

April 28, 2019  
Acts 5:27-32, Psalm 118:14-29, Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-31

### **GOD MEETS US WHERE WE ARE, AS WE ARE**

How often have you heard me say that in “Threads of Grace”? I often share that with you readers because that is my experience. Grace comes to us in just the way we can recognize and receive it and realize its source. In the early 90’s, Marcia Hollis, in her book entitled *God Meets Us Where We Are*, gave me the words to name that truth. Only



later, as it became clear that the Beloved reaches us in our own particularity, our uniqueness, that I added the last phrase to my understanding of and trust in God’s steadfast, tender loving care.

The apostle Thomas in our gospel today provides a perfect

example of that truth. When he was absent from the first appearance of the risen Christ to his brother apostles, Thomas couldn’t accept their testimony to the resurrection. It must have seemed just too good to be true; it didn’t resonate with his experience. From his defense of his doubtfulness, it appears he might have been a sensate person (people who get their information about the world from their senses) who needed to see, to touch the reality of Christ for himself. Not immediately, but a week later, when he was again with the disciples, Christ appeared and reached out specifically to Thomas, offering himself in just the way Thomas needed, inviting him to touch his wounds and accept. Thomas was overcome by grace, by the self-giving love of Christ.

So too are we when we experience the reality of the Divine Presence enfolding us in Love, healing our pain and distress, strengthening us to step forward in faith. You know it’s true. Stop for a bit and think of one of the times you have experienced God meeting you where you were, as you were and give thanks.

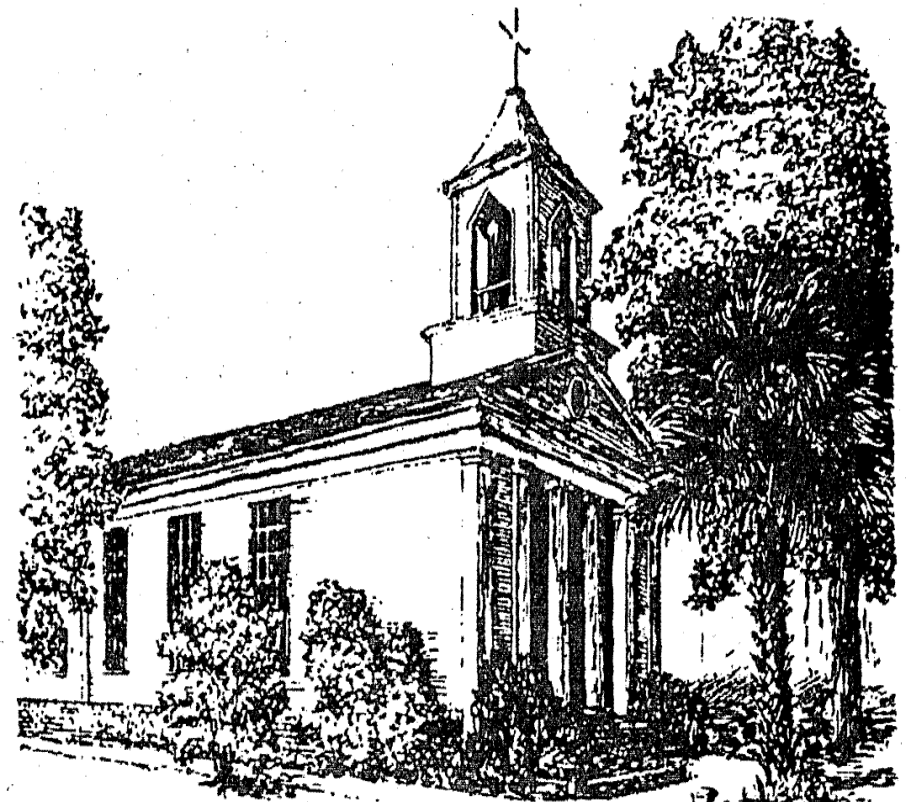
*Pat Horn, Author*

*Audrey Horn, Photographer*

# **Trinity Episcopal Church**

## **79 Sixth Street**

## **Apalachicola, Florida**



Trinity Episcopal Church (Est. 1836 - Built 1838) Apalachicola, Fla.

**The Reverend Donna J. Gerold, Priest in Charge**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Morning Prayer II* *April 28, 2019*

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 182 years. It is with great joy that we thank God for our blessings and for the beauty of this place.

