The Festival Service
of
Holy Communion
Christmas Eve
2019

Festival Music
at 9:45 p.m.

Candlelight Service at 10:30 p.m.
Preservice Music from the Gallery
9:45 p.m.

Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  17th Century French Carol
Text: Liturgy of St. James
paraphrased by Gerard Moultrie (1829 – 1885)
Arr. Gustav Holst (1874 – 1934)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our
God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand. King of kings, yet
born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords in human
vesture, in the Body and the Blood He will give to all the faithful His own
Self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads ins
vanguard on the way, As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of
endless day, That the powers of hell may vanquish as the darkness clears
a way. At His feet the six winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia Lord most High!" Amen.

Hodie Christus natus est  Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
(1562 – 1621)

Today Christ is born. Alleluia. Today the Savior has appeared. Alleluia.
Today on earth the angels sing; the arch angels rejoice. Noel.
Today exalt the just saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  Arr. Alice Parker (b. 1925)
Text: Gregorian chant “Veni Emmanuel”  and Robert Shaw (1916 – 1999)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine Advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, Thou key of David, come, and open our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Mary Had a Baby  
African-American Spiritual
Arr. William Dawson  
(1899 – 1990)

Holly Holdaway, mezzo-soprano

Mary had a Baby, My Lord!
Where was He born? Born in a manger.
Oh, Mary had a Baby born in a manger, Mary had a Baby, My Lord!
What did they call Him? "King Jesus."
Oh, Mary had a baby, He was called "King Jesus," Mary had a Baby, oh yes!
He is called "King Jesus," "Mighty Counselor," "King Emmanuel,"
Mary had a Baby, My Lord.

The Procession of Choir and Clergy

Divinum Mysterium  
c. 13th Century Plainsong
Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348 – c.410)

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega: He the source, the ending he. Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer, First revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord - Whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word. Now he shines, the long expected; Let creation praise its Lord, evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearyed praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore. Amen.
Canzona per sonare No. 4 (c.1608)  
Giovanni Gabrielli
from Canzona per sonare con ogni sorte di stromenti, Venice  
(1557 – 1612)
Holy Trinity Brass Ensemble

I Wonder as I Wander  
Appalachian Carol
Text: Songs of the Hill-Folk, American Folk Song Series  
Arr. John Jacob Niles  
(1892 – 1980)
Colleen Flynn, soprano

I wonder as I wander out under the sky, How Jesus the Savior did come for to die. For poor on'ry people like you and like I... I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing, He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

Magnificat  
Arvo Pärt  
(b. 1935)
Colleen Flynn, soprano

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. Behold, from henceforth, I will be called blessed by all generations. For the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name. His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm, He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy. Accordingly to the promise He made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to His descendants forever. My soul magnifies the Lord.
**Huron Carol**

'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim, and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

Within a lodge if broken bark the tender babae was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair,
As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.
Chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,
The Holy Child of earth and heaven is born today for you;
Come kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy,
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

**This Endris Night**

This endris night I saw a sight, a star as bright as day;
And ever among, a maiden sung, "lullay, by by, lullay."
This lovely lady sat and sung, and to her child did say:
"My son, my brother, father, dear, why liest thou in the hay?"
The child then spake in his talking and to his mother said:
"Yea, I am known as the heaven king, in crib though I be laid."
"Now sweet son, since thou art a king, why are thou laid in stall?"
Then why dost not order thy bedding in some great kinges hall?"
"Mary mother, I am thy child, though I be laid in stall;
For lords and dukes shall worship me, and so shall kinges all.
And in thy arm thou hold me warm, and keep me night and day,
And if I weep and may not sleep, Thou sing, by by, lullay."
Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the virgin Mary, rejoice!!

It is now the time of grace that we have desired;
Let us sing songs of joy, let us give devotion.

God was made man, and nature marvels;
The world was renewed by Christ who is King.

The closed gate of Ezechiel has been passed through;
From where the light rises salvation is found.

Therefore let our assembly now sing, sing the Psalms to purify us;
Let it praise the Lord; greeting to our King.
It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute  
and harp, to the melody of the lyre.  
For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.  (Psalm 92)

Our congregation has been blessed extraordinarily  
with members and friends whose love of music and  
exceptional generosity make possible the special  
presentation we offer each Christmas Eve.  
Holy Trinity Church wishes to acknowledge and give  
thanks for gifts given in loving memory of:

Elizabeth Lochhaas,  
Jack Grabenstatter  
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Eckhert, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. James Marion Geiger,  
Helen Geiger, and Ruth H. Geiger
The Service  
10:30 p.m.  
Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church!

