# The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 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.

# 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: Caroline Levander Prayers: Abby Swearingen Acolyte: Jackie Rose Usher: Andy Durham Audio Visual: Harold Robertson Online Greeter: Pam Lawson Altar Guild: Linda Davenport Vestry of the Day: John Merullo

> The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Charles and Germaine Field, wonderful parents and wonderful friends by Caroline Levander





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





# The Liturgy of the Word

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

Please stand as able.

Presider Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, let us press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Presider Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



# **OPENING PRAYER**

Presider Let us pray.

Living host, call us together, call us to eat and drink with you. Grant that by your body and your blood we may be drawn to each other and to you. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

# People Amen.

Please be seated.

# The First Lesson

Isaiah 25: 1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

# ReaderHear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.PeopleThanks be to God.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 4: 1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

The Gospel

Please stand as able

Matthew 22: 1-14

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

# PresiderThis is the Gospel of Christ.PeoplePraise to Christ, the Word.

Please be seated

Sermon

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

The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector

# 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 Jackson Ole Sapit, and the Anglican Church of Kenya. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Mark's, Beaumont; St. Paul's, Orange; and St. Paul's, Woodville. In the ministry cycle of prayer for Jamie Chambers and the Coffee Hour 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, 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, Kathy, Bob, Dale, Edith, Phil, Graeme, Christopher, Holly, Ray, Larry E., Rose, Junetta, Bart, Thomas, Marie, Pete, and Donna.
- Heavenly Father, our neighbor has nowhere to call home: help us be aware. Our neighbor needs love and community: help us be active. Our neighbor is crying out for justice: help us be adamant to see an end to homelessness.
- Let us give thanks for the faithful departed, especially for the victims of war in Israel and Palestine, 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 Mark, Karen, Marilyn, John, Suzanne, and Eli, who are celebrating their birthdays.

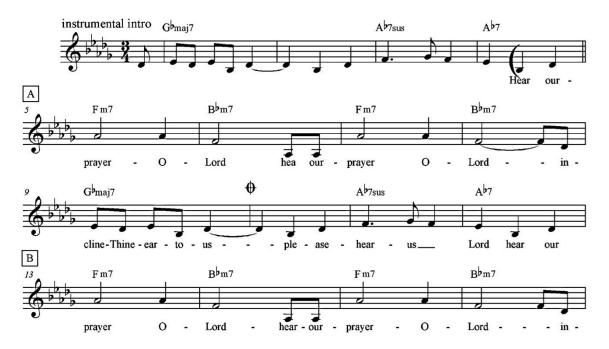
### Response

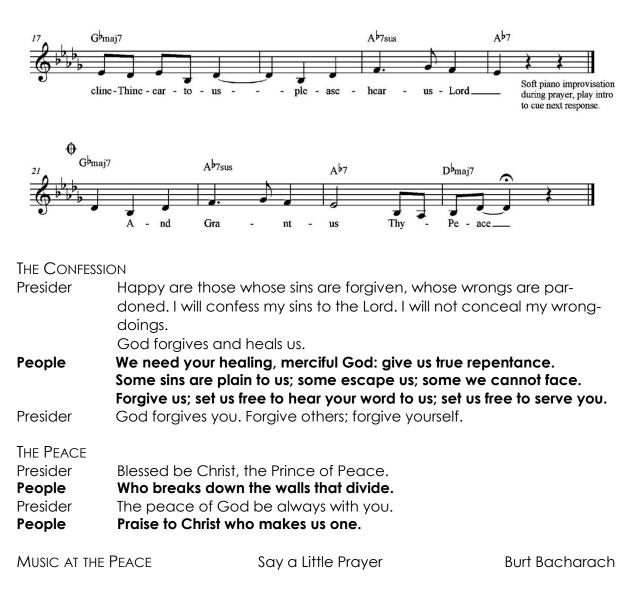
O God, we who come before you this day are many and diverse, with different needs and desires.

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





Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**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

You'll Never Walk Alone

**Richard Rogers** 

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as able.

Presider	The Lord is here.
People	God's Spirit is with us.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to offer thanks and praise.

