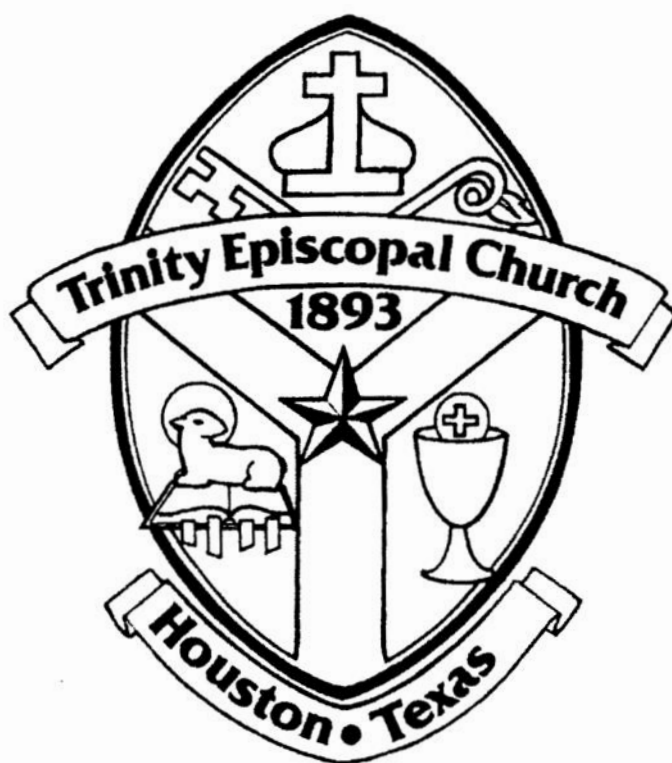


THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 28, 2024
12:30 p.m.



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

April Sloan-Hubert, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble
Pelayo Parlade, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble

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

WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church! We're glad you chose to worship with us. We adapted the liturgy for this service from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* to guide our worship. In this leaflet, you'll find everything you need to follow along printed.

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

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

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

For more information, please visit our website:

www.trinitymidtown.org

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

Facebook Live Stream. Please be advised that this service is live streamed through our Trinity Facebook Page and YouTube channels. By participating in the service, you are consenting to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your children who participate.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

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

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*

THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Jackie Rose
Prayers: Jim Castro
Acolyte: Barrett Hess
Usher: Andy Durham
Audio Visual: Yvonne Meyer
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson
Vestry of the Day: Eric Beam
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the service of our outgoing Vestry members:
Ben Blanding, John Escoto, Ann McCoy, and Michele White
by the Trinity Vestry



Follow us on:

Facebook

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

Instagram

<https://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown>

Youtube

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



The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

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

Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

G D G Em D

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2 Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that
 * 3 He speaks, and lis - tening to his voice, new
 4 Hear him, you deaf; you voice - less ones, your
 5 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -

G D7 G D G

great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis mu - sic in the
 * life the dead re - ceive, the mourn - ful bro - ken
 tongues a - gain em - ploy; you blind, be - hold your
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the

C G D7 G

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace.
 sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 * hearts re - jice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
 Sav - iour comes, and leap, you lame, for joy!
 earth a - broad the hon - ours of your name.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.
Jesus, you spoke with passion, you acted without fear, and we remember. Help us when we have to speak out, to speak the truth and without malice to speak. Hear this prayer for your Name's sake.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

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

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

Please be seated

SERMON The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

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

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response

When we pray dear God hear our pra-yers Lord we

5 know You are al - ways the - re On You

5 Lord we cast ev - ery ca - re Oh

7 1. Lo-rd hear us when we pray 2. Lo-rd hear us when we pray

Let us pray for the preservation of the earth. We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth.
Give us and all peoples grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.
Let us pray for peace and shared prosperity, and for the end of systemic racism that divides us.

We pray for leaders to serve the common good: Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in every land, especially Joseph, our president; Kamala, our vice-president; Greg, our governor; Lina, our county judge; John, our mayor; and the legislatures, and courts; that we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

Response

Let us pray for the Church and its mission. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, for [the Most Reverend Dr. Thabo Makgoba, and the Anglican Church of Southern Africa](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [St. Alban's \(Manchaca\), Austin; St. Christopher's, Austin; and St. David's, Austin](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Bob Flick and the Listening Post](#). For the peace and unity of the Church of God.

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

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

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

We pray for our bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai (*pronounced "Kaye"*), and Hector, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Dale our clergy; and for all who minister in this place.

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

Response

We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness. Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially for those we now name: [Bill, Nick, Bob, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Brenda, Pamela, Danya, Sylvia, Ella, Julie, Leland, Teddy, Pam, Randy, and Gary](#).

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

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, [especially for the victims of war in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and all victims of gun violence](#). Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfillment of your kingdom.

