THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 12, 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/

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

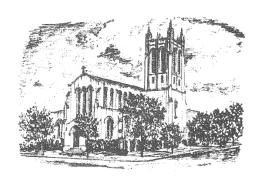
Flute, Clarinet: Ernesto Vega

Bass: Alfred Kennedy

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Pam Lawson
Prayers: Tim Lawson
Acolyte: David Theis
Usher: Bob Davenport

Audio Visual: Jeremy Velasquez Online Greeter: Pam Lawson Altar Guild: Linda Davenport Vestry of the Day: John Merullo





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











The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider 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.

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

Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

We Have Come into this House





OPENING PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Give us grace and courage to hope, and to risk disappointment. Teach us to pray expectantly, and when our prayers seem to fail, bring us to pray again and again; for you are our God, who acts, and will act again. Hear this prayer for your love's sake.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON Exodus 17: 1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb.

Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 5: 1-11

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.

5

(Continued on page 6)

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. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL Please stand as able John 4: 5-42

Presider The Holy Gospel according to John.

People Praise and glory to God!

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Presider This is the Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to Christ, the Word.

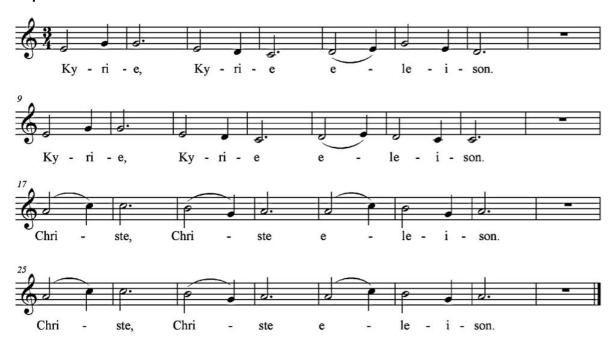
Please be seated

SERMON The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

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

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; 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, Byron, Theresa, Florence, Charles, Mary, and Kathy.

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

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, especially for the Most Reverend Frank T. Griswold III, the 25th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Vinod Hopson, Cintra Todd, Thomas Leone, victims of the earthquake 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 Gentry, Marcella, Pat, Joanne, and Katie, who are celebrating their birthdays.

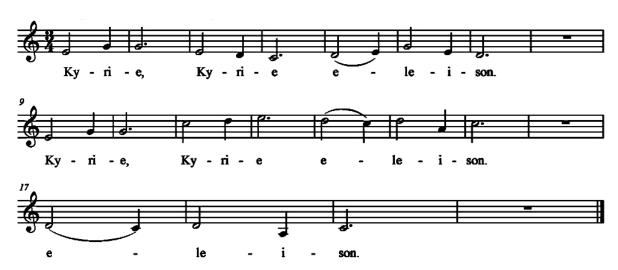
Response

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 Say a Little Prayer for You! Burt Bacharach

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 Trinity Jazz Ensemble

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as able.

Presider
People
Presider
Presider
Presider
Presider
People
Presider
People
The Lord is here.
God's Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
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.

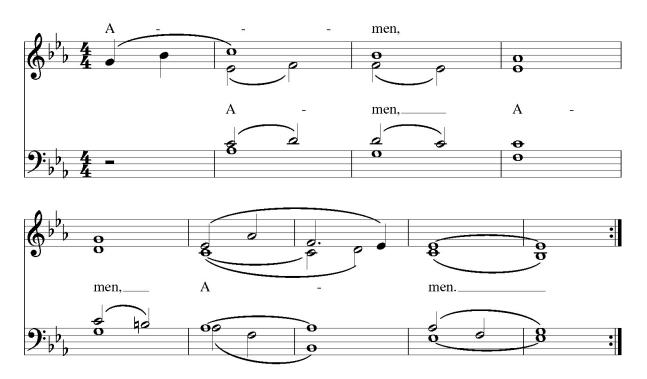
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

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.

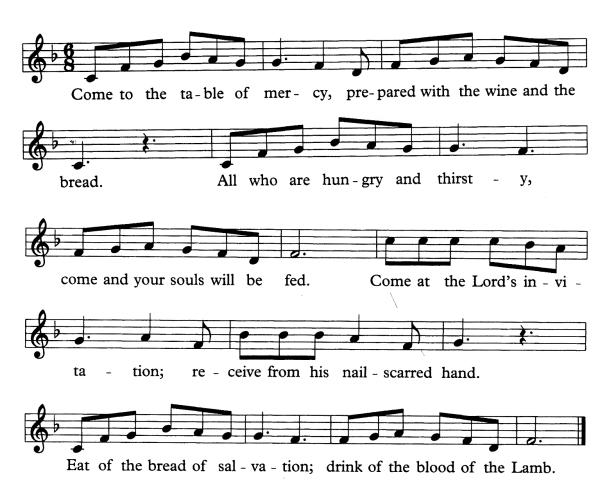


We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when you come forward for communion.

