







10 AM



MORNING PRAYER, RITE II & ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

February 11, 2024

Transfiguration Sunday









TRINITY CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON



# Ash Wednesday is February 14.

We will impose ashes at each Ash Wednesday service. The **7:30 am** service will be spoken; the **noon** service will include congregational hymnody; and the **7 pm** service will include choir.

Our 7 pm service will be livestreamed to **trinitychurchboston.org/live-worship** and our Facebook page.

# **TODAY**

# **Annual Parish Meeting**

Sun., 2/11, 10 am, Church

We will combine Morning Prayer worship with our Annual Parish Meeting. The Meeting's various reports, presentations, and business will be threaded through the liturgy at that hour. With intentions to welcome as many people as possible, this will be our only worship service for the morning.

We will have our 5 pm service, as usual.

A livestream to *trinitychurchboston.org/live-worship* and our Facebook Page welcomes those worshiping from home.

# Children's Time During Annual Parish Meeting

Today we have a special children's time during the Annual Parish Meeting—including homily, crafts and activities to help us mark Transfiguration Sunday, and also get ready for Lent. Snacks provided. Children from preschool through grade 3 are welcome to join us in the Chapel! Younger children are warmly welcomed in our Nursery. Parents can pick up their children from the Chapel or the Nursery after the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Contact Cathy Portlock Pacitto, cportlock@trinitychurchboston.org

# **LOOKING AHEAD**

# Connecting Our Companions Lunch

Tues., 2/20, 12 - 1:30 pm, Undercroft; RSVP by Sun., 2/18 at trinitychurchboston.org/calendar, or scan the QR code

Trinity parishioners who are 65+, please join your companions at Trinity for lunch and conviviality. We'll bring the food, you bring the Spirit!

The Rev. Dr. Michael Battle will present on Ubuntu Principles, which are becoming part of our life together here at Trinity Church, and share how they can influence our ways of being community. We look forward to small group conversation as well as some plenary learning while we eat!





# **LENTEN FORUM SERIES**

# Companions in the Household

Sundays, 11:15 am\*, Lloyd Forum

The word "companion" literally means "breaking bread with another." This Season of Lent we will spend five weeks learning from our community partners whose vocation is to provide bread for those who are without. Come learn how we can partner in caring for our neighbor.

2/18: The Pine Street Inn is celebrating its
54th year of ministry in Boston. They
have partnered with many agencies in the
Boston area, including Trinity Church
Boston. Trinity has been a faithful
companion in assisting those who are
unsheltered in our community. Bryson
King and Peter Meacham will join us
to speak about Pine Street Inn's history,
challenges during the pandemic, and how
our hands and hearts can be involved in
this ministry today

2/25: Companions walk together through struggles and joys. Over the past several war-torn years, we at Trinity have spent time in prayer and walking with our Ukrainian Brothers and Sisters. Our friends from the Ukrainian Cultural Center of New England will share part of their story and our continued journey together.

UCCN will also be present on Sun., 3/24 at 2 pm for a Pysanky Egg Master Class. Join in and dye eggs by signing up at trinitychurchboston.org/calendar.

3/3: Winter Walk \*

**3/10:** Trinity Boston Connects \*

3/17: College Behind Bars \*

Learn about the whole Forum Series at trinitychurchboston.org/news, or scan the QR code.

\* Groups marked with an asterisk will also present their Forum at 6 pm on the dates indicated.

Trinity Church
in the City of Boston
206 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116
617-536-0944 + trinitychurchboston.org



# **WELCOME**



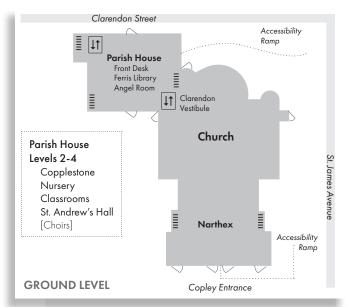
Whether you're new among us or you've been worshiping here

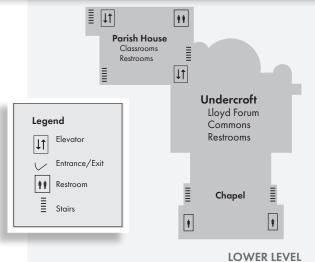
for years, we look forward to helping you make a

home for faith at Trinity.

Complete the short Welcome Form at **trinitychurchboston.org/welcome** (or scan the QR code) so we can get to know you better.

# FINDING YOUR WAY





#### Statement of Affirmation

Trinity Church in the City of Boston is a congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts and welcomes and honors everyone. In accordance with our baptismal covenant, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We strive to include all persons without regard to sexual orientation, race, nationality, gender, family configuration, ethnic background, economic circumstances, difference in ability, culture, or age. Our love and acceptance of each other embody our commitment to unity with God and each other in Christ.

