



Award of  
**MERIT**  
 Trinity Church Wall Street  
 New York, NY

**Melanie Freundlich Lighting Design**  
 Melanie Freundlich and Michael Peace

“ This project has been executed with exceptional attention to detail, resulting in a stunning composition that truly defines the space. Having personally experienced it, I must also highlight the mesmerizing beauty of the stained glass when viewed from the outside. While not shown here, it's a further testament to the skillful execution of this project.

—Gabe Williams, Buro Happold  
 2023 Lumen Awards Judge

The layered lighting design of the landmarked Trinity Church Wall Street highlights the beauty of the materials and interior architecture, and provides state-of-the-art lighting technology, seamlessly integrated into the 1848 interior. This multi-phase rejuvenation and restoration included a complete redesign of the architectural lighting for every interior and exterior space. Aimed primarily at enhancing both live and virtual worship experiences, challenges included resolving long-standing light level and glare issues for both attendees and clergy.

The sequential experience of arrival begins with the dramatic vestibules and narthex, where bronze sconces and concealed accent lights graze the original carved wood paneling and uplight the gilt ceiling. Entering the nave, the view opens to reveal the restored vaulted ceiling. A family of historically appropriate custom lanterns was fitted with multiple up and down sources to uplight the ceiling and provide soft wall illumination. Larger pendants align with the columns in the nave, and a scaled-down version illuminates the side aisle pews and ceiling, which were previously unlit.

Concealed linear and curved lighting accentuate architectural features throughout the nave and chancel. They are mounted to the clerestory sills and concealed behind the historic Astor Reredos to dramatically illuminate statuary, tracery, and gold-leaf detailing.

**ARCHITECTS**  
**MBB Architects**  
 Jeff Murphy  
 Zach Poole

**OWNER**  
**Trinity Church Wall Street**

**BROADCAST LIGHTING AND CONTROLS CONSULTANT**  
**Auerbach Pollock Friedlander**  
 Don Guyton

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
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