#### Services

10:20 AM Ministry of Healing and Prelude  
10:30 AM Morning Prayer Rite II

#### Ministries for the Day

Celebrant	the Rev. Carol Wood
Acolyte	Bill & Fisher Van Der Tulip
Healing Ministry	Kristin Anderson
Lectors	Rennie Edwards & CT Ponder
Music	Ina M. Meyer & the Choir
Greeters	Charlie & Brenda Galloway
Altar Guild	Susan Galloway & Susie Wagoner
Hospitality	ECW

#### Clergy, Wardens, and Vestry

Priest-in-charge	the Rev. Donna J. Gerold
Vestry	Gary Ulrich, Senior Warden; Charlie Galloway, Junior Warden; Landy Luther, Paul McAbee, Patti McCartney, Randy Mims, Betty Fugate, C.T. Ponder & Susie Wagoner
Clerk of the Vestry	Angela Knox
Treasurer	Lee Bettis
Web Site	<a href="http://www.trinityapalachicola.org">www.trinityapalachicola.org</a>
E-mail	<a href="mailto:info@trinityapalachicola.org">info@trinityapalachicola.org</a>

**Trinity Prayer List:** Please help us keep the prayer list up to date by calling or sending an email to the church office to let us know if a name needs to be added or removed. If you add someone to the list, if possible, please let us know their mailing address so that a card can be mailed to them.

**Members:** Alice Jean Gibbs, Ruth Young, Arlene Wingate, Glenn Totman, Myra Ponder, Jo Heslin, Dewitt Galloway, Amanda Wagoner, Bob & Beverly Connors, Lee Sewell, Luke Galloway, Evie Bettis and Wesley Chesnut.

**Family & Friends:** Lisa Waddell, Casey Simmons, Damaris Porter, Mary Bloodworth, Russell Ponder, Sue Bisiq, Susan Richardson, Eugenia Butler, James Hess, Oris Burton, Sandy Howze, Lee Hassell, Lloyd Hodge, Brenda Herrick, Jill Feeser, Paul Sears, Pat Burchfield and Family, Bryan Tune, Addison (Addi) Wagoner, Amanda Varnes, Scott Keel, Steve Resotko, Cindy Seehorn, Deb Hinton, Nancy Bennett, Tom White, Johnny Buhring,, Karisa Nelson, Katherine Bland, Bill VanVlee, Carl (Pap) & Dianne Duncan and Barbara Bloodworth.

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**Evensong Practice** will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> in the church.

**Evensong Service & Reception** will be held on Friday May 3rd at 6:00 pm. **Tour of Homes** will begin on Saturday May 4th at 10:00 am with a silent auction/buy it now from 10-3 and the Home & Garden Tour will be held from 10-3, Lunch will be served from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.



*The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hollis Vail for her birthday and in honor of the birth of her new grandson Dylan, from her daughter Laura, granddaughter Annabelle and grandson Dylan.*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

### **Recessional**

## **Daily Morning Prayer II**

**Processional** *Good Christians all, rejoice & sing H #205*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all  
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in

### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*All stand*

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Officiant and People*

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.

Alleluia.

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.

Alleluia.

**Venite** *Psalms 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

before you for all members of your holy Church, that in  
their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly  
serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*Hymn*

*This Joyful Easter Tide*

### **Welcome, Announcements and Offertory**

#### ***The General Thanksgiving***

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your  
praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

R. *For we put our trust in you.*  
V. *In you, Lord, is our hope;*  
R. *And we shall never hope in vain.*

### ***The Collect of the Day***

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### ***A Collect for Sundays***

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### ***A Collect for Grace***

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and  
the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

### **Psalm 118:14-29 (appointed psalm for the day)**

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."

- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;  
\*  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns  
of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- 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.

### **The Lessons**

#### **A Reading from Acts 5:27-32**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest

### **The Prayers**

*The People stand or kneel*

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          *And also with you.*

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

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

### **B**

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
R. *Govern them and uphold them, now and always.*  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. *We praise your name for ever.*  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. *Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.*  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

*Officiant*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*          *Thanks be to God*

### **A reading from Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I



am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

*Officiant* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

*Officiant* The Gospel according to John

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ

### **John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Homily**

**the Rev. Carol Wood**

### **Canticle 20**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the  
Father: receive our prayer.