# **HOURS & INFORMATION**

# Sunday Schedule

8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, spoken9 am Coffee & Community Hour,

full "Community Breakfast" on the first Sunday of most months

**10 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II,

with organ, choristers, and choir.
Includes Children's Homily & Nursery.
Morning Prayer last Sunday of most months.

online at

trinitychurchboston.org/live-worship and facebook.com/trinitychurchboston

11:15 am Formation for All Ages5 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II

# Weekday Worship at Trinity

Tues/Thurs.

**8:30 pm** Online Compline

join us on Zoom at bit.ly/tcbTTcompline

and enter Meeting ID 206 654 379

Weds.

**5:45 pm** Choral Evensong

in the Church, led by the Trinity Choristers

## Vestry

Chris Allen ('27) • Christine Arcese ('26) • Christopher Atwood ('26) • Barbara Dortch-Okara ('25) • Josh Fiala ('27) • Richard Henderson ('26) • Vincent W. James ('24) • Tim Martin ('27) • Niven Narain ('26) • Chuks Chijioke Okoli ('25) • Constance Perry ('24) • Peter Renner ('25) • Mary Roetzel ('27) • Olaf J. Thorp ('24) • Pam Waterman ('25) • Katie Wrisley Shelby ('24)

# Clergy

Tours

The Rev. Morgan S. Allen, *Rector* • The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Battle, *Theologian-In-Community* • The Rev. Dr. Karen Coleman, *Assisting Priest* • The Rev. Paige Fisher, *Associate for Community Life* • The Rev. Kit Lonergan, *Priest for Welcome and Care* • The Rev. Abigail W. Moon, *Senior Associate* 

Vestry can be reached at bit.ly/TrinityVestry

Clergy and Staff can be reached at bit.ly/TrinityStaff



#### .....

Wed - Sat 10 am - 4:30 pm Trinity Church offers self-guided, docentled, and audio tours. Considered one of ten buildings that changed America, Trinity Church is an architectural masterpiece including its unique collection of stained-glass windows by designers such as Edward Burne-Jones, William Morris, and John La Farge, its murals, wood carvings and more. The price is \$10. Children younger than 12 are free.

#### GATHERING

Prelude 'Prelude in E flat Major, BWV 552' Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome The Rev. Morgan S. Allen, Rector

#### CALL TO ORDER OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Call To Order Chris Allen, Senior Warden

Confirmation of Quorum

Minutes of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

Will of William Price & Phillips Brooks Statue Committee

Hymn 525 'The Church's one foundation'



Complete the short Welcome Form at trinitychurchboston. org/welcome so we can get



to know you better. You can also scan the QR code to reach the form.

#### Worship at Trinity

Please note that our use of the BCP text may vary slightly to incorporate gender-neutral language when appropriate.

When the text of this worship booklet is in **bold**, it is spoken or sung by all.

Though the Presider's posture (standing, sitting, or kneeling) will cue many in the pews, we invite you to participate as you are able and as your piety prefers.

Children's Gospel pages and crayons are available in baskets in both the Copley narthex and the Clarendon vestibule.

Kindly return crayons at the end of the service.

## From the By-Laws

"A Member is anyone sixteen years of age or older who has been baptized and participates regularly in Trinity Church's corporate worship. A Member commits herself or himself to serve Christ at Trinity Church through investment of their time, their talents, and an annual pledge of financial support. A Member has both voice and vote at the parish's annual meeting."

## Sentences of Scripture

# THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

#### Invitatory

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

We will pray the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

#### Psalm 99

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; \* he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; \* he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \* he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; \* you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; \* he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \* they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \* they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \* you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; \* for the Lord our God is the Holy One.





Club 45 is Trinity's Youth Group for 4th- and 5th- Graders. In 2023, Club 45ers snacked on 108 donuts during once-monthly Donut Sundays. Our larger Youth Ministry (4th grade through high school) hosted a Christmas Party in December, where they made gingerbread houses. Our Church School averages 20 youth each Sunday.

#### THE LESSONS

#### Reading 2 Peter 1:16-21

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Canticle 'Jubilate Deo' William Walton (1902-1983)

(1302 1303)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;

It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;

We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving

and into his courts with praise; \*

Be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting; \*

And his truth endureth from generation to generation.

TEXT: PSALM 100

#### Reading Mark 9:2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

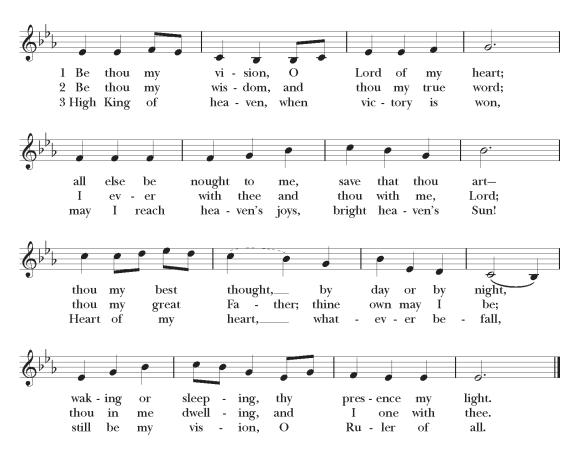
Trinity has had online worship since 2020 on our website and on our Facebook page. According to the 2023 Parish Census, the majority of our worshippers are joining us in person, AND the online option remains meaningful for many. Most online worship happens right alongside in-person worship — we have about 200 people joining us each Sunday for the livestream. We are worshipping together as companions in the household of God even when physically distant.



