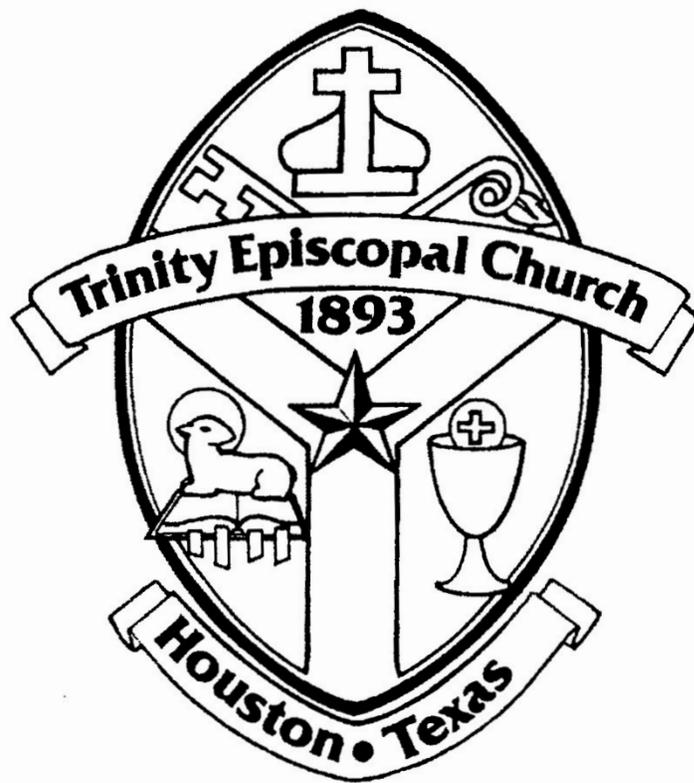


THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MORNING PRAYER, Rite II

JUNE 21, 2020

10:30 a.m.



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

Collin Boothby, Organist and Choirmaster
April Sloan-Hubert, Co-Director of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble

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

MORNING PRAYER RITE II

10:30 a.m. Historic Church

VOLUNTARY

Prayer

George Walker (1922-2018)

WELCOME

THE OPENING SENTENCE

BCP, page 78

Officiant Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

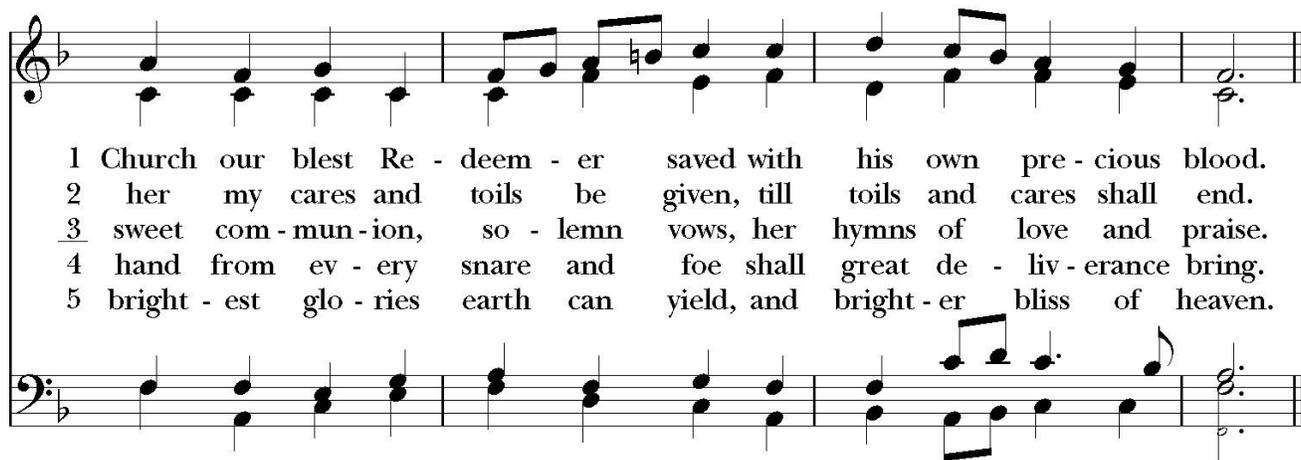
OPENING HYMN 524

I love thy kingdom, Lord

St. Thomas



1 I love thy king-dom, Lord, the house of thine a-bode, the
2 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers a-send; to
3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heaven-ly ways, her
4 Je - sus, thou friend di - vine, our Sa - vior and our King, thy
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given the