# Presider

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

When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin. You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory, in him you made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

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

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

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

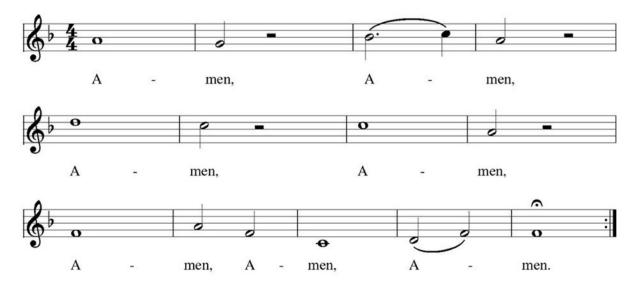
After supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

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

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

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

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



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

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

### The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. People We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread. Alleluia, alleluia.

### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

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



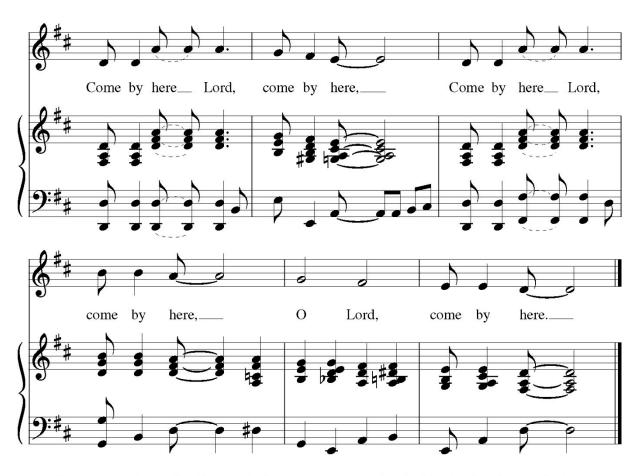
We offer a gluten-free bread option for those with dietary restrictions who wish to receive communion. To receive a gluten free wafer, please clasp your hands with palms facing each other when you come forward for communion.

# PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

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



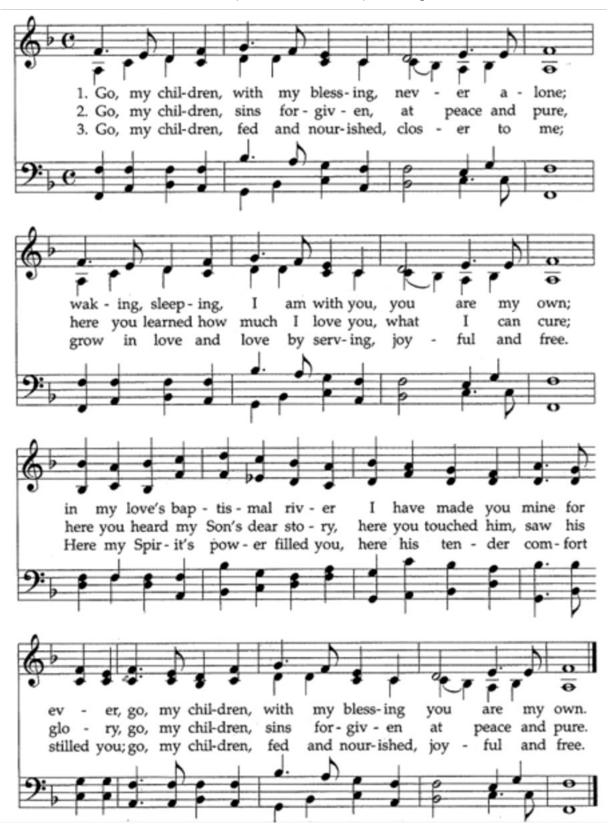


2. Someone needs you Lord, come by here.

3. Send a blessing Lord, come by here.

Prayer After Communion	Please stand as able.
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Presider	Blessed be God who calls us together.
<b>People</b>	<b>Praise to God who makes us one people.</b>
Presider	Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.
<b>People</b>	<b>Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.</b>
Presider	Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
<b>People</b>	Praise to God who is revealed as love.
Presider	Blessed be God who alone has called us.
<b>People</b>	Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.
Presider	Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
<b>People</b>	Accept our thanks for all you have done.
Presider <b>People</b>	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	The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always. <b>Amen.</b>



The Dismissal

PresiderGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleWe 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.

Thank you to everyone who participated in making this year's Annual Blessing of the Animals a big success. Please see Shelby after each service in order to receive your certificate and bag that were not picked up on Sunday. Also, a pair of eyeglasses in a black case were found, if yours please see Shelby.