During this hymn, preschool and elementary-aged children may meet members of our Children's Ministries staff beneath the pulpit to travel to the Chapel for an ageappropriate children's homily, crafts, snacks, and activities to help us get ready for Lent. Younger children are warmly welcomed in the Nursery.

Parents can pick up their children from the Chapel or the Nursery after the conclusion of today's service.

Hymn 488 'Be Thou my Vision'



Annual Parish Address & Homily The Rev. Morgan S. Allen, Rector

#### THE PRAYERS

#### The Collects

# Collect of the Day

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Amen.

Collects are prayers that "collect" our intentions for any given occasion. In addition to the "Collect of the Day," the Intercessor will pray additional collects appropriate for this Sunday.

#### PARISH REPORTS

Trinity Boston Connects Charmane Higgins, Executive Director Ministry Council Barbara Dortch-Okara, Junior Warden

# The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

#### And also with you.

Let us pray together in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.

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.

# Suffrages B

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Day by day we bless you;

We praise your name for ever.

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

For we put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope;

And we shall never hope in vain.

Necrology Since February 2023

Baptisms & Weddings Since February 2023

## The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.





Children's Ministry has had another busy year in 2023:

- 103 Church School lessons taught
- 12 Easter Gardens created by Children's Ministries on Good Friday
- 10 "Children of God Storybook Bibles" gifted to baptizands
- 8 handmade baby blankets sent to newborn parishioners
- 244 chicken nuggets served during Family Nights



Trinity partnered with EndHungerNewEngland to pack meals for Ukraine and for local food pantries. With plenty of elbow grease, helping hands, and a coordinated plan, the Undercroft was transformed into a meal-packing workspace—and on June 4, 2023, community happened as 52,000 meal packets were assembled by parishioners.

Only 2 handtrucks were used to move all of those meals, and 250 hairnets accessorized our Trinity Sunday of Service volunteers.



#### **OFFERTORY**

Stewardship Report

Pam Lassiter & Waihay Wong, Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Report Olie Thorp, Treasurer

Endowment Report David Zug, Investment Committee Chair

Invitation

Anthem 'Draw the circle wide'
Mark Miller (b. 1967)

Draw the circle wide. Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song, no one stands alone. Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

TEXT: GORDON LIGHT

Financials may be found on pages 12-14 of this booklet.

All we have and all we are is of God, and everyone has a faithful offering to make. All gifts received today will support Trinity's ministry, empower our service to the community, and sustain our historic buildings.

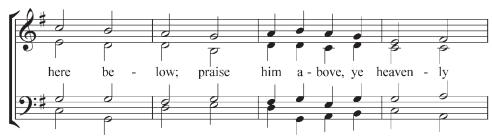
To make a gift online, please click here or use the QR code below to be taken to the secure form on our website.

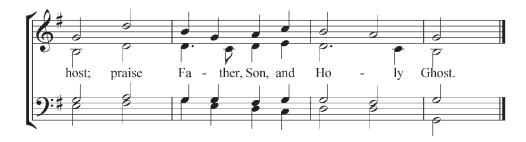


Alternatively, you may also give in-person via the basket passed during the Offertory.

#### The Presentation







Blessing of Kneelers

# CALLING & SENDING

Report of the Senior Warden Chris Allen

Acknowledgement of Outgoing Vestry Chris Allen

Report of the Nominating Committee Jill Norton, Nominating Chair

Call for Election Chris Allen

Prayer Over the New Vestry and Delegates

The Blessing



William C Mackey Nancy Jeanne Martin O. William Hausermann Jr. Wilmot T. "Bud" Pope Kjellfrid Lone Thorp



Visitor Services had another year of growth coming out of the pandemic. 37,215 visitors took a tour of Trinity Church in 2023 — about 50% more than the approximately 25,000 who toured in 2022.

A new tour guide training class began in 2023 — the class can be seen on the cover of this booklet right above the words 'Morning Prayer'. So far, five new tour guides have been added to the roster with more to come.

In 2023, the Shop sold 355 custom Trinity ornaments, and 535 window clings featuring our stained-glass windows. All Shop proceeds support the ministries of Trinity Church.

Hymn 460 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!'



The music for this service is reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-711378. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.



In December 2023, Verger Bob Yearwood, CFO Rob Hess, and intern Sofia Hess visited Yearwood House (named after Bob Yearwood) in the Fenway to distribute \$100 Star Market gift cards to each of its residents. The Trinity partnership with Yearwood House and Pine Street Inn remains strong.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude 'Fugue in E flat Major, BWV 552 "St. Anne" Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Coffee & Conversation will continue downstairs in the Commons.