Holy Trinity recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us. We proclaim ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation to all of God’s people; welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We believe that our openness will allow us to grow in our faith through Christ’s teaching to love one another as God loves us.

We invite our guests as well as members to fill out the blue sheet, found inside your bulletin, and place in the offering plate.

Share your story!  
Check-in, Tweet, post, or send an Instagram about your experience at Holy Trinity.  
Use #PowerofTrinity to share your Faith in an instant!  
Find us on Facebook at:  
Facebook.com/holytrinitybuffalo  
Facebook.com/BuffaloHTLCMusic

INTRODUCTION  
In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

ANTIPHON  
O Emmanuel  
Peter Hallock  
(1924-2014)

Timothy Flynn, cantor

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,  
the desire of the nations and their salvation:  
come and save us, O Lord our God.

(Please stand as you are able.)
WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY

AT THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE
The Christmas Proclamation

Today, on the eve of the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and created man and woman in God’s own image.

Several thousand years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;

Thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges;

One-thousand years from the anointing of David as king;

In the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

The seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Emperor Octavian Augustus;
The whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, the eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray together.
Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(The congregation may be seated.)

THE MOTET
Still, Still, Still
Austrian Carol
Text: Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman

Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow. For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, holy star its vigil keeping. Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth. The night is peaceful all around you; close your eyes, let sleep surround you. Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come. While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber. Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.
THE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.  
3 You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.  
4 For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
6 For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

(Those who are able may stand.)

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION

Sussex Carol
Text: Luke Wadding, 1684

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring:  
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King’s birth.  
Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad?  
When from our sin He set us free, all for to gain our liberty?  
When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place.  
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.  
All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night;  
“Glory to God and peace to men, Now and forevermore. Amen.”

Traditional English Carol
Arr. Fraser Wilson

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."
So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Pealing of Tower Bells and Festival Procession

HTLC Director of Music 1977 – 2017

O Come, All Ye Faithful “Adeste Fidelis” ELW 283

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
   O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
   Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
   (Refrain) O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
   Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
   Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
   Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
   Glory to God in the highest: (Refrain)

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
   Jesus, to thee be glory given;
   Word of the father, now in flesh appearing: (Refrain)

(The congregation may be seated.)

THE SERMON The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II
(The congregation may stand.)

THE HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing “Mendelssohn”  ELW 270
Setting by James Biery

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! Refrain

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. Refrain
THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. Let us share with each other a sign of Christ’s peace.

(The congregation is invited to greet the person(s) around you with a handshake, hug or another appropriate greeting, after which, the congregation may be seated.)
THE OFFERING
As part of our outreach into our neighborhood, city and region, Holy Trinity has supported a variety of social ministry agencies throughout the years. This year, we have shared gifts with:

Caribbean Children’s Foundation, Lutheran Charities, The Network of Religious Communities, School 17, Niagara Lutheran Health System, LuMin, Voice Buffalo, LCLC, Reconciling Works, Lung & Cystic Fibrosis research and Resurrection Lutheran Church (summer program).

Your generosity at Christmastime helps to support these valuable ministries. Thank you!

THE ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

Hodie Christus natus est
Heinrich Schütz
(1585 – 1672)

Colleen Flynn, soprano  Aurora DePaul, soprano
Maria Parker, mezzo-soprano  Thane Schulz, tenor
Benjamin Lawson, tenor  Timothy Flynn, bass
Holy Trinity Brass Ensemble

Today Christ is born. Alleluia. Today the Savior has appeared. Alleluia. Today on earth the angels sing; the arch angels rejoice. Noel. Today exult the just saying Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.

(Those who are able may stand.)

THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERING

Let us pray together.

Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Deuteronomy 19:19

PREFACE:

It is indeed right ..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS AND BENEJECTUS
THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the
darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your
people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed
are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your
Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and
gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and
eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of
me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to
drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you
and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the
remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and
resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with
your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God
incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
Amen.
THE LORD'S PRAYER
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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, forever and ever.
Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(The congregation may be seated.)
**THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Invitation to Communion*

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Beginning with those seated closest to the altar, you are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the presiding minister. Receiving the wafer in your hand, you are invited to dip or “intinct” the wafer into the chalice. There is wine in the silver chalice and grape juice in the ceramic chalice. For those who prefer, gluten-free wafers are available by simply asking the Pastor as you are served. Adults or children choosing not to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so. Come eat and drink; there is a place for you at the table of our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTHEMS**

*Interlude from Ceremony of Carols*  
Benjamin Britten  
(1913 – 1976)

Hope Wilk, *harp*

*Serenity (O Magnum Mysterium)*  
Ola Gjeilo  
(b. 1978)

Shannon Levine, *cello*

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger!  
Blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ! Alleluia!