Please consider signing up to help livestream this service once a month. Training will be provided.

We would like to thank the Christianson family for hosting this morning's coffee hour.

Please note that Sundays after November 5 are open to host (part/all) coffee hour. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or online, or scan this QR code:





# ANNUAL GIVING STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

Trinity Episcopal Midtown 1015 Holman St., Houston, TX 77004 www.trinitymidtown.org/give

# JOIN US AT TRINITY

# October 22nd, 2024 Kick-Off Sunday

# November 12, 2024 The In-Gathering

From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. John 1:16





# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN October 15, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

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

# Community Engagement Opportunity – Amazon List for Erica Zavla's Class

We invite you to partner with us in supporting our Catechesis of the Good Shepard lead teacher in her Spring Branch ISD classroom this year! She has compiled an Amazon Wishlist and would love any and all donations. You may find the list<u>here</u> <u>Thank you in advance for all your awesome support!</u>

# Book Study - Mujerista Theology : October 16th, 6:30pm

Please join Rev. Hannah for our fall adult education book study on October 16th at 6:30pm via Zoom. Mujerista Theology is a comprehensive introduction to Hispanic feminist theology written by Ada Maria Isasi Diaz reflecting the heart and convictions of her experience. For more information and link to purchase book click <u>here</u>. RSVP <u>here</u> (Zoom information provided upon registration).

# Women's Circle: October 17th, 11am (DATE CHANGE)

Our next women's circle will meet on Tuesday, October 17th at 11am in the Masterson room. Please note this is a date change. We welcome all women of Trinity and friends to join us for fellowship, prayer, and reflection as we resume our monthly gatherings this fall. For more information please email Sara Flick at <a href="mailto:sarahflick2009@gmail.com">sarahflick2009@gmail.com</a>.

# Bishop's Visit/Annual Kick-Off: October 22nd

Please make sure to plan to join us for services and coffee hour on Sunday, October 22nd. We will welcome Bishop Monterroso, receive new members, and celebrate our Annual Giving Stewardship Campaign for 2024! We will have a wonderful celebration and look forward to seeing you on this important date!

We are also seeking volunteers to help us with set-up (10:00am-11:30am) and cleanup (12:30-12:45pm). We need 4 volunteers for each time slot. You can email Pam at pamela-lawson@hotmail.com or sign up <u>here</u> to volunteer (10/22 slot). Thank you!

# Four Choir Evensong: October 22nd, 5pm

The choirs of Trinity, St. Mark's Bellaire, St. Andrew's in The Heights and St. Thomas Episcopal churches will be combining forces on the evening of Sunday, October 22nd at 5pm to present a special Festival Evensong service at St. Thomas as part of a collaborative multi-parish musical initiative. The service will feature a wide selection of some of the best music in the Anglican choral repertoire, including Hubert Parry's wonderful, yet seldom-heard anthem "Hear My Words, Ye People" for double-choir, organ and Soprano and Bass soloists as well as David Hogan's "Mount St. Alban's Service" which was commissioned in 1990 in celebration of the completion of Washington National Cathedral. This is a must-see event and will be a beautiful, reflective occasion of music and the spoken word. There will also be a barbequethemed reception following the service!

# Pub Theology - October 25th, 7:00pm

We invite you to our October Pub Theology gathering at our new location – The Mucky Duck (2425 Norfolk St.). This is a casual gathering were we talk about deep ideas, theological topics, and enjoy great fellowship. Join us!

# SAVE THE DATE - DECEMBER 5, 2023, 6-9pm! "Drag Me to Church" - A Holiday Extravaganza FUNdraiser

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

# THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, October 15th, 2023 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 for All 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Church) 11:45 am Sandwich Makers (Fellowship Hall) 12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel) 2:00 pm Yoga at Trinity (Atrium 2) 8:00 pm Compline (Facebook) Monday, October 16th, 2023 12:00 pm Yoga w/Saba (Atrium 2) 5:30 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Mujerista Theology Study (Zoom) Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 11:00 am Women's Circle (Masterson) 12:00 pm Listening Post 5:30 pm Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Vestry (Zoom) Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 10:30 am Staff Meeting 12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rr5:30 pm Evening Prayer6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, October 19th, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm5:30 pm Evening Prayer6:30 pm Listening Heart (Masterson)

Friday, October 20th, 2023 12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm 5:30 pm Evening Prayer

### Saturday, October 21st, 2023

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.