About the front cover: 1. Trinity Youth and Choristers attended a retreat together in February 2023. Here, they are building a model Trinity out of toothpicks, marshmallows, chocolate chips, and carrots. 2. The Blessing of the Animals was held on Sun., Oct. 8, 2023. Pets were welcome inside the sanctuary and then blessed outside on the Clarendon Lawn. In addition to hundreds of humans, attending were two horses from the Boston Parks Department, many dogs, and at least four cats (two more furry feline friends compared to 2022). 3. After a pandemic-induced hiatus, a tour guide training class began in 2023. So far, five new tour guides have been added to the roster! 4. Parishioner Enoch 'Woody' Woodhouse is a familiar smiling face around Trinity. Woody turned 96 in 2023! Woody is seen with Garrett Powell; both serve as Trinity Ushers, welcoming all who walk through our doors. 5. Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert was performed at Trinity on April 30, 2023, as a collaboration between Trinity and Berklee College of music. More than 800 people attended the free jazz concert. 6. Trinity's Twenties-and-Thirties group and Trinity's Creation Care ministry went on a Holy Hike in March 2023 along the Charles River. In April 2023, the Creation Care team took part in the Charles River Conservancy's Earth Day Cleanup on Magazine Beach in Cambridge. 7. Our Acolyte Ministry places our 6th - 12th grade youth at the heart of the worship service. Our acolytes volunteer once a month to help lead processions, set the table for Communion, and present the offerings from the congregation. 8. Trinity hosted a watch party for Boston's Pride Parade in June 2023 and distributed dozens of donuts to parade-watchers. 9. The Nigerian Christian Fellowship—consisting of Nigerian Anglicans from Episcopal churches all around Boston—hosted an Ingathering during the 10 am service on Sun., Nov. 26, 2023, followed by a festive Coffee Hour. During the Ingathering we gave thanks through gifts and song, of God's blessings and for the gifts of the harvest.

# MEET THE 2024 SLATE OF NOMINEES



Peter Renner
Treasurer, 2028

Peter has been a parishioner since 1989 and has served Trinity in a variety of ways: as CoChair of the Stewardship Committee, Chair of the Children's Ministries Committee, in leadership positions in both of Trinity's most recent capital campaigns, and as member of the Investment Committee, Nominating Committee, TrinityNext Committee, Homeless Task Force (late 2000s), and Creation Care team. He lives in Wellesley with his wife, Mary, and they have three daughters, Madeline, Maggie, & Lindsey, all of whom

were baptized at Trinity.

At the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 10 am, the parish will elect a new Treasurer, four members of the Vestry, and a delegate to our region of the Diocese—the Boston Harbor Deanery, and a delegate to Diocesan Convention. The process began with the Nominating Committee, chaired by Jill Norton, appointed each year by the Wardens and the Vestry, which accepted candidate names for consideration and compiled this slate of nominees after a review of all those recommended.



Constance Perry Vestry, Class of 2028

A cradle Episcopal, born and raised in Boston, Constance grew up worshipping at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in the South End. She began attending Trinity Church in 1998. In 1999, the Rev. William Barnwell invited her to join the Advisory Committee to explore bringing a summer program for inner city Boston youth to Trinity. The results -Trinity's TEEP was created, and Constance met Dain Perry whom she would marry at Trinity Church in 2006. In 2002, the Rev. Sam Lloyd charged Constance

and Dain to form and co-chair a committee to explore bringing an antiracism initiative to Trinity. Over time and with participation from many others, that exploration led to the formation of the AntiRacism Team. She has served on the Urban and Justice Steering Committee, Grants Committee, Trinity Church Welcome Task Force, the 2005 Parish Profile Committee, and currently serves as co-chair of the Trinity Church Task Force for Justice and Reparations. Constance has also served on a number of diocesan committees including Diversity and Leadership, Co-Convener of the Boston Harbor Deanery, two separate terms on the Standing Committee, and currently co-chairs the Reparations Subcommittee of the Diocese of Massachusetts Racial Justice Commission. For six years she was on the board of Episcopal Relief and Development, the international relief and development arm of the Episcopal Church, serving the last three as Vice President. Along with her husband, Constance facilitates screenings of Traces of the Trade across the country in a variety of venues including Episcopal Churches. Prior to "retiring", Constance designed and managed workforce development programs, and was a self-employed national consultant. Constance enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, reading, knitting and running.



Katie Wrisley Shelby Vestry, Class of 2028

After growing up and being married in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Katie and her husband, Tyson, were formally received into the Episcopal Church in 2019 after attending Trinity since around 2011. She finished her Master's in Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School in 2012 and defended her dissertation in Historical Theology at Boston College in 2018, and has since taught as a contingent faculty member in Theology at both BC and Providence College. Throughout her years experimenting in

the stresses of academic theology, Trinity Church has served as a spiritual home, space of solace, and source of beloved community for Katie and her family, which now also includes their daughter, Rebecca Jane, who can often be found in the nursery during the 10 am service. Since 2011, Katie has participated in various ministries at Trinity, including as a server at Rosie's Place, as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, on a Discernment Committee, as an attendee of the 20s/30s Group, a member of the Bible Study Guide Writing Team, and most recently as the Co-Convener of the Lifelong Formation Cohort of the Ministry Council. The Shelbys currently reside in Concord.



