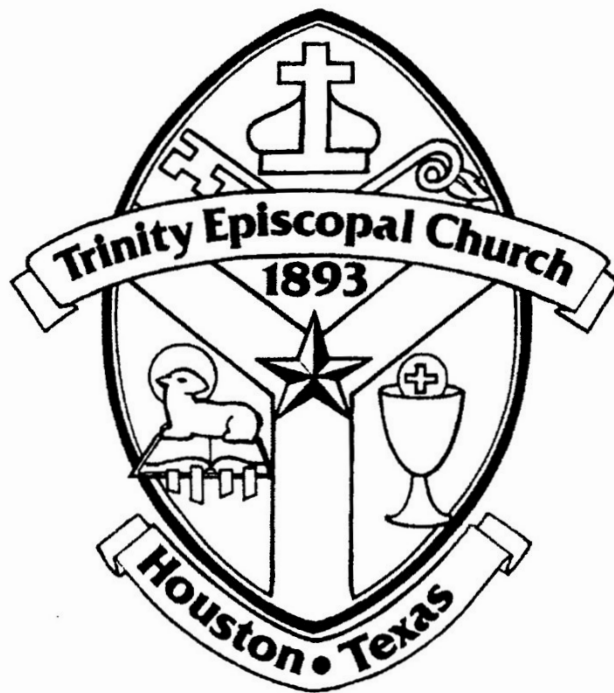


A SERVICE OF HEALING

ST. MATTHEW
APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
VIGIL

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023
6:00 p.m.



The Reverend Hannah E. Atkins Romero, Rector
The Reverend Luz Cabrera Montes, Associate Rector
The Reverend Dale Klitzke, Priest Associate

Alex Jones, Organist and Choirmaster
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***

A Public Service of Healing

St. Matthew

Apostle and Evangelist

Vigil

September 20, 2023

The Word of God

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

After a period of silence, the Minister then says the following Collects.

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come here seeking your healing grace for themselves and for others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body; and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole according to your desire, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

We thank you, heavenly Father, for the witness of your apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of your Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Proverbs 3: 1-6

My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;

for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them round your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.

So you will find favour and good repute
in the sight of God and of people.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119: 33-40

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

Second Lesson

2 Timothy 3: 14-17

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Matthew 9: 9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

A Litany of Healing

The Celebrant introduces the Litany with this bidding

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding. A Person appointed then leads the Litany

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

All you Holy Angels, Archangels, and bodiless powers of heaven;

Stand beside us to guide and guard us on our way.

Holy Mary, Mother of God;

Pray for us and the people of the world.

For all who grieve the death of family, friends, and citizens;

Give them courage and strength to meet the days ahead, O Lord, and the consolation of your love.

Pour out your healing grace on all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are afraid, anxious, or overwhelmed, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Give peace, courage, and hope to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the sick and suffering, keep them safe and healthy, and grant them wisdom and skill, sympathy, and patience;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Open our eyes to see that you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth and that our life and death are with each other;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Give us compassion for those in need, patience in this time of distress in our country, and love for our neighbors;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Let our hearts be not afraid;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders:

You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

And in your light we see light.

Let us pray:

A period of silence follows.

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People:

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Prayers for Healing

*The minister may invite each person to give her or his name and any particular request for prayer.
The minister then prays silently, then prays aloud using one of the following forms or similar words.*

I lay my hands upon you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, praying you will be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit. *Amen.*

After all are anointed

May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

May God the Father bless us, God the Son heal us, God the Holy Spirit give us strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard our bodies, save our souls, and bring us safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal

<i>Officiant</i>	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People	Amen.

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Matthew, one of Jesus' disciples, is probably to be identified with Levi, a tax collector ("publican") mentioned by Mark and Luke. In the Gospel according to Matthew, it is said that Matthew was seated in the custom-house when Jesus invited him, "Follow me." When Jesus called him, he at once left everything, followed Jesus, and later gave a dinner for him. Mark and Luke also note that Levi was a tax collector. In all three accounts, Jesus is severely criticized for eating at the same table with tax collectors and other disreputable persons.

Tax collectors were viewed as collaborators with the Roman State, extortioners who took money from their own people to further the cause of Rome and to line their own pockets. They were spurned as traitors and outcasts. The Jews so abhorred them that pious Pharisees refused to marry into a family that had a publican as a member. Clearly, Matthew was hardly the type of man that a devout Jew would have had among his closest associates. Yet Jesus noted that it was the publican rather than the proud Pharisee who prayed the acceptable prayer, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner." There are several favorable references to publicans in the sayings of Jesus in the Gospel according to Matthew.

According to the early Christian writers Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria, Matthew converted many people to Christianity in Judea, and then traveled on to the East; however, there is no certain evidence for this. He has traditionally been venerated as a martyr, but the time and circumstances of his death are unknown.

from *Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2022*, page 422



THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OF TRINITY THE HEART OF MIDTOWN

September 17, 2023 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 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)

Sandwich Makers: September 17

Please join us during coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday to make sandwiches to be distributed at Evening Prayer. We have had an increase in attendance and need to make sure that we have enough sandwiches for our usual distribution. Thank you.

