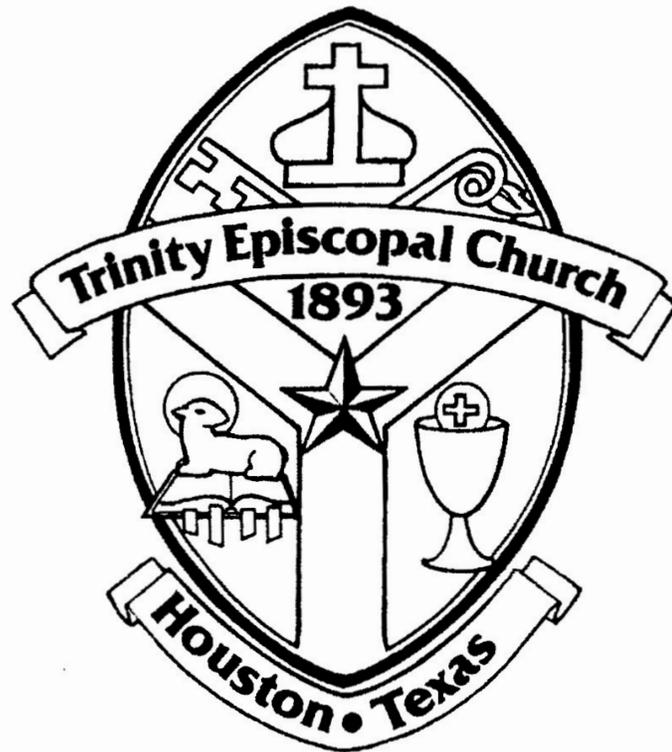


TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 17, 2021
12:30 p.m.



All attending please wear masks and maintain 6 feet social distancing with those not in your household

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

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 this afternoon. 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://forms.gle/dvuRW2FUDny2hpRz5>

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 all services, including this 12:30 p.m. service, are live streamed through our Trinity Facebook and Youtube pages.

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

Amy Luke, *Senior Warden*

John Escoto, *Junior Warden*

Eric Beam
Ben Blanding
Jim Castro
Norma Cooper
Terri DiRaddo

Andy Durham
Pam Lawson
Ann McCoy
David Theis
Michele White

Teddy Adams, *Chancellor*
Dana Gannon, *Assistant Chancellor*
Larry Laubach, *Treasurer*
Steve Lee, *Assistant Treasurer*
Ben Blanding, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Jim Castro, *Assistant Clerk of the Vestry*
Gayle Davies-Cooley, *Historian and Archivist*

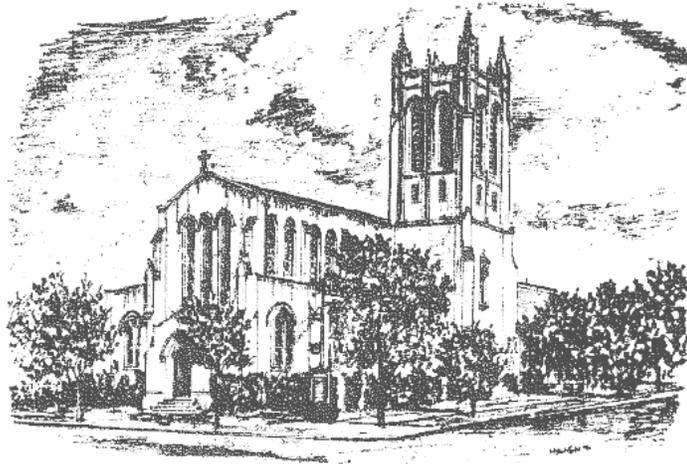
THE TRINITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Pam Lawson
Prayers: Tim Lawson
Usher: Linda Davenport
Greeter: Paul Bower
Audio Visual: Angel Williams
Online Greeter: Pam Lawson

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God
and in celebration of the marriage of Mary Jane and Brett Stevens
by Sally and David Kerr



Follow us on:

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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 O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

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

Presider Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

Jesu, Jesu

LEVAS, page 74

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you. **Fine**

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
2. Neigh - bors are rich and poor. neigh - bors are black and
3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are
5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

1. feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
2. white, neigh - bors are near and far a - way.
3. love; all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
4. slaves, this is the way we should live with you.
5. feet, this is the way we should live with you. **D.C.**

OPENING PRAYER

Presider God of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish in us all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Job 38: 1-7, 34-41

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?"