**Tim Kelly** Vestry, Class of 2028

Tim started attending Trinity Church in the mid-2000s while studying at Boston University. Soon after, he took part in the Inquirer's Class and was confirmed by Bishop Tom Shaw. He joined the Trinity Choir in 2009 and has been singing with the choir ever since. He has also served as a member of the Ministry Collaborative, Budget Committee, and as a member and co-chair of the Stewardship Committee. Tim and his wife Melissa were married at Trinity in 2015 and their daughter Charlotte was baptized at Trinity in

2021. They live in the Boston area. Tim works for the College Board, a non-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity, where he oversees leadership and professional development programs for higher education professionals.



Suki Garcia Vestry, Class of 2025

Suki has been a parishioner since 2008 and has served the parish in a variety of ways. She has been a member of the Outreach Leadership committee and Co-Chair of the Anne Bonnyman Symposium. She is currently a member of the Audit Committee and a Eucharistic Minister. In addition to her service at Trinity, she is also a tax accountant. Suki and her husband, Chris, currently reside on the South Shore.



#### Grace Clark

Diocesan Convention Delegate, '26

Grace has been attending Trinity for 38 years. She has served on the Vestry (where she co-presented Trinity's Statement of Affirmation), Nominating Committee, Leadership Development Task Force, Anti-Racism Team, Outreach Steering Committee, Altar Guild, and in several Adult Christian Formation capacities, including DOCC facilitator. She most recently joined a Trinity cohort that traveled to South Africa on the Rev. Dr. Michael Battle's Tutu Travel Seminar. Grace is a Registered Nurse, and has been

School Nurse at the Epiphany School since November 2009. She currently resides in Dorchester.



#### Katrina Leslie

Boston Harbor Deanery Delegate, '26

Katrina joined Trinity staff in 2023 as the Minister for Young Adults and Youth. As a lifelong Episcopalian, Katrina was grateful to find a tradition-rich and modern faith community at Trinity Church when she moved to Boston after college. She attended Texas A&M University for undergrad and Boston University for her master's degree in education. Her experience with youth ranges from teaching cello private lessons, being a summer camp counselor at Camp Capers Episcopal Camp in Waring, TX, serving in

college ministry at Canterbury Episcopal Student Center in College Station, TX, being an admissions tour guide for four years at Texas A&M and various other experiences. She loves playing the cello, training for triathlons and exploring local spots in Boston with her friends.

# MINUTES OF THE 2023

#### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sun., Feb. 19, 2023

# Welcome And Explanation

Mr. Mark Morrow, Senior Warden, called the meeting to order at 10:01 am with a welcome and reference to the success of the Morning Prayer / Annual Parish meeting format.

#### Confirmation of Quorum

Mr. Morrow observed that clearly 50 members were in attendance and declared a quorum present.

A motion was made and seconded and it was

#### **VOTED**

To approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting held Sunday, February 27, 2022.

#### Will of William Pierce & Phillips Brooks Statue Committee

Mr. Morrow observed that every year we ask meeting members to waive the reading of the Will of William Price. A motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously

#### **VOTED**

To waive the reading of the Will of William Price. Copies are available on request from the Clerk.

Mr. Morrow stated that every year at this meeting three members of the parish are appointed to the Phillips Brooks Statue Committee which oversees a fund which pays for upkeep of the Phillips Brooks statue. Traditionally, the Church Treasurer, the Senior Warden, and the Junior Warden serve these appointees.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

# **VOTED**

To elect Olie Thorp, Church Treasurer, and the Senior Warden, and the Junior Warden to serve on the Phillips Brooks Statue Committee.

Trinity had a variety of community gatherings this year — including one Sunday in July with 13 rounds of church bingo!

Trinity's online welcome form, at trinitychurchboston.org/welcome, had 2,340 unique pageviews during calendar year 2023— showing ~180% growth over the 1,299 unique pageviews from 2022.

There were 432 online welcome form submissions in 2023.



# Annual Parish Address & Homily "Renewing While we Drive", Rev. Morgan Allen, Rector

Rev. Allen recollected the "bumpy" start to his tenure; recalled the 2020 Stewardship campaign as the best in a generation and described the renewing momentum seen in the 2023 season; announced the church was now debt-free; and shared that in-person attendance since last September at Trinity is up 34% over the same period in the last Program Year. He pointed to our faith prioritzation of community for community's sake as evidenced by our monthly Parish Breakfasts that bring the congregation together with no agenda other than breaking bread.

In a recurring message, Rev. Allen observed, "If we want the world to become more loving, then we must love God and love one another more and better every day." He pointed to the important work of the Task Force on Justice & Reparations, the work of the Leadership Development Task Force, and the contibutions of the Ministry Collaborative, to equip the church to "welcome new leaders and to support our collective ministry."

Rev. Allen ended by expressing his hopefulness for our continuing a "beautiful ride" together.

