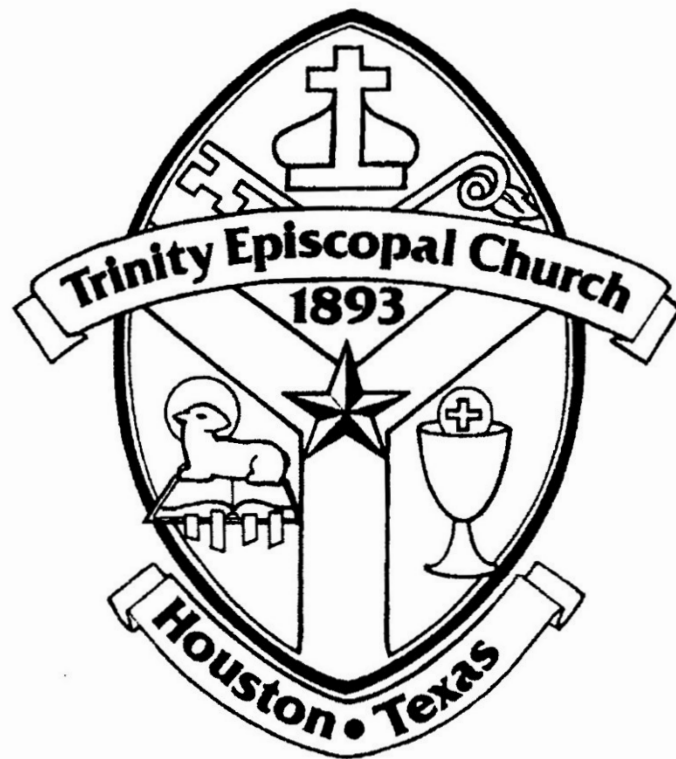


THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 5, 2023
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.
- Children's activity and worship bulletins are available for download from our website under the "Worship—Bulletins" tab, or following this link:

<https://www.trinitymidtown.org/childrens-bulletins/>

VESTRY

Andy Durham, *Senior Warden*

John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam
Ben Blanding
Pam Lawson
Mary Matteucci
Ann McCoy

John Merullo
Samantha Rainman
Gladys Vallés
David Villarreal
Michele White

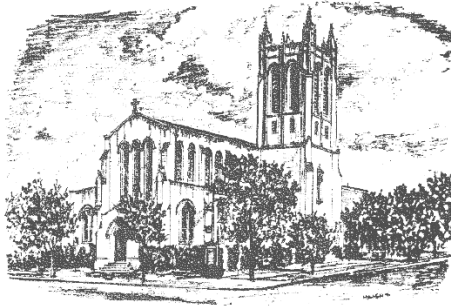
Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Samantha Rainman, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*

THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Mary Ann Collier
Prayers: Marcella Marino
Acolyte: Barrett Hess
Usher: Bob Davenport
Audio Visual: Paul Bower
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport
Vestry of the Day: Ann McCoy



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 The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand: The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.

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

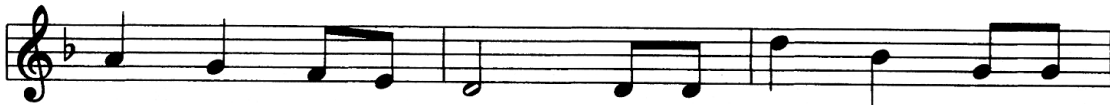
Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

By the Babylonian Rivers



1. By the Bab - y - lo - nian riv - ers we sat
2. There our cap - tors in de - ri - sion did re -
3. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a



down in grief and wept; hung our harps up - on the
quire of us a song; so we sat with star - ing
strange and bit - ter land; can our voic - es veil the



wil - low, mourned for Zi - on when we slept.
vi - sion, and the days were hard and long.
sor - row? Lord God, help your ho - ly band.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Please remain standing as able.

Presider Hear the commandments which God's people were given through Moses:
You shall have no other gods but me.
You shall not make yourself idols; you shall not worship them or serve them.
You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Presider Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness.
You shall not covet anything which belongs to your neighbor.

People Spirit of God, search our hearts.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.
Come Holy Spirit, to all baptized in your Name, that we may turn to good whatever lies ahead. Give us passion, give us fire; make us transform the world from what it is, to what you have created it to be. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12: 1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

9
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

17
Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

25
Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

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; Sylvester, 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 Melter Tais and the Church of the Province of South East Asia](#). In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [Epiphany, Calvert; Holy Innocents, Madisonville; and St. Andrew's, Bryan](#). In the ministry cycle of prayer for [the Dorothy Hogan Memorial Library](#). 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.

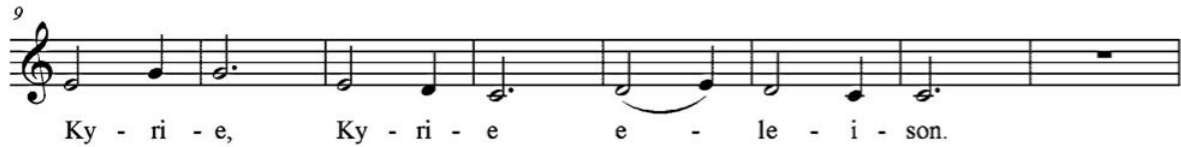
Unite in the truth all who confess your name, that we may live together in love to your glory.

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](#), [Eugenia](#), [Byron](#), [Theresa](#), [Florence](#), and [Charles](#).