*Away in a Manger*  
J. E. Spilman (1812 – 1896)  
Arr. Paul Sjolund

Carolyn Lansom, *mezzo-soprano*  
Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*  
Mary Kay Atlas, *soprano*  
Julie Tunstall, *flute*
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Christ the Appletree

Stanford Scriven

Text: compiled by Joshua Smith, 1784 (b. 1988)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green; the trees of nature fruitless be, compar’d with Christ the appletree. This beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but ne’er can tell the glory which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the appletree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought; miss’d of all, but now I see ‘tis found in Christ the appletree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the appletree. I’m weary’d with my former toil; here I will sit and rest a while; under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the appletree.

(Those who are able may stand.)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

(You may be seated as worship leaders light candles beginning at the aisle. As you light the next candle down the row, please lean the unlit candle to the flame.)
O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam
(1802 – 1856)
Arr. Dudley Buck
(1839 – 1909)

Roger VanDette, tenor

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining; it is the night of the dear Savior’s birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, ‘till He appear’d and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night divine; O night, O night divine.

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the wise men from the Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger – in all our trials born to be our friend. He knows our need! He guardeth us from danger. Behold your King! Before the lowly bend! Behold your King; your King, before him bend!

(Those who are able may stand.)

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
Let us pray together.
Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. Amen.
1. Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright; 
   Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child, 
   Holy Infant, so tender and mild, 
   Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night, 
   Shepherds quake at the sight; 
   Glories stream from heaven afar; 
   Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia. 
   Christ, the Saviour, is born!”

3. Silent night, holy night, 
   Son of God, love’s pure light; 
   Radiant beams from thy holy face, 
   With the dawn of redeeming grace, 
   Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER
The people who walked in darkness 
have seen a great light!

God is with us! 
Emmanuel!

May the light of Christ, rising in glory 
dispel the shadows in our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ. 
Thanks be to God!
THE BENEDICTION
Grace from God’s own heart, peace from the † Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever.
Amen.

(Please extinguish your candles.)

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN
Joy to the World “Antioch”
Setting by Robert A. Hobby

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL
Joy to the world, the Lord is come.
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE
Toccata on “Mendelssohn”

Sir David Willcocks (1919 – 2015)
Worship Leaders
The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II – Preacher
The Rev. Brenda Maynor – Celebrant

Reader
Gwen Howard-Mann

Worship Assistants
Lead Crucifer: Alexander Rojek
Lead Torches: Robert Mann, Sean Mann
Missal Bearer: Jennifer Carden
Pastors’ Crucifer: Natalia Bavaro
Pastors’ Torches: Sofia Atlas, Griffin Miller
Candle Bearer: Justin Rojek
Acolyte: Eliana Perez

Greeter
Karen Kolb

Ushers
Marty and Mary Sue Bauer, Matthew Brown,
Carole Casterline, Gary Herrnreiter and Craig Johnson

Altar Guild
Kathy Szakmary

Communion Assistants
Sofia Atlas, Natalia Bavaro, Jennifer Carden,
Robert Mann, Sean Mann, Griffin Miller
Eliana Perez, Alexander Rojek, Justin Rojek
Instrumentalists

Trumpets
Lawrence Deni, Mark Filsinger, James Francisco, Richard Riederer

French Horn
John Georger

Trombones
Gerald Bacon, Diana Bley

Tuba
Niles Dening

Percussion
Steve Solook, Robert Patterson

Harp
Hope Wilk

Flute
Julie Tunstall

Oboe
Paul Schlossman

Cello
Shannon Levine
Holy Trinity Chancel Choir
Christmas 2019

Justin T. Pomietlarz, conductor 2003

Mary Kay Atlas, soprano 1984
Rory Buscaglia, alto 2019
Jennifer Carden, soprano 2019
Daniel Culross, tenor 2005
Colleen Flynn, soprano 2004
John Georger, bass 2008
Emily Kaufmann, soprano 2014
Carolyn Lansom, alto 2008
Shannon Levine, soprano 2013
Ryan Lockwood, baritone 2019
Ronald Pellnat, bass 1971
Anne Schneider, alto 1987
Julie Tunstall, soprano 2008
Darold Wobschall, bass 1957