#### PARISH REPORTS

# Trinity Boston Connects, Charmane Higgins, Executive Director

Ms. Higgins reviewed the mission of Trinity Boston Connects, its three Essential Community Practices, and its delivery systems: Sole Train, TEEP, the Counseling Center, and the Organizational Equity Program. Showed how to support TBC: attend the Bostonians for Youth Gala, ride with Team Trinity in the Rodman Ride, join or otherwise support the Sole Train 5K Run, and participate in the TBC Racial Healing Challenge. Ms. Higgins ended by thanking us for our generosity and support.

#### Bylaws Committee of the Vestry, Ania Wieckowski, Chair

Ms. Wieckowski explained that our By-laws were last updated in 2005, are not compliant to Diocesan guidelines, and do not help us to live into our vision of parish leadership. The committee will work to shorten terms of the Vestry and Nominating Committee, to make it easier for people to become leaders and more people to become involved. Changes must be approved at a church-wide meeting (Annual Meeting), hopefully by 2024.



15 in-person riders and 16 virtual riders raised more than \$50K for Trinity Boston Connects, Trinity Church Boston's sister organization, in the Rodman Ride for

Kids in 2023. Trinity Boston Connects (TBC) works to heal the traumatic impact of systemic racism on youth of color in Boston. Learn more at



**trinityconnects.org** or scan the QR code.

#### Director of Music Search Committee, Mary Roetzel

Ms. Roetzel recognized other members of the committee: Chris Allen, Grace Clark, Shirley Fountain, Rev. Abi Moon, Pam Waterman, Rev. Allen, Chair; and defined search criteria for the ideal candidate to help with creating a job description and rigorous submission and application criteria. Applications were received from east and west coasts in the U.S. as well as the U.K. Interviews were conducted over Zoom, and the committee decided that Colin Lynch was the strongest choice.

Mr. Lynch was introduced, he addressed the Meeting thanking the Search Committee and outlining his goals for the Music Program.

# Necrology (since February, 2022), Rev. Kit Lonergan.

Rev. Lonergan read the names of Parishioners who have died since the last Annual Parish Meeting.

#### Baptisms, Weddings, Confirmations & Receptions (since February 2022)

Rev. Lonergan read the names of those baptized and have joined our community since the last Annual Parish Meeting.

Rev. Lonergan read the names of those who have been confirmed the past year — reminding that we have not had confirmations or receptions for the past two years.

Rev. Lonergan read the names of those members of the church who have been married the past year.

# Financial Reports

# Stewardship Report, Pam Lassiter, Stewardship Committee Co-Chair and Lonsdale Koester, Director of Stewardship

Ms. Lassiter noted that the Co-Chair, Josh Fiala could not be in attendance today, and recognized members of the committee who were in attendance. The Stewardship season featured: testimonials at all services, gatherings at different parks around the city, including 32 of our ministries. So far, over 500 households have pledged including 40 new pledgers, double last year's number of new households, our budget has been surpassed. Ms. Lassister ended by asking us all to think about pledging in a new way and consider stretching up rather than pledging the same as in the past.

#### Financial Report, Olie Thorp, Treasurer

Mr. Thorp reported on Trinity Church's 2022 financial results, describing them as a recovery year with Revenues before Endowment Draws equal to budget and 25% higher than last year. Expenses (a total of \$6.7 million) were also equal to Budget. Cash on hand was down \$346K compared to year-end 2021. The Endowment Draw was \$1.7M or 5.8%, which was equal to budget. Note: Trinity Church began the year with an unusually high cash balance, which meant we did not have to borrow on our established line of credit in a year when interest rates were rising sharply.

Mr. Thorp concluded the review of the church's 2022 financial performance by noting that it was in line with the budget plan and that it reflected a "beginning of a return to normalcy" from the severe impacts that COVID had in 2020 and 2021.

Re Trinity Church's 2023 budget, Mr. Thorp noted continued investments to re-build Trinity's presence in Boston and beyond—he described an approach reflecting a full year of "a new normal", one which supports an increase in Outreach, improvements in operations such as an improved website, enhancements to our sound and media systems, a new building management system to automate and optimize power consumption, as well as investments to key staff positions, including the hiring of a stewardship and parishioner database administrator, a full year of the 2022 clergy additions, and the calling of a permanent director of music.

Mr. Thorp noted that budgeted revenues in 2023 (excluding draws from the Endowment) total \$4.5 million, down 2% from 2022. He reported that the 2023 Budget includes \$600K from the Employee Retention Credit Program—funds from this program have been very slow in arriving (to date, less than 10% of the amount applied for has been received). Mr Thorp also observed that annual pledges included in Trinity's 2023 budget total \$2.5 million which is \$1 million lower than actual 2006 pledges and, after adjusting for inflation, it is less than half of pledges received in 2006.

