THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 10, 2024 12:30 p.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, 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/

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 Eric Beam, Junior Warden

Brent Chambers Samantha Rainman
Tony Huffman Jeanne Sommerfeld
Pam Lawson Andréa Shiloh
Mary Matteucci Gladys Vallés
John Merullo David Villarreal

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

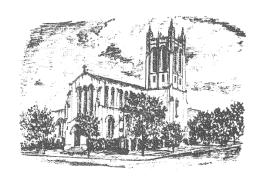
Flute, Clarinet: Ernesto Vega

Bass: Alfred Kennedy

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Pam Lawson
Prayers: Tim Lawson
Acolyte: Jackie Rose
Usher: David Theis
Audio Visual: Paul Bower
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson
Altar Guild: Linda Davenport

Vestry of the Day: Samantha Rainman





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Instagram https://instagram.com/trinityepiscopalmidtown

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











The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider Give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his

children.

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

Presider Let us worship God.



OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Most merciful God, by the passion of your Son Jesus Christ you delivered us from the power of darkness; grant that through faith in him who suffered on the cross we may be found acceptable in your

sight, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON Numbers 21: 4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON Ephesians 2: 1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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!

Jesus said, "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. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Presider This is the Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to Christ, the Word.

Please be seated

SERMON

The Reverend Bradley Sullivan, Vicar of LOTS

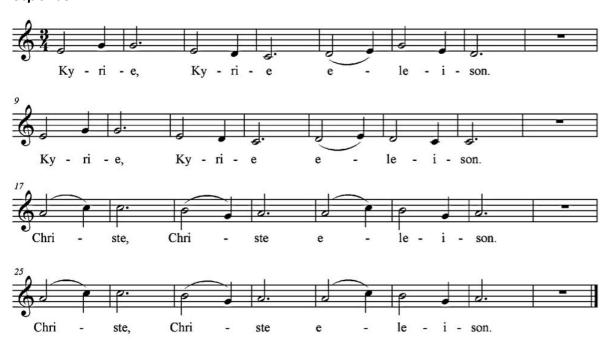
MUSICAL REFLECTION

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

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response



- 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 Michael Curry and the Episcopal Church. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Bartholomew's, Hempstead; St. Cecilia's, Round Top; St. Francis of Assisi, Prairie View; and St. Francis', College Station. In the ministry cycle of prayer for Libby Tsubai and the Peace Cranes ministry. 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, 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, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Ella, Julie, Teddy, Pam, Randy, Cindy, Meredith, Nikki, Annalise, James, Cynthia, and Angela.
- 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 Bruce David Hall, Judy Donatelle, 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 especially for Judith, Gentry, and Marcella, 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





THE CONFESSION

Presider Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are par-

doned. I will confess my sins to the Lord. I will not conceal my wrong-

doings.

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
People
Presider
Presi

MUSIC AT THE PEACE Mercy! Mercy! Cannonball Adderley

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://onrealm.org/TrinityMidtown/-/form/give/now

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 Amazing Grace Irish Melody

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.

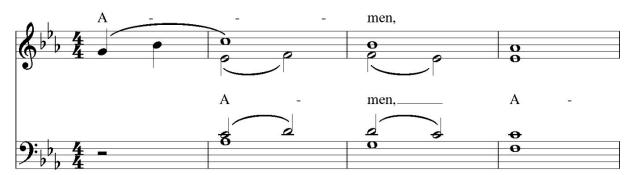
All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

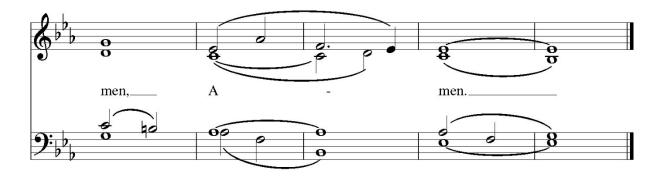
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

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.

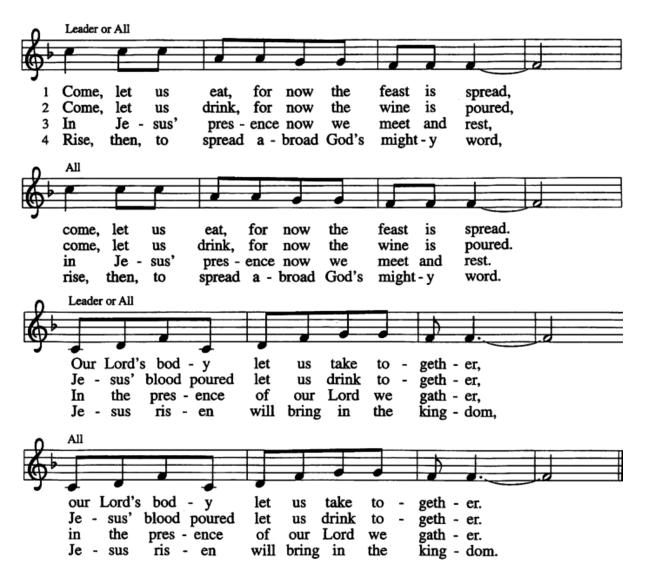


We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when you come forward for communion.

