Houston has existed as a house of worship and a center of its community for over a century. As such, it has adapted to the changing nature of the city, as Houston grew from a regional town of approximately 40,000 souls to a dynamic metropolitan giant, the fourth largest city in the United States. With a congregation that grew from a few founding members in the 1890s to several thousand parishioners at its peak, Trinity Church is an example of how spiritual people have contended with the challenges presented during a city's most crucial period of urban development.

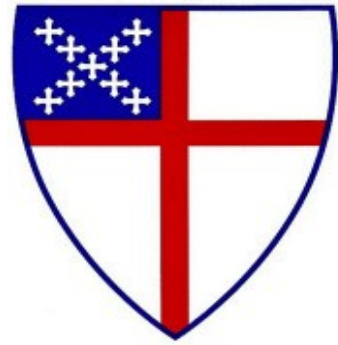
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street and Holman Avenue. That structure, designed by Ralph Adams Cram of Boston and William Ward Watkin of Houston became an architectural landmark constructed in the neo-Gothic style with Texas limestone and a 97 foot bell tower.

During the late 1910s and 1920s, Trinity entered an era of explosive growth, paralleling that of the city, and became an important center of the Episcopal faith. The congregation's many youth and adult activities were community events that attracted wide attention among the general populace. An integral part of its city, Trinity likewise maintained special relationships with Houstonians of other faiths. With a membership numbering 1,900 parishioners in 1930, Trinity emerged as the largest Episcopal parish in the Diocese of Texas and one of the largest in the nation.

After World War II, Houston's growth presented Trinity with perhaps its greatest challenge. As the city physically expanded into the new postwar suburbs, Trinity's membership began to decline. Rather than abandon its historic location, the congregation showed itself to be steadfast. Resurrecting itself from this period, Trinity reaffirmed its mission, this time as a beacon in the inner city where it has become a leading institution in the heart of Houston, determined to enhance the quality of urban life for everyone.

While our neighborhood has gone through many changes, the parish has remained steadfast, and actively ministers to a diverse congregation and to the poor in its midst. As the Midtown Houston neighborhood began redeveloping, starting in the early 2000s, Trinity Church has rededicated itself to its spiritual mission, and has become an active part of the Midtown area for music and other creative art expressions.





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