Mr. Thorp continued by noting that budgeted expenses of \$6.6 million in 2023 are down \$75K from 2022. Mr. Thorp noted that budgeted spending in 2023 is about \$700,000 or 10% lower than 2019 spending and it is \$2.5 million or 30% lower than 2006 spending. The Endowment Draw is budgeted at \$2.1M or 5.8% in 2023 which Mr Thorp noted is necessary in the short term but is not sustainable over the long term.

Concluding, Mr. Thorp noted that the Church has a revenue problem, not a spending problem—he called on all of us to be as generous as possible in supporting Trinity Church in a manner which reflects God's calling.

Mr. Thorp reported on Trinity Boston Connects 2022 financial results, noting a \$392,000 deficit. A balanced Budget has been approved for 2023, reflecting an increase of 27% in Revenues and a 12% increase in Expenses to support personnel additions consistent with TBC's strategic plan. A draw from the Thompson-Lloyd Endowment of \$138K (or 4.7%) is included in the 2023 budget. Mr Thorp noted that substantial support from Trinity Church is included in TBC's budget.

In concluding, Mr Thorp reported that the Trinity Church and Trinity Boston Connects budgets include \$10.2 million in total expenditures—of this amount, \$4.2 million (or more than 40% of total TC-TBC spending) reflects support for Outreach.



82 people attended our Maundy Thursday 'Simple Supper' in 2023.

There are nine Pastoral Visitors visiting homebound parishioners — the household of God that extends beyond Trinity's physical walls.
62 names are currently prayed each Friday morning by Trinity's Intercessory Prayer Group.

# Endowment Report, Steve Hendrickson, Investment Committee Chair

Mr Hendrickson thanked the members of the Investment Committee and noted the goal of the committee is to invest the assets of the Endowment for market value growth over the long term to maintain a 4-5% draw. Last year was very challenging with an overall negative environment, with the Trinity Church (TC) Endowment losing over \$5M, or 12.6% of its value, the second worst performance in the past 31 years. The Trinity Boston Connects (TBC) Endowment lost 13.7% of its value.

Mr. Hendrickson noted that the Endowment's diversified portfolio kept the year's past performance from being worse. Bequest gifts from five parishioners totaled over \$1M last year.

He concluded by stating that the Investment Committee will continue to be diligent in their oversight of Trinity's investments.

# Calling & Sending

# Report of the Senior Warden Mark Morrow, Senior Warden

Mr. Morrow recalled the changes and challenges of past years: the first wave of Covid hitting as a new rectorship began, the Omicron variant, remote worship; and the changes we've witnessed this past year: Bill Rich's retirement; Patrick Ward's departure for a rectorship; saying goodbye to Richard Webster, our previous Director of Music. Mr. Morrow noted the welcome additions too: the arrivals of the Rev. Kit Lonergan, and the Rev. Abi Moon, and the Very Rev. Dr. Michael Battle; as well as our new Director of Music, Colin Lynch.

We've been tested over the past 1,000 days, but we have passed this test: the numbers of those showing up at church for services (average Sunday attendance up 34%) and parish breakfasts as well as those watching livestream from at home; generosity and stewardship have remained strong through the pandemic.

Mr. Morrow recognized the important work of the Task Force on Justice & Reparations and called out as well as the identification of one fund in our Endowment assets which is rooted almost entirely from earnings in the slave trade and redirecting it to fund an endowment in perpetuity to support a Black leader on the staff.

Mr. Morrow concluded by thanking Rev. Allen and his family for their sacrifice to us and this church and recognizing Mr. Chris Allen who will succeed him as Senior Warden and noting that this has been a "beautiful ride".

# Report of the Nominating Committee, Barbara Dortch-Okara, Junior Warden & Nominating Chair

Ms. Dortch-Okara moved this slate of nominees for election: Chris Allen, Senior Warden '27; Josh Fiala, Vestry '27; Tim Martin, Vestry '27; Mary Roetzel, Vestry '27; Katie Wrisley-Shelby, Vestry '24; and Carol Masshardt, Delegate to the Boston Harbor Deanery.

# Call for Election, Mark Morrow, Senior Warden

Mr. Morrow asked for a motion to close nominations. A motion was made, seconded and it was

#### **VOTED**

To close nominations.

With the slate before the Meeting, Ms. Dortch-Okara reported that the Call for Nominations for Parish Leaders went out on November 21, 2022. Nominations closed on Sunday, December 2, 2022. The Nominating Committee, consisting of Rev. Allen, Rector; Mark Morrow, Senior Warden; Christopher Atwood, Chris Allen; Chris Parris; Ania Wieckowski; Listo Fisher; and Laurie Buchta convened on January 13, 2023 to consider the submitted nominations in light of the current needs of the parish. Potential nominees were consulted over the next

several days and were encouraged to discern for themselves if they could see themselves in the roles for which they may be nominated. Their questions were answered and the Slate of nominees was developed and submitted to the Clerk for publication as required by our By-laws.

Mr. Morrow asked for a motion to elect the Slate as presented by the Nominating Committee. A motion was made, seconded and it was

#### **VOTED**

To elect the Slate as presented by the Nominating Committee

#### Acknowledge of Outgoing Warden and Vestry, Rev. Morgan Allen, Rector

Rev. Allen recognized and expressed gratitude to the outgoing members of Vestry: Sally McGinty, Chris Parris, Ania Wieckowski, and Mark Morrow.