Michael Blaschke, tenor 2015
Cris Campana, soprano 1997
Susan Cosentino, alto 2019
Aurora Deeds, soprano 2010
Timothy Flynn, bass 2002
Holly Holdaway, soprano 2005
Shane Keyes, baritone 2017
Benjamin Lawson, tenor 2019
Stefanie Lizauckas, soprano 2005
Maria Parker, alto 2013
Kristen Pomietlarz, alto 2017
Thane Schulz, tenor 1996
Roger VanDette, tenor 1996
Jennifer Yap, soprano 1998

Each singer in the Chancel Choir makes a devoted personal commitment of time and musicianship to sing in this beloved ensemble. We honor them by recognizing the year in which they first came - sharing their voice, heart and spirit - to sing at Holy Trinity.

Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants who minister in Thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Acknowledgements

The organs of the church are gifts to the Glory of God
In Loving Memory of Margaret L. Wendt.

The pianos in the church are gifts to the glory of God given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Kuhn
(given by the late Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. York and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Kuhn);
Virginia and Dorothy Mayer (by the Mayer Estate);
Mildred R. Wales (by the Wales Family);
Gerrie Schleifer (by her family);
by S. Dwane Thomas, M.D.;
and by Paul and Judy Kroll.

The timpani in the church are gifts given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ruth H. Geiger.
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of
Dr. Robert Schopp by The Schopp Family

Gifts for Christmas poinsettias decorating the church were received from:

In loving memory of:
The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller by Joan Miller
Frank V. Miller by Joan Miller
James and Elizabeth Manzella by Mary and Kurt Kaufmann
Carl and Frances Kaufmann by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann
Mary Lou Eckert, Arthur Pellnat and Joan Pellnat by David and Sally Pellnat
Charles Allen Miller by Merriejann Miller
My parents by Doris Ratcliffe
Carolyn, Henry and David Hughes; Margot and Raúl W. Saona by
Karen and Raúl Saona
Dr. Ralph and Maxine Loew by Janet and Michael Day
Carolyn Loew Engdahl by Janet and Michael Day
Our parents by David and Patricia Ulrich
Frank Ricchiazzi and Walter and Doris Stroman by Louise Ricchiazzi
Louis, Vera and Robert Hoebel by Paul Hoebel
Ron’s Parents Layton and Viola Leiser by Ron and Donna Leiser
Donna’s Parents John and Victoria Caffarelli by Ron and Donna Leiser
William Johnson by Thomas Johnson and The Behrens Family
Mabel Johnson by Thomas Johnson and The Behrens Family
Husband, David Vihnanek, by Elizabeth Vihnanek
Elaine Fuhlbruck by the Carmer, Thomasula, Fuhlbruck, Addison and Hoebel Families
In loving memory of:
Kenneth A. James by Ruth James
Joan and Art Pellnat by Jim, Beth, Sara, Marissa and Maddie
Rudolf and Elizabeth Rick by the Martin Wright Family
Smith and Kathryn Wright by the Martin Wright Family
Lloyd, Grace and Michael Best by the Martin Wright Family
Roy Kuck by Jeanette Kuck
Parents Carl and Frances Kaufmann and Otto and Katherine Kuck by Jeanette Kuck
Siblings Carlton Kaufmann, Marilyn Fritz, Frances Dawe and Marion Draus by Jeanette Kuck
Dave Grabenstatter by wife Nancy and son Eric
John F. Schleifer, Sr., Gerrie Ann Schleifer, Anthony and Ann Glieco and Michael Glieco by Lynn and Anthony Glieco
Ruth and Jack Alexander and Jo and Bud Hunt given by The Hunt Family
Richard W. Bauchle by Paul and Karen Bauchle
William and Emma Bauchle by Paul and Karen Bauchle
Shirley and Robert Klas by Paul and Karen Bauchle
Robert R. Klas by Paul and Karen Bauchle
Darlene Ruppel, sister, by Jim and Marcia Haas
Robbin Frederick Haas, brother, by Jim and Marcia Haas
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Haas by Jim and Marcia Haas
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Ruppel by Jim and Marcia Haas
William, Eleanor, Carol and Nancy Wolf by Linda Patricola
Theresa Pomietlarz by Justin, Kristen and Lillian Pomietlarz
Frederick and Elizabeth Maas by Doug Alderdice
Hugh and Anne Alderdice by Doug Alderdice
The Stroman, Trier and Ricchiazzi Families by The Battaglia Family
Dakota Jacob Lee by Richard Lee
The parents of Rev. Neil and Pamela Kattermann
Susan Anderson, my sister by Pamela Kattermann
The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller by Pastor Lee, Heather and Griffin Miller
Our grandparents by Pastor Lee, Heather and Griffin Miller