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 5: 1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response

instrumental intro G^bmaj7 A^b7sus A^b7
Hear our -

A
5 F m7 B^bm7 F m7 B^bm7
prayer - O - Lord hea our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 G^bmaj7 ⊕ A^b7sus A^b7
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

B
13 F m7 B^bm7 F m7 B^bm7
prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 G^bmaj7 A^b7sus A^b7
cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord _____
Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next 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: [Bless Afghanistan, Haiti, and all nations of the world facing tumults and natural disasters, with Christ's gifts of healing and peace.](#) Give wisdom to those who have responsibility and authority in every land, especially Joseph, our president; Kamala, our vice-president; Greg, our governor; Sylvester, our mayor; Lina, our county judge; and for 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 Howard Gregory and the Church of the Province of the West Indies.](#) In the diocesan cycle of prayer for [All Saints', Stafford; Calvary, Richmond; and Christ Church, Eagle Lake.](#) In the ministry cycle of prayer for [Saba Blanding and the Wellness Open House 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, Hector, Jeff and Kai, our Bishops; for Hannah, Luz and Henry our clergy.

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

instrumental intro $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$

Hear our -

A

5 $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$

prayer - O - Lord hear our - prayer O - Lord - - in -

9 $G^{\flat}maj7$ \emptyset $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord hear our

B

13 $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}m7$

prayer O - Lord - hear - our - prayer - O - Lord - - - in -

17 $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$

cline-Thine - ear - to - us - - - ple - ase - hear - us - Lord - - -

Soft piano improvisation during prayer, play intro to cue next response.

21 \emptyset $G^{\flat}maj7$ $A^{\flat}7sus$ $A^{\flat}7$ $D^{\flat}maj7$

A - nd Gra - nt - us Thy - Pe - ace - -

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](#), [Eula](#), [Kensington](#), [Reiss](#), [Stewart](#), [Henry](#), [Steve](#), [Joyce](#), [Bob](#), [Theorphlis](#), and [Margaret](#).

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 [Leopoldo Pinto](#), [Kevin Crawford](#), [Floyd Lark](#), [Ricardo Garcia](#), all who have perished by contracting

the Coronavirus, 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 these who are celebrating their birthdays: Karen, Marilyn, Emily, John, Suzanne, Evan, and Harrison.

Response

○ 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. ○ God, hear the prayers of your people.

The people may offer their own specific petitions, praises or thanksgivings.

Response

THE CONFESSION

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

God forgives and heals us.

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

Presider God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

THE PEACE

Presider Blessed be Christ, the Prince of Peace.

People Who breaks down the walls that divide.

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

People Praise to Christ who makes us one.

MUSIC AT THE PEACE

The Liturgy of the Table

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Online Giving is available through AccessACS.

Go to www.trinitymidtown.org and click the "Give" button on the top right, or click: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=156477>

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

THE OFFERTORY

The Trinity Jazz Ensemble

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 have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and life-giving 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, 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

For the duration of the current pandemic we will offer communion in one kind, the bread only. The priest will bring communion to your seat.



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 the priest administering the bread approaches you.

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.



