

**Second Sunday of Lent
Holy Eucharist, Rite I
February 25, 2018**

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity	BCP-323
Kyrie	BCP-324
The Collect of the Day	
First Reading	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:22-30	
The Gospel	Mark 8:31-38
Homily	The Rev. Martha C. Harris
The Nicene Creed	BCP-326
The Prayers of the People	BCP-328
The Confession and Absolution	BCP-330
The Peace	BCP-332

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I	BCP-333
The Lord's Prayer	BCP-336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP-337
Payer of Thanksgiving	BCP-339
Dismissal	

Welcome visitors! We are glad to have you worship with us today and hope you will want to return. Trinity is a parish of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Chartered in 1836, Trinity Episcopal Church is Apalachicola's historic "first church." Services have been held here for more than 180 years. It is with great joy that we thank God for our blessings and for the beauty of this place.

Services

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:20 AM Ministry of Healing and Prelude
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

Clergy, Wardens, and Vestry

Rector	The Rev. Martha Caldwell Harris
Vestry	Rennie Edwards, Senior Warden; Gary Ulrich, Junior Warden; Nancy Luther, Paul McAbee, Patti McCartney, Ralph Wagoner, & Randy Mims
Clerk of the Vestry	Landy Luther
Treasurer	Ron Bence
Web Site	www.trinityapalachicola.org
E-mail	info@trinityapalachicola.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity Prayer list: Lisa Waddell, Casey Simpson, Sharron Anthony, Richard Quackenbush, Damaris Porter, Mary Bloodworth, Alice Jean Gibbs, Mary Virginia, Francis James, Mitchell Hicks, Mary Flanagan, Russell Ponder, Kerri Wallace, Laura Howard, Kenneth LaPaz, Jim Conway, Margaret Abigail, Catherine Adale, Sue Bisiq, Geoff & Liz Hewell, Jeanna White, Nancy Freeman, Janie Spooner, Paul Sears & Family, Lloyd Hodge, Helen Wren, Helen Quackenbush, Brenda Herrick, Susan Richardson, Carl Carlson, Randy & Lee Sewell, Ruth Young, David Goodman, Miles Zadnichek, Nancy Freeman, Bryan Tune, Dave McLain, Arlene Wingate, Evelyn Ogilvie, Casey Youngblood, Glenn Totman, Kimberly Towns, Phyllis Carothers, Angela Taylor, Nina Williams O'Neal, Camille Goss, Sonny Svrcek, Michael & Cathy Bailey & family, Guy Maulden, Frances Ingram Rowan, Aaron Whiteside, Pat Burchfield, Kim Kerrigan, Dorothy Cooper, Eugenia Butler and George Creamer.

Monday School meets tomorrow at 10:00 am in the conference room.

Vestry will be meeting tomorrow at 5:00 pm in the conference room.

EfM will meet on Tuesday February 27th at 4:00 pm in the conference room.

Today February 25th INCONCERT will be hosting an evening with Sammy Tedder American Composer, The Adventure of Annabelle Lyn at Trinity Church beginning at 4.00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 per person at the door.

Friday March 2nd INCONCERT presented by Ilse Newell Fund for the Performing Arts will be hosting an evening with Avis Berry Jazz Vocalist with Trio at Rio Carrabelle, Hwy 98 at Marine Street, Carrabelle, FL beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 per person at the door.

The Trinity Outreach Committee has adopted Early Headstart's *Welcome Home Baby (WHB)* program as the official recipient of our "Loose Change" effort during Lent. Layettes will be assembled for local newborns, made up of handmade blankets, knitted caps, diapers, and onesies.

BINGO is back! Bingo will be held on Thursday March 1st at 6:00 pm in Benedict Hall.

IMPORTANT: Individual statements of contributions to Trinity for tax year 2017 have been prepared and been mailed out. If you do not get yours, please contact Ron Bence.

February 25, 2018
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:22-30, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

UNCHANGABLE TRUTH

In our collect for today (BCP, p.218), we ask God to “bring [us] again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and ever hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ.” That simple petition carries a number of phrases that would prove fruitful for our reflection: penitent hearts, steadfast faith, the Word of God, for example. But the phrase that



catches my attention today is “unchangeable truth.”

God’s truth is unchangeable, though our perception of that Divine Truth changes as we grow in knowledge and love of God.

From the creating Word in the very beginning onward, God has been revealing the Divine Truth of Love to us.

What we humans are able to receive and understand has grown and changed throughout history, as each generation accumulates and massages the knowledge and wisdom of God’s Truth from those who have gone before. The Bible is our record of God’s disclosure of Divine Truth one day at a time, one person at a time, century by century as God has acted in history. Last Sunday, for example, Noah perceived God’s Word coming as salvation from natural disaster. Today, Abraham, who has come to know God as the One who calls, finds the Divine Truth in God’s promises of fruitfulness. The psalmist recognizes God’s Truth as Sovereign of the world. In our epistle, Paul sees God’s Truth in the resurrection of Christ Jesus for our justification, the merciful gift of God bringing us into a healed relationship with the Holy One. Jesus, in today’s gospel, recognizes the unchangeable Truth of God in the way of the cross, death and resurrection. Each example develops more fully and deeply the immutability of God’s Truth.

Our creating, redeeming, sustaining God is not finished with us and continues to reach out to us with Divine Truth. What I know of God today is different from what I understood when I was 20 or 40 or even 60. There is always more for us to learn and experience of God’s Unchangeable Truth. The Divine Truth we each need comes as we are open and ready to receive it, gradually, in the situations and circumstances of our lives so that we are not overwhelmed by the magnitude of God’s glory. The season of Lent is the perfect opportunity for us to come to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of the Word of God, Jesus Christ.

Pat Horn

Trinity Episcopal Church 79 Sixth Street Apalachicola, Florida



The Reverend Martha Caldwell Harris, Rector