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.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

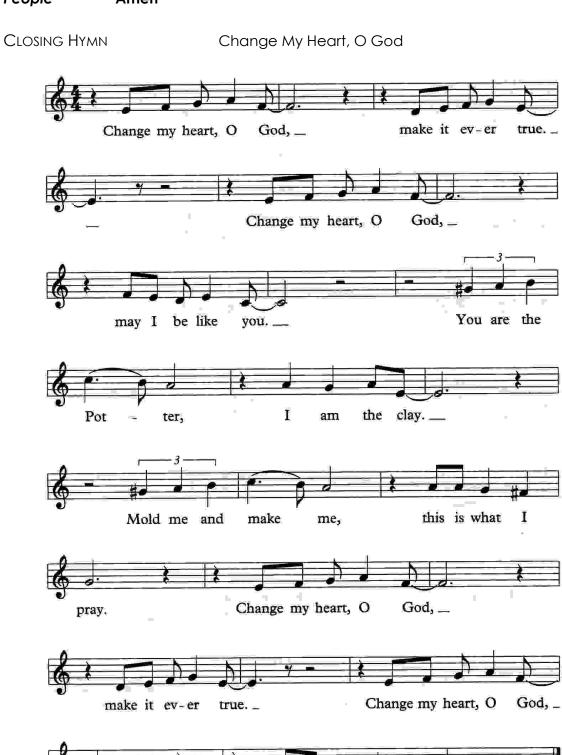
Presider People	Blessed be God who calls us together. Praise to God who makes us one people.
Presider People	Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin. Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.
Presider People	Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed. Praise to God who is revealed as love.
Presider People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

in the power of your Spirit. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. And may the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

People Amen



may I

be like

you.

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 Trinity Pancake Crew for hosting this week's coffee hour.

Please note that dates are open to host (part/all) coffee hour on April 7, 14, 21, and 28.

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





March 10, 2024 – Lent 4 (B) Week 4: Life Transformed – The Way of Love in Lent

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, communities are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. Together, we will reflect anew on the loving actions of God as recounted in the Easter Vigil readings. Together, we will walk through the depths of salvation history into the fullness of redemption. Throughout Lent, come along with us as we explore Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent, produced by Hillary Raining and Jenifer Gamber. You can find resources mentioned below at *iam.ec/lifetransformed* or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Week 4

Sunday, March 10

Today's Practice: Watch the Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining's video at iam.ec/lifetransformed for Week 4. The topic is based on the practice "Bless" and is titled, "A New Heart and a New Spirit".

Read: Ezekiel 36:24-28

Monday, March 11

Today's Prompt: What challenges are you facing today? Read: "And you will have confidence, because there is hope; you will be protected and take your rest in safety." - Job 11:18

Tuesday, March 12

Today's Prompt: How is the Jesus who walked the earth beckoning you to meet him?

Read: "They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way." — Mark 10:46-52

Wednesday, March 13

Today's Prompt: Try praying with Anglican prayer beads. Read: "Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart." – Luke 18:1

Thursday, March 14

Today's Prompt: Where do you find joy and passion? Read: "They said to each other, Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" – Luke 24:32

Friday, March 15

Today's Prompt: Where might God be asking you to take your great love into the world?

Read: "From this time forward I tell you new things, hidden things that you have not known." – Isaiah 48:6

Saturday, March 16

Today's Prompt: How do you want to prepare people to remember you?

Read: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God." – 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Reflections from "Living the Way of Love" by Mary Bea Sullivan (Church Publishing, 2019). Used with permission. Quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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Sunday In-Person Services

8:00 am and 12:30 pm (Chapel) 10:30 am (Historic Church)

Labyrinth Blessing - March 10th at Coffee Hour

As part of his Eagle Scout project, parishioner Byron Walton has made a labyrinth on the stage in Fellowship Hall. It will be available for meditation at various times and will be used in our upcoming Lenten retreat. It will be blessed and dedicated at coffee hour on March 10th.

Please join us as we inaugurate this wonderful new addition to our church.