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In loving memory of:
Randall F. and Marie Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones
Randall E. Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones
W. Dana & Elizabeth Jones by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones
Our Loving Parents by The Kryszczuk Family
My father, David R. Rice by Pastor Brenda Maynor
Dolores B. Palmer by Prudence Palmer Hollands
Jane P. Schaefer by Prudence Palmer Hollands
Parents, Clifford and June Hehr by David Hehr
Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Staffel and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hehr by David Hehr
Darwin C. Staffel by nephew, David Hehr

In honor of:
Our children and grandchildren by Bill and Judy Hardie
Our granddaughter, Felicia, by Dave and Mary Linda Schmidt
My children: Matthew, Lauren and Brad by Claire Carmer
Karen, Tim, Kyle and Cameron Taylor by Martin and Helen Wright
Kristen, Matthew, Avery and Clayton Best by Martin and Helen Wright
Our granddaughters, Ella Hope Bauchle and Hannah Grace Bauchle by Paul and Karen Bauchle
Holy Trinity Chancel Choir by Pat Lonergan
Holy Trinity Chapel Choir by Pat Lonergan
The Richard J. Lee Family by Richard Lee
My Grandchildren Owen, Kyle and Calvin by Guy Huber
My Children Chris, Lauren, Kelly and Katie by Guy Huber
The Great Kitchen Crew by Guy Huber
All the Blessings Received by Guy Huber
Holy Trinity Staff by Guy Huber
In honor of:
The church staff by Pastor Lee, Heather and Griffin Miller
The church council, leaders and members by Pastor Lee, Heather and Griffin Miller
Our daughter Carina W. Culross by Daniel Culross and Holly Holdaway
Harry Whitmer by Claudia Kolbe-Hawthorne
Dr. Tom and Jane Hamilton by Claudia Kolbe-Hawthorne

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of:
Beloved son and brother, Randy Dean Goulet, by The Goulet Family

In Thanksgiving for:
The blessings of Alexander and Emily by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann
Our family given by Earl and Joyce Hunt
The office staff by Pastor Brenda Maynor
The church leadership and all members of Holy Trinity by Pastor Brenda Maynor

In Appreciation of
Sunday Chapel Service readers by Earl Kunz

In memory of loved ones by: Carol Alderdice, Sue Cosentino, Bill and Judy Hardie, Loretta Queffelec, Sue Spindler
A Few Announcements

Our Christmas Day service will be held at 10:30 am in the Chapel.

The Church Office will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, December 25 and 26.

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 12, 2020 at the completion of the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services. Immediately following the 10:30 meeting, we will be holding a potluck dinner. Please bring your favorite dish to pass and join us for fun and fellowship.

Our community meal ministry/Sue’s Supper, will be hosting a free dinner on Wednesday, January 15 at 5:30pm. Please note Sue’s Supper has moved to the 3rd Wednesday of each month. We will hold a brief evening worship following supper. The entire church family is invited to this event for food and fellowship.

Changes to the Church Paper: We will continue to publish our Church Paper every other month. However, beginning in January 2020, we will no longer be mailing paper copies without a print subscription. You will have the option of subscribing to a paper edition. The cost would be $10 per year and you will need to call the church office to sign up for this delivery. You will be able to find the newsletter on our website, or you may sign up to receive it via email. Please know that copies are always available on the tables at the church or chapel entrance ways or at the church office. If you would like to sign up electronically, subscribe to your print edition, or if you have any questions about this transition, please call the church office at 716-886-2400.
HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council
Kurt Kaufmann, President
Uli MacDonald, Vice-President
Emily Notari, Treasurer
Jennifer Yap, Secretary

Thedralyn Bradley, Ryon Fleming, Guy Huber, Richard Lee,
Gwen Howard-Mann, Juan Perez, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Barb Wozniak

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Carol Littlefield, Parish Accountant
Judy Reifsteck, Faith Community Nurse (632-3448)
John Busch, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Charles Ryniec, Steward of Buildings and Grounds

The Rev. Lee M. Miller II, Senior Pastor
pastor.lee.miller@holytrinitybuffalo.org
The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor
pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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