Taste of Trinity: Saturday, September 23rd

Join us for our fall kickoff! We will gather for dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. We will still have at least one dinner group and one brunch group. If we have enough participants, we may divide into multiple groups, still offering at least one for mealtime options. If you are interested but have not signed up please email John at rockhopperlad@gmail.com.

Pub Theology: September 27th

We invite you to join us for Pub Theology in our new location, The Mucky Duck located at 2425 Norfolk St. Come and join us for a pint and some great theological discussion as we address some great theological and social questions together. This is wonderful opportunity to make a new friend and discuss deep ideas.

Episcopal Way Class: October 7th

The Episcopal Way is a class designed to give you a deeper understanding of the Episcopal Church and help you find your place in the life of our church. These classes are free open to everyone; people new to the Episcopal Church are especially encouraged to attend. After completing the course, you will be ready to be Baptized, Confirmed, or Received into the Episcopal Church on the date of the next bishop visit: October 22nd. Please RSVP to attend [here](#).

Blessing of the Animals: October 8th

Bring your pets to get blessed and stay for some food, music, and activities. We also invite you to bring dry pet food to donate to local organizations. Flowers on the High altar will be dedicated to the glory of God and the blessings and love freely given by our pets. The names of our pets will be published in the Sunday Bulletins. A donation of \$5.00 per name is requested to defray the costs of this event. The deadline to have your pets' names published in the bulletin will be Tuesday, September 26th at 9 am.

Artists at Trinity: Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

We invite you to come and view our exhibit featuring New Mexican Artist John Juanito Jimenez Retablo in the Holman Gallery. Jimenez, a Trinidad native, has lived in Santa Fe, NM since 1967. Jimenez is a professional artist and santero and instructs courses in retablo painting. He shares his expertise in Spanish Colonial Art in Santa Fe. Jimenez' work is widely exhibited; he has pieces in the permanent collections of the New Mexico International Folk Art Museum, Albuquerque Museum of Fine Arts, Millicent Rogers Museum, the Santuario de Chimayo Church and many noteworthy collections in New Mexico and Colorado as well as private collections in the US, Europe, South America, Mexico, Canada and Australia. Learn more [here](#).

Save the Date

October 22nd – Bishop's Visit/Annual Giving Kick-Off and Four Choirs Evensong

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE ALOHA SUNDAY
A GREAT SUCCESS!!!!**

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday, September 17th 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
12:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite III (Chapel)
8:00 pm Compline (Facebook)

Monday, September 18th, 2023

12:00 pm Yoga w/Saba (Atrium 2)
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, September 19th, 2023

5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:30pm Vestry Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

10:00 am Staff Meeting
12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:00 pm Healing Service (Zoom)
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21st, 2023

12:15 pm Good Times AA meeting Y. Rm
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
6:30pm Listening Heart (Masterson)

Friday, September 22nd, 2023

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

Saturday, September 23rd, 2023

6:30pm Taste of Trinity (Fellowship Hall)

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, 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, Henry, Mary, Chris, Jane, Mark, Eliana, Laura, and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

For the faithful departed:

Darcy Casavant, Tony Martinez, Mildred Demochak, victims of the earthquake in Morocco, flooding in Libya, and all 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
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Ryan Mire, Parish Administrator
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Alex Jones Organist/Choirmaster
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Pat Laubach, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@trinitymidtown.org

Carol Turley, Membership Secretary
membership@trinitymidtown.org

Larry Laubach, Treasurer
finance@trinitymidtown.org

*Please note we will never ask you for money or gifts via email. Scams are circulating again, so please be aware and cautious.

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: **October 22nd and 29th.**

Sign-ups for coffee hour hosts are available, please signup online to volunteer [here](#) or scan QR code below. For questions or further information please click [here](#) to contact Jamie Chambers

Next available dates: **October 1st, 15th, and 29th.**



Happy Birthday!

Troy Brooks, Nick Bilski, Rhonda Rogers, Antrina Cooper, Barbara Donovan, Jamie Chambers, Payden Chambers, Kingston Walker, William Walker, Ethan Schatz

Office Hours

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

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



@trinitychurchhouston



@trinityepiscopalmidtown



@trinityepiscopalchurch



Let's Connect | www.trinitymidtown.org



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

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.

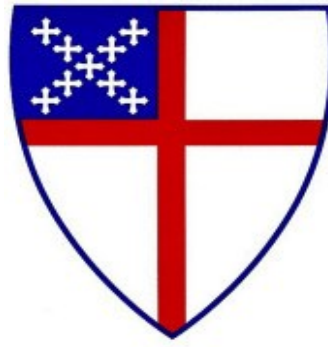
Founded in 1893 as a mission of Christ Church, Houston's first Episcopal church, Trinity located southwest of downtown. After a quarter of a century of existence in wooden buildings, Trinity parish built its present imposing structure (1917 - 1921) in Houston's South End, at the corner of Main Street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

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.05, PENAL CODE (CRIMINAL TRESPASS), A PERSON MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A FIREARM.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.06, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN), A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.07, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH AN OPENLY CARRIED HANDGUN), A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT

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