Half Day Quiet Retreat - March 16th, 9am-1pm

You are invited to join us for a half day quiet retreat led by Rev. Hannah. The retreat will include prayer, a labyrinth walk, journaling, streteching, meditation, and time to share refelections with one another. We will meet together in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP HERE

Manna Bags- March 17th, 11:45am

Be a blessing for the homeless this Lent. Let's help the Emergency Aid Coalition (EAC) by assembling hygiene (toiletry) or manna (snack) bags for the homeless. Materials and instructions to be distributed during coffee hour to assemble at church, or at home.

Candy for Easter Eggs

Candy donations are needed to fill eggs for the Easter egg hunt. The deadline is March 24th. Please contact Pat at <u>volunteer@trinitymidtown.org</u> for more details.

Baptism Class - March 23rd, 11am

We celebrate Holy Baptism during the Easter Vigil, March 30th, at 7:30pm. All people of any age are welcome to be baptized. In baptism we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever.

Baptism Class will be held Saturday, March 23rd, at 11:00am in the Smith Room. Please contact the Rector for more information at rector@trinitymidtown.org.

The Watch - Overnight March 28th to March 29th

Our Lord asked his disciples to watch one hour with him. We watch with him from the Stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday until the Good Friday Liturgy at noon. Trinity is one of the only parishes in Houston with an all-night Watch. We especially need coverage between 1 am and 6 am. Please sign up for your hour here!

All Parish Retreat! Register Now! Camp Allen Retreat Center

April 12-14th - SIGN UP HERE

All are welcome!

\$60 adults/\$30 children plus \$15 each for Saturday night meal.

We will enjoy fellowship, prayer, games, and more!

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, March 10th, 2024

7:30am - 1:30pm Nursery Open 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel) 9:00 am Sunday Meditations (Zoom) 9:30 am Education Hour 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Church) 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall) 12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel) 8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, March 11th, 2024

5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)

Tuesday, March 12th, 2024

12:00pm The Listening Post 5:00 pm Pastoral Care Team 5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church) 6:00 pm Property Committee (Zoom) 6:30 pm Finance Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, March 13th, 2024

10:30am Staff Meeting12:15 pm Good Times AA (Masterson)5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Church)6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 14th, 2024

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

Friday, March 15th, 2024

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

Saturday, March 16th, 2024

9:30 am Lenten Quiet Half Day (Fellowship Hall)

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at

https://www.trinitymidtown.org/zoomwithus



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, Dale, Edith, Graeme, Christopher, Donna, Jason, Clyde, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Monica, Wally, Dorothy, Daniel, Ella, Julie, Teddy, Pam, Randy, Cindy, Meredith, Nikki, Annalise, James, Cynthia, Angela, Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Sylvia, Joyce, Bob, David, Robert, Susan, Patty, Dana, Emilia, Gaby, Florence, Carolyn, Rick, Charles, Harrison, Kathy, Erma, Mary, Chris, Guillermo, Holly, Ray, Barbara, Howard, Claudie, Romy, Bryce, Rose, Bart, Marie, Josh, Christina, Collette, Sybil, Charlotte, Bob, Pamela

For the faithful departed:

Bruce David Hall, Judy Donatelle, the victims of war in Israel, Palestine and Ukraine and all victims of gun violence.

Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

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

The next available dates: Will resume April 14th, after Lent.

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: jamielynnchambers@hotmail.com or call/text at 832-370-7155 if you need assistance.

Next available dates: April 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.





Happy Birthday!

Judith Edgar Gentry Chambers Marcella Marino EASTER SUNDAY
FLOWER
DEDICATIONS IS
NOW LIVE
DEADLINE FOR EASTER FLOWER
DEDICATIONS IS PALM SUNDAY,
03/24/2024 AT 5PM
CLICK HERE



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

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

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator parishadministrator@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.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24th: 8 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Maundy Thursday, March 28th: 7:30 pm Good Friday, March 29th: 11:30 am

(children's program),

12 noon (liturgy), 1:15 pm (Stations of the

Holy Saturday, March 30th: 7:30 p.m.

(Great Vigil of Easter)

Easter Day, March 31st: 8:30 am, 10:30

am, 12:30 pm

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.

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.

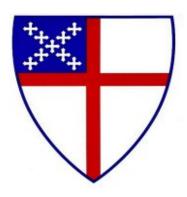
During the late 1910s and 1920s, Trinity entered an era of explosive growth, paralleling that of the city, and became an important center of the Episcopal faith. The congregation's many youth and adult activities were community events that attracted wide attention among the general populace. An integral 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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