1. We gath-er here in Je - sus' name, his love is
 (3. He joins us) here, he breaks the bread, the Lord who
 (5. We'll gath-er) soon where an - gels sing; we'll see the



burn-ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame; for through the
 pours the cup is ris - en from the dead; the one we
 glo - ry of our Lord and com-ing King; now we an -



lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one: }
 love the most is now our gra - cious host: } Come, take the
 ti - ci - pate the feast for which we wait: }



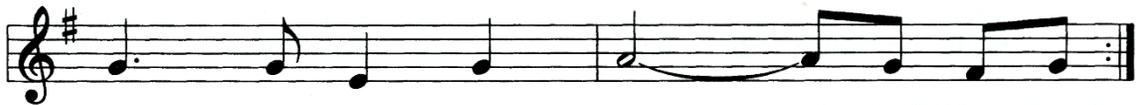
bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.



2. No one is a stran-ger here, — ev - ery - one be -
 4. We are now a fam - i - ly of which the Lord is



longs; find - ing our for - give-ness here, we in
 head; though un - seen he meets us here in the



turn for - give all wrongs. 3. He joins us
 break - ing of the bread. 5. We'll gath - er

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

Presider Blessed be God who calls us together.
People Praise to God who makes us one people.

Presider Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.
People Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

Presider Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

People Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Presider Blessed be God who alone has called us.

People Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Presider Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.

People Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Presider Send us now into the world you love.

**People Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

COMMUNITY LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Please see our complete announcements and the Weekly Window at the end of this bulletin.

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.

People Amen

CLOSING HYMN

Make Me a Servant

Make me a ser-vant, hum-ble and meek, Lord, let me
lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my
heart al-ways be: Make me a ser-vant, make me a
ser-vant, make me a ser-vant to-day. _____

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.
Please remember to maintain social distancing as you depart.*

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An African American Hymnal © 1993
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THE WEEKLY WINDOW

of TRINITY *The Heart of Midtown*

October 17th, 2021

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost – Year B

Sunday In-Person Services.

8:00 am and 12:30 pm are in the Chapel.
10:30 am is held in the Historic Church. Please make sure to continue to mask up and social distance.

Announcements



A Future with Hope
2022 Annual Giving Campaign

1st Sunday, October 31, 2021

Coffee and Cookies with the Bishop in the Bishop's Garden, 11:45 am to 12:30 pm.

2nd Sunday, November 7th, 2021

All Saints Sunday, Remembrances All Services
Baptism at 10:30 am Service

3rd Sunday, November 14th, 2021

Sandwich Makers Community Engagement
Fellowship Hall, 11:45am – 12:30pm

4th Sunday, November 21, 2021

Ingathering, Giving Thanks Parish Picnic
Bishop's Garden and Fellowship Hall, 11:45 am– 12:30 pm
Blessing of pledge cards all services

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, October 17th, 2021

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (live in-person)
9:30 am Lectionary Bible Study– Smith Room
9:30 am Sunday Meditations (via Zoom)
9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in Atrium rm 112
9:30 am ECC Tweens rm 207
9:30 am Youth Forum (via Zoom)
9:30 am Parenting with Grace (Masterson rm)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (live in-person and on Facebook)
11:45 am Sandwich Makers Sunday (Fellowship Hall)
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (live in-person and on Facebook)
8:00 pm Compline (In Spanish via Zoom)

Monday, October 18th, 2021

5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

Tuesday, October 19th, 2021

10:30 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
6:30 pm Vestry Meeting (via Zoom)

Wednesday, October 20th, 2021

5:30 pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
6:00 pm Healing Service (via Zoom)
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 21st, 2021

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Friday, October 22nd, 2021

5:30 pm Evening Prayer
7:00 pm Saint Julian Press Poetry event (Sanctuary)

Outreach

Emergency Aid Coalition (EAC) is helping Louisianans who evacuated from Hurricane Ida. They especially need food snacks that need little preparation, for those staying in hotels.

granola bars
fruit cups
cheese & crackers
peanut butter & crackers
small pop-top Vienna sausage
small pop-top tuna

Trinity collects donations for EAC every Sunday. Thanks for helping our neighbors!