We give you thanks for your servants in every age, especially for [Skyler and Lovette](#), who are celebrating their birthdays.

Response

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

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

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

Final Response

When we pray dear God hear our pra-yers Lord we
know You are al - ways the - re On You
Lord we cast ev - ery ca - re Oh
Lo - rd hear us when Oh Lo - rd hear us when Oh
Lo - rd hear us when we pray

THE PEACE

Presider Blessed be Christ, the Prince of Peace.

People Who breaks down the walls that divide.

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

People Praise to Christ who makes us one.

MUSIC AT THE PEACE

Today

Richard Smallwood

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

The Liturgy of the Table

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERING

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, click: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477>

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



THE OFFERTORY

When Did You Leave Heaven?

Walter Bullock
Richard A. Whiting

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as able.

Presider The Lord is here.

People God's Spirit is with us.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Presider

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son. You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. In him we see you, the eternal God, revealing your glory in our flesh, for he is the light of the nations who illuminates our darkness. In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Therefore with people of every nation, tribe and language, with the whole Church on earth and in heaven, joyfully we give you thanks and say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

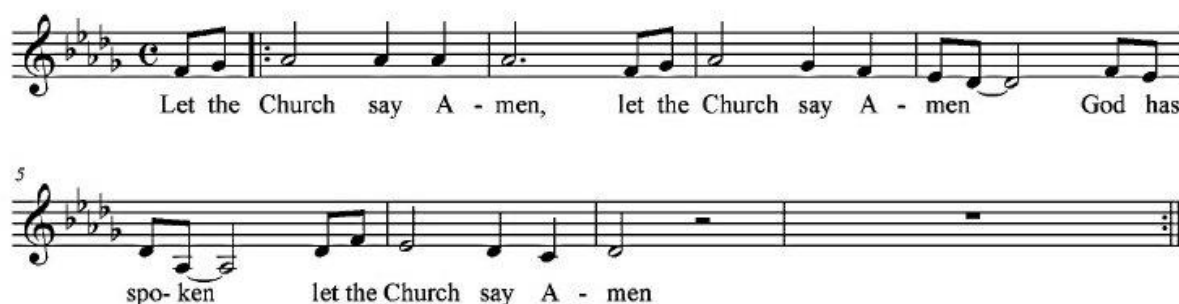
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father, in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son, we now celebrate the wonder of your grace and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness, we were far off until you brought us near and our hands are empty until you fill them.

As we eat this bread and drink this wine, through the power of your Holy Spirit feed us with your heavenly food, renew us in your service, unite us in Christ, and bring us to your everlasting kingdom. From you, and through you, and for you are all things. To you be the glory for ever,



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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

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



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

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion is prayed by those at home unable to partake of communion in person

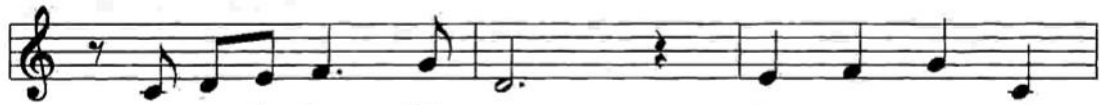
In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.



1. Ev - ery prom - ise we can make, ev - ery prayer and
 2. Ev - ery soul we long to reach, ev - ery heart we



step of faith, ev - ery dif - ference we will make
 hope to teach, ev - ery - where we share his peace



is on - ly by his grace. Ev - ery moun - tain
 is on - ly by his grace. Ev - ery lov - ing



we will climb, ev - ery ray of hope we shine,
 word we say, ev - ery tear we wipe a - way,



ev - ery bless - ing left be - hind } is on - ly by his
 ev - ery sor - row turned to praise }

Refrain



grace. Grace a - lone which God sup - plies, strength un -



known he will pro - vide. Christ in us our Cor - ner -



stone; we will go forth in grace a - lone.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

- Presider Blessed be God who calls us together.
People Praise to God who makes us one people.
- Presider Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.
People Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.
- Presider Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
People Praise to God who is revealed as love.
- Presider Blessed be God who alone has called us.
People Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.
- Presider Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
People Accept our thanks for all you have done.
- Presider Send us now into the world you love.
People Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit. Amen.

THE BLESSING

- Presider May Almighty God, who led the Magi 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.

CLOSING HYMN

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

Sent out in Je-sus' name, our hands are rea-dy now to
En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá pa - ra

make the earth the place in which the king-dom comes.
cons - tru - ir con El un mun - do fra - ter - nal.

The an-gels can-not change a world of hurt and pain in -
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar un

to a world of love, of jus-tice and of peace. The
mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do de paz. Me

task is ours to do, to set it real - ly free. O
ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad; a -

help us to o - bey and car - ry out your will.
yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.

THE DISMISSAL

Prsider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People We go in the name of Christ.