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

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 LEVAS, page 78 Blessed Be the Name of the Lord 1. Bless - ed be the name! Bless - ed be the name! Bless-ed be of the Lord! Bless - ed the name! name be 0 Bless - ed Bless - ed be the name! be the name of the Lord!

- 2 Holy is the Name
- 3 How I love the Name

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 Goodell 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 12, 2023 – Third 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:

Outdoor Installation by Adam Kufeld is now on display.

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.

Pub Theology:

This month we are delighted to welcome Rev. Brad Sullivan, the new rector for Lord of the Streets. Rev. Sullivan has authored a book titled The Hurt, The Blessed and The Damned, which will be the topic of our gathering (purchase here). Pub Theology will take place on March 29th, 7pm at The Brass Tap. You can RSVP here. Invite your friends! We will have a great evening together.

Fill The Easter Eggs:

Easter eggs will be available for pickup this Sunday. We ask you to take some home with you and fill for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Suggested items are individually wrapped candy and/or scripture verses.

Family Picnic:

Join us Sunday. March 26th at 3pm on the Francis St. Lawn for our annual family picnic. We look forward to fun and fellowship with you. We ask each family to bring a shareable dish. We have an online signup <u>HERE</u> to help with planning.

Holy Week Services and Events:

Monday 4/3: 12pm - Midday Eucharist (Chapel)

Tuesday 4/4: 12pm -Midday Eucharist (Chapel)

Wednesday 4/5: 6pm - Tenebrae Service (Chapel)

Thursday 4/6: 6pm - Maundy Thursday (Chapel), 7:30pm (Church); The Watch Begins at 9:00pm (Church)

Friday 4/7: 11:30am - Children's Program, 12pm - Good Friday Liturgy

(Church), 1:15pm – Stations of the Cross

Saturday 4/8: 7:30pm - Great Easter Vigil (Church)

Sunday 4/9: 8:30am- Holy Eucharist Rite I(chapel), Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30am (church), Holy Eucharist Rite III 12:30pm (chapel), 8pm - Compline (Spanish)

Register for The Watch 2023 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)

4/1: Baptism Class, 10am in the Smith Room. To register email Rev. Luz here.

6/2: Chrismon Making Session, 10:30am in the Smith Room; Contact Sylvia Drew

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, March 12th, 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 13th, 2023

5:30 pm Evening Prayer 8:00 pm Communications Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, March 14th, 2023

, 11:00 am Women's Circle (Masterson) 5:30 pm Evening Prayer 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting (Zoom)

6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, March 15th, 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 16th, 2023

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

Friday, March 17th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday, March 18th, 2023

10:30am Vinod Hopson Funeral

Our Weekly Zoom links can be found at

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



PRAYERS

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

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, Maddie, Harrison, Eugenia.

For the faithful departed

The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold III, the 25th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church, Vinod Hopson, Cintra Todd, Thomas Leone, victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, all victims of gun violence and all who have perished from contracting the Coronavirus.

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 <u>here</u>.

Next available dates: April 16th, 23rd and May 7th.

Happy Gentry Chambers, Marcella Marino, Birthday! Pat Laubach, Joanne Starbuck, Katie Quander





Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector

associaterector@trinitymidtown.org

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

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, 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



REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!

Office Hours

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

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



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.

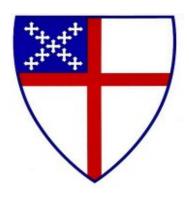
During the late 1910s and 1920s, Trinity entered an era of explosive growth, paralleling that of the city, and became an important center of the Episcopal faith. The congregation's many youth and adult activities were community events that attracted wide attention among the general populace. An integral 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 stead-fast, and actively ministers to a diverse congregation and to the poor in its midst. As the Midtown Houston neighborhood began redeveloping, starting in the early 2000s, Trinity Church has rededicated itself to its spiritual mission, and has become an active part of the Midtown area for music and other creative art expressions.







STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator ParishAdministrator@TrinityMidtown.org ext. 404 Lauren Santerre, Administrative Assistant Adminassistant@TrinityMidtown.org ext. 410

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

Carver Mathis, Youth Missioner Youth@TrinityMidtown.org ext. 405

VOLUNTEER STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary Membership@TrinityMidtown.org



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Trinity Episcopal Church
1015 Holman Street, Houston, Texas 77004
Phone 713.528.4100 Fax 713.942.0117