1 Church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
2 her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
3 sweet com - mun - ion, so - lemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
4 hand from ev - ery snare and foe shall great de - liv - erance bring.
5 bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heaven.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP, page 79

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you in thought word and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that
we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.**

Amen.

ABSOLUTION BCP, page 80
Officiant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
People **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER BCP, page 80
Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
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.**

Officiant The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

CANTICLE BCP, page 82
Venite
Read in unison.

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Officiant The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

PSALM 86: 1-10, 16 -17 BCP, page 709
Inclina, Domine
Alternately by whole verse.

- 1 Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; *
save your servant who puts his trust in you.**
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant, *
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**
- 5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, *
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer, *
and attend to the voice of my supplications.**
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
for you will answer me.

**8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, *
nor anything like your works.**

9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord, *
and glorify your Name.

**10 For you are great; you do wondrous things; *
and you alone are God.**

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.

**17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

**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.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 21: 8-21

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

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

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
 From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
 the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
 He has mercy on those who fear him *
 in every generation.
 He has shown the strength of his arm, *
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
 and has lifted up the lowly.
 He has filled the hungry with good things, *
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
 He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
 The promise he made to our fathers, *
 to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**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.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 6: 1b-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Officiant The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

YOU ARE GOD

Te Deum laudamus
Read in unison.

BCP, page 95

**You are God: we praise you;
 You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
 You are the eternal Father:
 All creation worships you.
 To you and all angels, all the powers of heaven,
 Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 The glorious company of apostles praise you.
 The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
 The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.**

**Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;
Father, of majesty unbounded,
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

**You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.**

THE THIRD LESSON

Matthew 10: 24-39

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Officiant The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past, in this free land by thee our lot is cast;
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;
 way, lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 be thou our ru - ler, guard - ian, guide, and stay
 thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease,
 fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 thy bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

BCP, page 96

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, page 97

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

**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.**

THE SUFFRAGES

BCP, page 97

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People **And grant us your salvation.**
Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People **Let your people sing with joy.**
Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;
People **Your saving health among all nations.**
Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP, page 230

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST COLLECT FOR MISSION

BCP, page 100

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

VIRTUAL OFFERING

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

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

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

Texting. Send the message **heartofmidtown** to **73256**. The prompt will ask for a credit card number which can be kept on file for future contributions.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Come Here Jesus, If You Please

LEVAS, p. 163

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in every land, that we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

Comfort and heal, we pray, all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other trouble, especially for those we now name: Vivian, Myron, Theresa, Jeannette, Alfredo, Emilia, Stewart, Jacqueline, Nathan, Allison, Livia, Carla, Marcia, Beryl, Samike, Maxine, Andrew, Margaret and Katie.

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, especially Theresa Lee, Richard Mitchell, Bobby Howard, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus. 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 these who are celebrating their birthdays: Peggy, David, Caitlan, Arya, Gregory, Robert, Helen, Richard, and Carey.

A PRAYER FOR DISMANTLING RACISM

Dear God, in our efforts to dismantle racism, we understand that we struggle not merely against flesh and blood but against powers and principalities - those institutions and systems that keep racism alive by perpetuating the lie that some members of the family are inferior and others superior.

Create in us a new mind and heart that will enable us to see brothers and sisters in the faces of those divided by racial categories.

Give us the grace and strength to rid ourselves of racial stereotypes that oppress some of us while providing entitlements to others.