[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 [John Stempien](#), [Vinod Hopson](#), [Cintra Todd](#), [Thomas Leone](#), [Patricia Feuerborn](#), victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, all victims of gun violence, and all who have perished from

[contracting the Coronavirus](#). 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 [Toni](#), [Brian](#), [Cindy](#), [Judith](#), and [Kason](#), 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.

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

⁹
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

¹⁷
e - le - i - son.

Final Response

THE CONFESSION

Presider Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. I will confess my sins to the Lord. I will not conceal my wrongdoings.
God forgives and heals us.

People We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us; some escape us; some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us; set us free to serve you.

Presider God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

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

Let it Be

Please be seated.

COMMUNITY LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENT

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

We Walk by Faith

Hugh Wilson

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.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us, offering us the healing riches of salvation and calling us to freedom and holiness. Though tempted in every way as we are, yet he did not sin; through him therefore we may triumph over sin and grow in grace.

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 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.**

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

COMMUNION HYMN

O How He Loves You and Me

1. O how He loves you and me.
2. Je - sus to Cal - vary did go,

1. O how He loves you and me;
2. His love for the worlds to show;

1. He gave His life, what more could He give;
2. What He did there brought hope from despair;

1. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,
2. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,

1. O how He loves you and me.
2. O how He loves you and me.

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 Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

People **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

The Servant Song



1., 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to - geth - er
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
5. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such



Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
on this road. We are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **We go in the name of Christ.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this afternoon.

*Service music printed from 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 Chambers family for this week's coffee hour.
Please note the following dates are open to host (part/all) coffee hour
on March 26, and April 19.*

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online.

*We also have flower dedication dates available for
April 9 (Easter Sunday), April 16, and April 23.*

Please sign up to donate on our website.



THE WEEKLY WINDOW
OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN
March 5, 2023 – Second Sunday of Lent Year A

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



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

Stations of the Cross:

March 3rd: Outdoor Installation by Adam Kufeld begins.
Indoor Installation, Contemporary Stations of the Cross by Esael Araujo on display in the Holman St. Gallery.
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Friday Stations of the cross will be livestreamed at 12pm.

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

International Women’s Day:

Reflect on women’s social, economic, cultural, and political achievements with a call to collective action for accelerating gender equity. This year’s global theme set by the United Nations is “Embrace Equity.” Event held at Rothko Chapel Wednesday March 8th at 6pm. To register please click [here](#).

Fill the Trailer: Outreach Opportunity

Here is how you can help! Fill a new or gently used tote bag with any or all of the following items: Shampoo, Body Wash, Deodorant, Hand Sanitizer (preferably travel/sample-sizes); Soap bars; Razors; Toothbrushes, Toothpaste; Personal Cleansing Wipes; Men’s Underwear, Women’s Underwear (all sizes); Towels, Washcloths. All items must be new (except for towels and washcloths, which may be gently used/clean; unused hotel shampoo, etc. is acceptable). Bring your bags to the Holman Street Entrance on Sundays or by appointment any other time. We’ll deliver the bags to LOTS, where the contents will be distributed as needed. This is a great project for families!

Women’s Retreat/Quiet Half Day:

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

Lent Brochure and Parish Life Guide:

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

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

More Upcoming Events:

3/26: Manna Bags, during coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall
3/26: Family Picnic, 3pm Francis St. Lawn (RSVP [here](#))
3/29: Pub Theology, 7pm The Brass Tap with Guest Brad Sullivan author of [For the Hurt, the Blessed, and the Damned](#)
4/1: Baptism Class, 10am in the Smith Room. To register email Rev. Luz [here](#).

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, March 5th, 2023

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I Chapel
9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom)
9:30 am Education Hr for All – Adults in Smith Rm, Tweens in Fellowship Hall, Kids in Atrium
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Church
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III Chapel
8:00 pm Compline

Monday, March 6th, 2023

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 7th, 2023

10:00 am Sandwich Makers (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, March 8th, 2023

10:30 am Staff Meeting
12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Healing Service –Zoom
6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 9th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, March 10th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 11th, 2023

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at <https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoom-with-us/>



Thank you to everyone who donated blood last week! We had a record 16 donations!!



PRAYERS

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

Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Teresa Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Livia, Carolyn, Sylvia Daniel, Kensington, Theorphilis, Lynn, Joyce, Bob, Cindy, Christine, David, Robert, Phil, Richard, Patty, Jose, Julie, Callie, Billie, Be, Graham, Debbie, Dana, Edgar, Gary, Maryanne, Sam, Samantha, Jarrett, Harrison.

For the faithful departed

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

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

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

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

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator
parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, Admin Assistant
adminassistant@trinitymidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner
youth@trinitymidtown.org

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/.
The next available dates: April 9th (Easter Sunday), 16th, and 23rd.



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

Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer [here](#).
Next available dates: March 26th, March 26th, April 9th.

Happy Birthday!

Toni Longino, Brian Reed, Cindy Crum, Judith Edgar, Kason Edwards



Office Hours

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

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



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org



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

THE SEASON OF LENT

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

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

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

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

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

A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

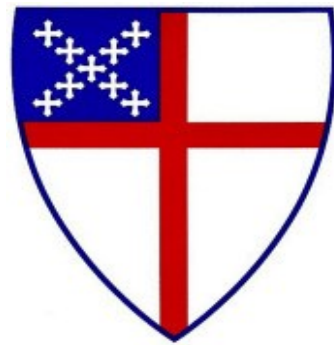
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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

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

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

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





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