Allegra, Gareth, Kazi, Aurora, Jimmie, Tom, Jill, Stephen, Emily, Van, Dick, Theresa (Fobbs), Victims of Violence, Ric, Barbara, Sylvia, Joyce, Bob, Cristine, David, Robert, Susan, Cindy, Patty, Dana, Emilia, Gaby, Florence, Carolyn, Rick, Charles, Harrison, Kathy, Erma, Mary, Chris, Jane, Mark, Eliana, Laura, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Guillermo.

### For the faithful departed:

For all the victims of war in Israel and Palestine and victims of gun violence.

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

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector

associaterector@trinitymidtown.org

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

Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator parishadministrator@TrinityMidtown.org

Lauren Santerre, Parish Life Coordinator plc@trinitymidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster alexjonesorganist93@gmail.com

Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer finance@trinitymidtown.org

# Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up at <a href="http://www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/">www.trinitymidtown.org/flower-ministry/</a>.

The next available dates: November 19th, December 10th and 17th.

Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer <u>here</u> or scan QR code below. For questions or further information please click <u>here</u> to contact Jamie Chambers **Next available dates: November 5th, 12th, and 19th.** 





Mark Goza, Karen Roach, Marilyn Lewis John Peterson, Suzanne Kupiec, Eli Hensman

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@trinityepiscopalmidtown 0
@trinityepiscopalchurch >
Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org

circulating again, so please be aware and cautious.

\*Please note we will never ask you for

money or gifts via email. Scams are

**Office Hours** Tuesday–Thursday 9 am – 4 pm Friday 9 am – 1 pm

If you have building concerns please email <u>frontoffice@trinitymidtown.org</u>. Thanks!



For more information on annual giving visit 2023 Stewardship Campaign.

#### October 15, 2023 – Pentecost 20 (A) Meet Your Episcopal Service Corps Programs: Johnson Service Corps

Johnson Service Corps is a diverse, ecumenical community of young adults ages 21 to 28 dedicated to service and social justice in Chapel Hill and Durham, N.C.

A year in the Johnson Service Corps is an opportunity to grow personally, professionally, and spiritually through a well-supported mix of justice work, leadership training, spiritual practice, and living in intentional community in Durham.

JSC internship placements involve 32 hours a week serving through economic, environmental, and racial justice-oriented nonprofits and offer experience in areas like policy development and implementation, direct service to marginalized women and families or the homeless, or rural agriculture cooperatives. Types of service include: Addiction and recovery support, Arts, Congregation-based ministry, Community organizing, Education, Employment Services, Conservation, Disability services, Food justice, Healthcare, Homelessness, Housing insecurity, Immigrant/refugee services, Legal services, LGBTQIA+ support, Racial reconciliation, Special education, Violence prevention, Women's empowerment, Youth-based services, public policy/advocacy.

Corps members live in a house with four to six other young adults: sharing space, cooking, cleaning, praying, and learning to navigate conflict. Corps members participate in weekly leadership training and in a faith community of their choice. All corps members are supported with a network of relationships that includes peers, mentors, therapists, and other partners.

The JSC community welcomes people of all spiritual traditions and those who are new to exploring spirituality. Every corps member is encouraged to adopt a daily personal practice and to adapt it over the course of the year. Popular practices have included book studies, music, yoga, and a wide variety of prayer. The corps may also participate in the wide variety of faith expressions in the Durham-area, including Buddhist temples, a local farm church, and a synagogue, along with more mainline Christian congregations.

Corps members serving through JSC arrive in mid-August and commit to participation through June of the following year. JSC provides housing, utilities, food stipend, health insurance, group counseling, quarterly retreats, mentorship, \$500 monthly stipend, and \$1000 completion bonus.

Applications for the 2024-2025 Corps will open December 1. Visit ESC's website to learn more about Johnson Service Corps or to take the ESC Discernment Quiz at *EpiscopalServiceCorps.org*.



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# A HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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

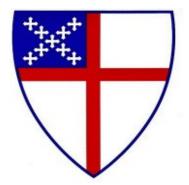
During the late 1910s and 1920s, Trinity entered an era of explosive growth, paralleling that of the city, and became an important center of the Episcopal faith. The congregation's many youth and adult activities were community events that attracted wide attention among the general populace. An integral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

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

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







### **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

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