# Remarks from the Senior Warden, Mr. Chris Allen

Mr. Allen expressed gratitude and reminded the Meeting that it is "Up to Us" to continue to do God's Work".

#### **BLESSING**

Rev. Allen delivered the closing prayer.



Twenties-and-Thirties (T-n-T) is one of Trinity's growing ministries.

20 members of T-n-T toured through Boston on a Duck Boat Tour in October; 40 Twenties and Thirties attended the T-n-T Kickoff dinner in September and 15 members of T-n-T volunteered and shared a Friendsgiving meal in November.



More than 2,800 people attended Candlelight in December 2023 — 500 more than in 2022 — under the musical leadership of Director of Music Colin Lynch and new Associate Director of Music Jerrick Cavagnaro. Colin was named Director of Music in February 2023, and Jerrick joined the Trinity staff in the summer of that year.

There are more than 100 choir members and choristers, including eight professional singers. The Trinity Choir welcomed 24 new choir members in 2023, including 9 new choristers.

23 campers attended Choir camp in the summer of 2023 at the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, CT.

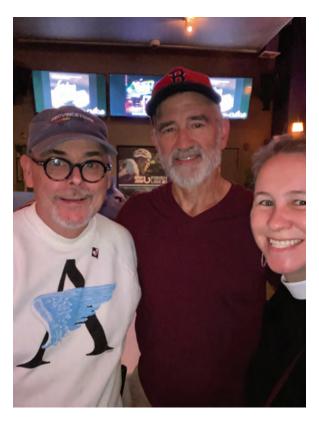
Over the year, the choir sang 176 different choral anthems—not including Handel's Messiah, Bach's Cantata 140, Faure's Requiem, and Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert.

Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert was performed on Sun., Apr. 30, 2023, at 5 pm, as a collaboration between Trinity and Berklee College of Music, with Gregory Hopkins and Colin Lynch directing a 16-piece jazz band, a handful of professional singers, the Trinity choir, and a tap dancer! Our usual 5 pm attendance is around 80-100 people, but more than 800 folks filled the pews for the Sacred Concert.

After a rain delay, parishioners made their way over to the labyrinth at Atlantic Avenue and Mercantile Street on the Rose Kennedy Greenway to walk its winding paths in the summer of 2023. Labyrinths offer a 'movement prayer' as we walk through them—there is no beginning or end (it's not a maze!), just a journey that brings you back to the starting point—hopefully a bit differently than when you set out.



In January and August 2023, two cohorts from Trinity joined the Very Rev. Dr. Michael Battle on his Tutu Travel Seminar in Cape Town, South Africa. The groups spent time with local youth, professors, church professionals, activists, and those who worked (and lived) closely with the Most Rev. Desmond Tutu. Locations visited included the Zwelihle Township, the University of Stellenbosch, Robben Island, St. George's Cathedral, Cape Agulhus, Volmoed Retreat Center, Table Mountain, and local churches. Depending on the time of year, visitors can expect to run into penguins or whales! Learn more about the seminar at michaelbattle.com/tututravelseminar















# A PARISH COVENANT

#### As we communicate,

We promise to listen with generosity and attention to each other, in unity and in conflict, recognizing the importance of all voices.

We promise to speak the truth in love at all times, with humility and respect, especially when we disagree.

We promise to recall and live into our baptismal covenant, honoring each person as a child of God.

We promise, as twenty-first century Christians, to be thoughtful in our use of electronic technologies and media, recognizing that we learn more from each other when we are gathered together.

#### As we live in community,

We promise to offer and accept hospitality, as a sacred process given to us in the Bible, inviting all, newcomers especially, into a deeper relationship with God.

We promise to grow in generosity, seeking always to understand that all that we are and all that we have comes from God, and pledging to share our time, talent, and money in support of our common life.

We promise to pray individually, in small groups, and in regular Sunday worship, for those we love, for our families and communities, for the sick and the dying, and for our enemies.

We promise to build authentic relationships of compassion, encouragement and accountability among ourselves.

#### As we deal with conflict,

We promise to live with and embrace our differences, recognizing that varied and opposing perspectives are essential to the life of a healthy community.

We promise to treat our disagreements as opportunities for transformation and reconciliation, and to invite any person, gently and compassionately, who complains about another into direct conversation with that brother or sister.

We promise to take responsibility for what we say, write, and do at all times, communicating openly, not expressing our dissatisfaction indirectly, anonymously, or absenting ourselves.

We promise to ask forgiveness from anyone that we have harmed, by design or by accident, and to forgive those who have done us harm.

Parishioners gathered on the Clarendon Lawn on Sun., Sept. 12, 2023, for a cookout and our third Annual Parish Photograph. The Annual Parish Photograph was once again taken by Bachrach Photography and used a camera-enabled drone. Trinity Church in the City of Boston As of March 18, 2013