Help us to create a Church and nation that embraces the hopes and fears of oppressed People of Color where we live, as well as those around the world.

Heal your family God, and make us one with you, in union with our brother Jesus, and empowered by your Holy Spirit.

In your mercy, benevolent God,

People Hear our prayer.

VIRTUAL PRAYER SHARING

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

Officiant Almighty God, to you we lift up all the prayers of the Trinity community, especially those which have been shared today. We ask you to receive also the prayers which remain unspoken in our hearts. This we ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

BCP, page 101

Almighty God, **Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

BCP, page 102

Officiant Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.

People **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Father Most Holy, Merciful and Tender
(see next page)

Christe Sanctorum

1. Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der;
 2. Trin - i - ty bless - ed, U - ni - ty un - shak - en;
 3. Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee;
 4. To the al - might - y tri - une God be glo - ry:

Je - sus our Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther
 De - i - ty per - fect, giv - ing and for -
 lo, all things serve Thee through Thy whole cre -
 high - est and great - est, help Thou our en -

reign - ing; Spir - it of mer - cy, Ad - vo - cate, De -
 giv - ing; Light of the an - gels, Life of the for -
 a - tion: hear us, Al - might - y, hear us as we
 deav - or; we, too, would praise Thee, giv - ing hon - or

fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
 sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing;
 raise Thee, heart's ad - o - ra - tion.
 wor - thy, now and for - ev - er.

DISMISSAL

BCP, page 102

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

VOLUNTARY

Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho arr. Fela Sowande (1905-1987)

Virtual Coffee Hour this morning will be live on Facebook following the service.

We invite you to join the **Zoom Check-In** at 12:30 pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82044505630>

Meeting ID: 820 4450 5630



THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

June 21, 2020

Third Sunday after Pentecost – Year A

Announcements



MUSIC OF THE CHURCH

Virtual Adult Forum



Collin Boothby
Organist/Choirmaster
Trinity Episcopal Church

Thursdays at 4 pm
June 25 - July 30
Discussion on Zoom

Sign-up:

www.forms.gle/DYg9XfLnuup2rRXV7

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, June 21, 2020

- 9:30 am Youth Bible Study (via Zoom)
- 9:30 am Parenting with Grace (via Zoom)
- 9:30 am Sunday Meditations (via Zoom)
- 10:30 am Morning Prayer service**
(live on Facebook and YouTube)
- 11:30 am Virtual Coffee Hour, Facebook
- 12:30 pm—Zoom Check in

Monday, June 22, 2020

- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
- 6:00 pm Virtual Concert – Houston Chapter American Guild of Organists – Facebook

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

- 11:00 am Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 3:00 pm Rector's message on Facebook
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

- 11:00 am Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
- 7:00 pm Pub Theology (via Zoom)
- 7:30 pm Choir Social (via Zoom)

Thursday, June 25, 2020

- 11:00 am Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 4:00 pm Music of the Church (via Zoom)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Friday, June 26, 2020

- 11:00 am Yoga with Saba (via Zoom)
- 12:00 pm MIDDAY Music in Midtown – Trinity Facebook page
- 12:00 pm Inner City Podcast
- 12:00 pm Youth Group (via Zoom)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Saturday, June 27, 2020

Ongoing

Daily Scripture and Prayer

Sent by email Monday through Saturday at 9:30 am.

If you are not receiving this, contact Collin Boothby at connections@trinitymidtown.org

Pub Theology

Meets via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays.

different brews  *different views*

PUB THEOLOGY

— BEER, CONVERSATION & GOD —

For the link, contact frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org

Inner City Spirit Podcast

Is posted each week on Friday at noon. Listen on our website:

www.trinitymidtown.org/podcasts/inner-city-spirit

or subscribe on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.



MIDDAY MUSIC IN MIDTOWN

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Virtual Summer Recital Series
Fridays at Noon
Featuring music of black and other lesser-known composers

RACISM REVEALED
Police Violence & Black Lives Matter
www.trinitymidtown.org/racism-revealed/

www.trinitymidtown.org

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 ongoing prayers.