Food for Animeals

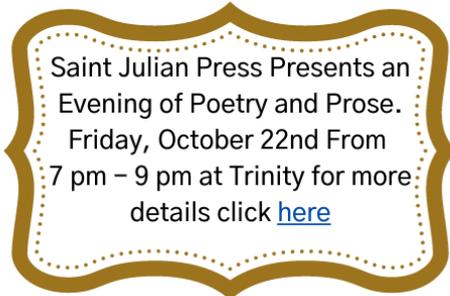
This Sunday, October 17th we will wrap up our collection for Animeals, a group that works in conjunction with Meals on Wheels that helps provide assistance to feed the pets of Houston seniors. Please consider bringing a bag of dry cat or dog food. Shelby will be here to pick up collections and will also distribute certificates and gift bags to those who were unable to be present at the Pet Blessing.



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

The Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Mary Jane and Brett Stevens by Sally and David Kerr

If you would like to make a flower dedication, you can sign up for a flower dedication by clicking [here](#)



Saint Julian Press Presents an Evening of Poetry and Prose. Friday, October 22nd From 7 pm – 9 pm at Trinity for more details click [here](#)

With Poets & Writers

Jane Creighton

William Miller

Ron Starbuck



Lectionary Bible Study with Rev. Hannah: This group will meet in the Smith Room from 9:30–10:15.

www.trinitymidtown.org

Prayers

Our custom is to read aloud each week the names of those who request our prayers. We also remember in our Prayer Chain and Bulletin those who desire 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, Vivian Jane, Bob, Theresa, Marvin, Sue, Tom, Nick, Ric, Margaret, Livia, Joshua, Sandi, Barbara, Larry, Monica, Carolyn, Sylvia, Danielle, Lynelle, Mary, Leonard, Jim, Be, Norma, Jean, Karen, Susan, Randy, Mark

For the faithful departed

Myron Caldwell, Kevin Crawford, Ricardo Garcia, Floyd Lark, Mark Mathis, Audrey Peavy, Leopoldo Pinto, and all who have perished by contracting the coronavirus and victims of gun violence.

For our Iona Seminarian

Carrie Hirdes



Karen Roach
Marilyn Lewis
Emily Davidson
John Peterson
Suzanne Kupiec
Evan Stelly
Harrison Moore



Trinity Episcopal Church

1015 Holman@Main
713-528-4100



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

Rev. Luz Cabrera Montes, Curate
curate@trinitymidtown.org

**Rev. Dr. Henry Atkins
Theologian in Residence**
hleeatkins@aol.com

Ryan Mire, Front Office Manager
FrontOffice@TrinityMidtown.org

Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
music@trinitymidtown.org

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

Trinity Vestry

Amy Luke, Senior Warden
John Escoto, Junior Warden
Ben Blanding, Jim Castro, Norma Cooper,
Terri DiRaddo, Andy Durham, Ann McCoy,
David Theis, Michele White, Pamela Lawson,
and Eric Beam.

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www.trinitymidtown.org

Trinity Beating Strong For & With You!

Here is an easy way to give!

TEXT

heartofmidtown
to 73256.

For assistance and/or questions please contact

Trinity Finance Office

email: finance@trinitymidtown.org

phone: (713) 528-4100.

If you would like to subscribe or resubscribe to church email correspondence please click [here](#)



Congratulations to Mary Jane and Brett Stevens May the years ahead be filled with love and joy

Readings for this week

Job 38: 1-7, 34-41
Psalm 104: 1-9, 25, 37b
Hebrews 5: 1-10
Mark 10: 35-45

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.

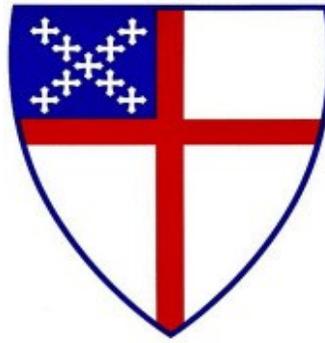
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity is located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street 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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