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

*Lift Every Voice and Sing II,
 An African American Hymnal © 1993
 Church Pension Fund. Used by permission.
 Additional licensing from OneLicense.net #A-705504.*

We would like to thank the Trinity Choir for hosting this morning's coffee hour.

Please note that February 4 is available to host (part/all) coffee hour.

To sign up, please scan the QR code below or contact Jamie Chambers:
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 28, 2024 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, Year B

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)

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](#).

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

Please plan to join us for our Annual Parish Meeting this Sunday 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.

Souperbowl of Caring– January 28th – Feb. 11th

Every year Trinity participates in the SouperBowl of Caring. The youth of Trinity are asking you to once again help Tackle Hunger in 2024! You are invited to bring your donations during our drive from Jan. 28th – Feb. 11th. Donations can be dropped in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. For large donations please contact Mary Johns for pickup at 713-523-7605. Additionally, you may give a monetary donation via the EAC website or email info@eachouston.org.

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!

Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Dinner – February 13, 6pm

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, Feb. 13th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Pancake Dinner. We look forward to seeing you there for fellowship, food, and fun as we prepare for Lent 2024. To help volunteer please email Rev. Luz at associaterector@trinitymidtown.org.

Ash Wednesday – February 14th

Our season of Lent will begin on Feb. 14th. We will have our three services for Ash Wednesday at 7am, 12pm, and 7pm. We will also have our Ashes to Go from 10am–4pm that day. We encourage you to stop by or join us online for our Ash Wednesday services and imposition of ashes.

Please Mark Your Calendars!

February 23 – Lenten Soup and Study: Soul Care in an Election Year

March 16 – Lenten Quiet Half-Day Retreat

March 19 – Friends of Iman Iftar

March 26 – Book Discussion with Rudy Rasmus

April 7 – Family Picnic

April 12–14 – All Parish Retreat, Camp Allen

[More information available in the LENT 2024 Guide.](#)

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, Jan 28th, 2024

7:30am – 1:30pm Nursery Open
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)
9:00 am Annual Parish Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church)
11:45 am Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, January 29th, 2024

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

Tuesday, January 30th, 2024

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

Wednesday, January 31st, 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
7:00 pm Pub Theology, The Mucky Duck

Thursday, February 1st, 2024

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

Friday, February 2nd, 2024

10:00am Trinity Garden Club (Smith)
12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)

Saturday, February 3rd, 2024

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, Teddy, Pam, Randy, Gary, 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, Bryce, Rose, Bart, Marie.

For the faithful departed:

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

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, 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.

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: Feb. 4th and 11th.



Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer [here](#) or scan QR code below. For questions or further information please contact Jamie Chambers: jamielynchambers@hotmail.com or call/text at 832-370-7155 if you need assistance.

Next available dates: Feb. 4th, 11th, and 18th.



Happy Birthday!

Skyler Obregon, Lovette Browne



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 3 pm

Friday 9 am – 1 pm

If you have building concerns please email parishadministrator@trinitymidtown.org.



For more information on annual giving visit www.trinitymidtown.org/give.



January 28, 2024 – Epiphany 4 (B)
The Feast of the Presentation

Each year on February 2, the church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, also known as the Feast of the Purification, and Candlemas. This feast commemorates the 40th day after Jesus’ birth, when he was presented in the Jerusalem Temple and Mary was purified in accordance with Jewish Law.

The Book of Leviticus mandates that, after childbirth, a woman must go to the temple to offer “two turtle-doves or two pigeons, one for a burnt-offering and the other for a sin-offering; and the priest shall make atonement on her behalf, and she shall be clean” (Leviticus 12:8).

The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple is chronicled in the Gospel of Luke, when St. Simeon the Righteous saw Jesus in the temple and “took him in his arms and praised God,” saying, “My eyes have seen your salvation” (Luke 2:30).

This blessing by Simeon is the basis for the canticle *Nunc dimittis* or “The Song of Simeon”:
*Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen*
(Luke 2:29-32; Book of Common Prayer, p. 120).



An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, edited by Don S. Armentrout and Robert Boak Slocum, explains that when the celebration of the Presentation was first introduced in Rome in the seventh century, it included a procession with candles and the singing of the *Nunc dimittis*, which is why this feast also became known as “Candlemas.”

Collect for the Presentation

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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.

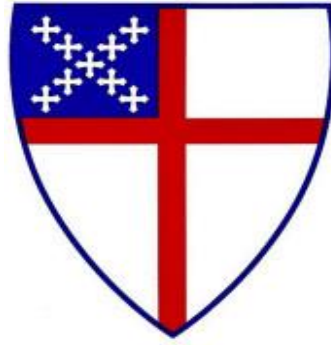
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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





STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, *Rector*
Rector@TrinityMidtown.org
ext. 402

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

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

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

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

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

April Sloan-Hubert, *Co-Director*
Pelayo Parlade, *Co-Director*
of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble
aprildst82@icloud.com

VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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



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