Please email to keep us informed. For information or comments about prayer names, please contact the Reverend Hannah Atkins Romero, Rector, at rector@trinitymidtown.org

If you would like to participate as a member of the prayer chain, please contact Norma Cooper at normajcoop@aol.com

Bob, Myron, Marvin, Caroline, Allegra, Gareth, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Christopher, Barbara, Aurora, Kazi, Emily, Anita, Margaret, Barbara, Penn, Norman, Vivian, Theresa, Jeannette, Alfredo, Stewart, Jacqueline, Nathan, Allison, Emilia, Livia, Carla, Marcia, Beryl, Samike, Maxine, Andrew, Margaret, Katie, Jacques, Mary, Michele, Maria, Marcus, Brian, all affected by the coronavirus

For those in our armed services:

Will Dahlstrom, Martin Cabello and Christopher Krenshaw

For the faithful departed:

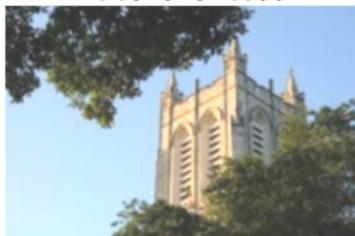
All who have perished by contracting the coronavirus



Peggy Roberts, David Marsh
Caitlan Hillier, Aarya Hopson
Gregory Harvey, Robert Feltenberger, Helen Tellison
Richard Longino, Carey Harvey

Trinity Episcopal Church

1015 Holman@Main
713-528-4100



Rev. Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

rector@trinitymidtown.org

Rev. Dr. Henry Atkins Theologian in Residence

hleeatkins@aol.com

Collin Boothby Organist and Choirmaster Associate for Connections Ministry

music@trinitymidtown.org
connections@trinitymidtown.org

Fabian Berrios, 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

Trinity Vestry

Amy Luke, Senior Warden
John Escoto, Junior Warden
Shelby Bradley, Jim Castro, John Cloud,
Norma Cooper, Terri DiRaddo, Andy Durham, Debbie Owens, Carl Thompson,
David Theis, Libby Tsubai

Follow us on:

Facebook

www.facebook.com/trinitychurchhouston

Instagram

www.instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown

YouTube

www.youtube.com/channel/UCha_MU5f_i7ky8HbtJVJEQg?



www.trinitymidtown.org

We Are Trinity – We Love Trinity!

Here is an easy way to give!

TEXT

heartofmidtown
to 73256.

For assistance and/or questions please contact

Trinity Finance Office

email: finance@trinitymidtown.org

phone: (713) 528-4100.

Bishop Doyle's COVID-19 Guidelines

are available at:

epicenter.org/health-resources

Ordination Announcement

Watch our soon-to-be Curate

Luz Montes

ordination to the diaconate



June 27, 1:00 pm

www.epicenter.org/event/1761361-2020-06-27-deacons-ordinations/

Yoga with Saba

These are stressful times. Give your mind and body a break!

Classes are held via Zoom

Tuesday– Friday at 11 am

For Zoom link, contact

frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org

Readings this Sunday

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

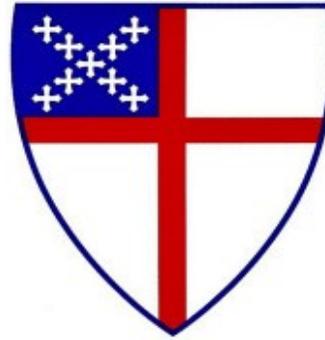
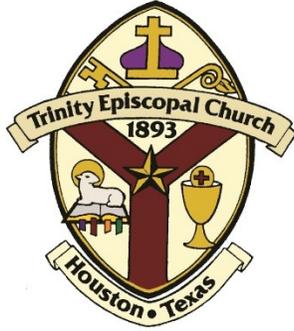
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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

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

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

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





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