



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, May 10, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Celebrating our 142nd Anniversary

Thanksgiving for Baptism 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

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.

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 this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While you cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God, give thanks for gifts of life and love, and hold each other in prayer.

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

PRELUDE

Saraband (For the morning of Easter)

Herbert Howells
(1892 – 1983)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*As we gather from our homes, we invite you to place a bowl or cup of
water in front of you, to remember our baptism.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

*(At home, dip your finger into a bowl or cup of water and make the
sign of the cross on your forehead.)*

**To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! "Earth and All Stars"

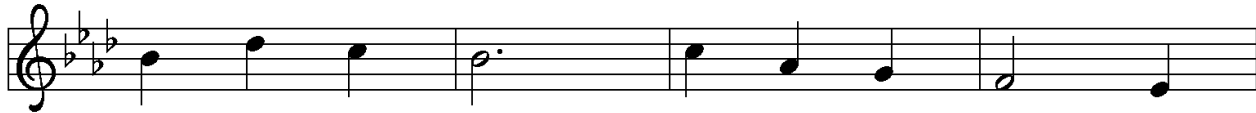
ELW 377 (vs. 1-3, 5)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



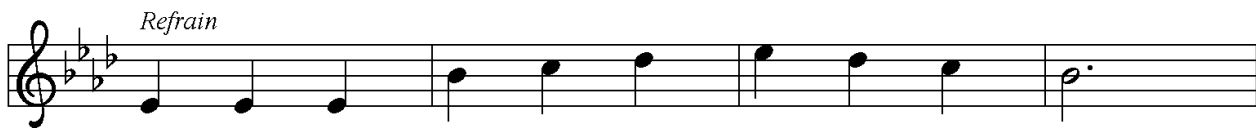
Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

The first reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter is recorded in Acts, the 7th Chapter.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

You May Bury Me in the East

Text: 1 Corinthians 15 : 52

African-American Spiritual

arr. Harry T. Burleigh (1866 - 1949)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

You may bury me in the East, you may bury me in the West,
But I'll hear the trumpet soun' in that mornin';
In that mornin', my Lord, How I long to go:
For to hear the trumpet soun' in that mornin'.

In that dreadful judgment day, I'll take wings an' fly away
For to hear the trumpet soun' in that mornin',
In that mornin', my Lord, How I long to go:
For to hear the trumpet soun' in that mornin'.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

The second reading for today is recorded in 1st Peter, the 2nd Chapter.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

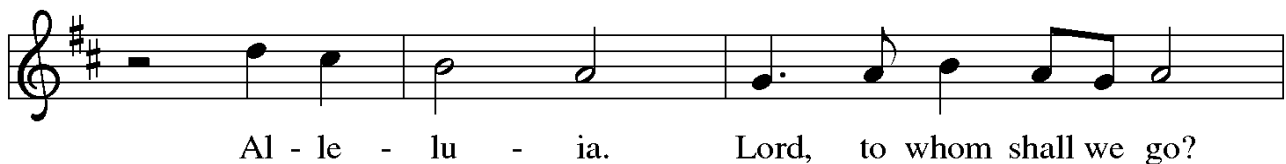
⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

The holy gospel according to Saint John

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

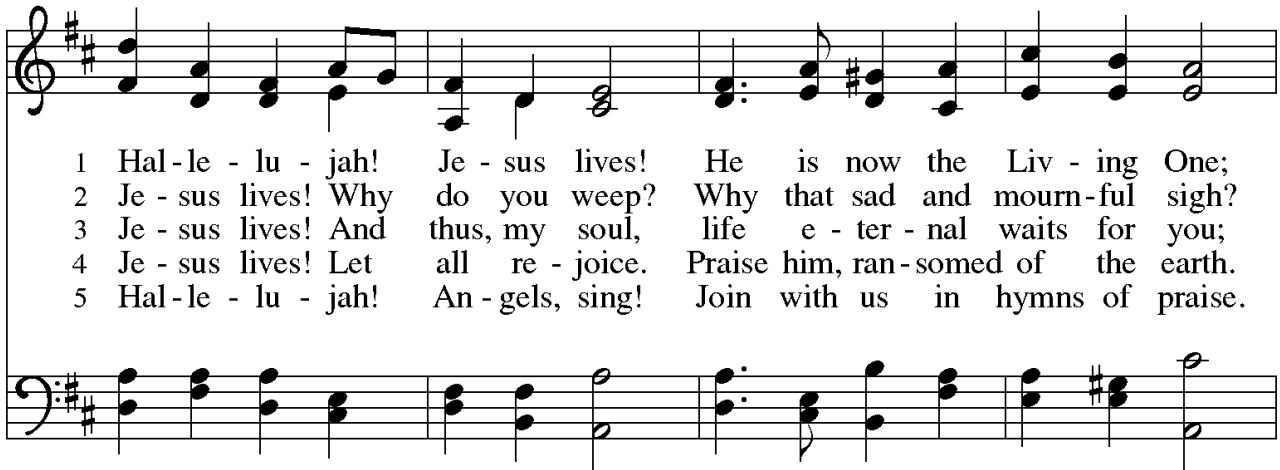
SERMON

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

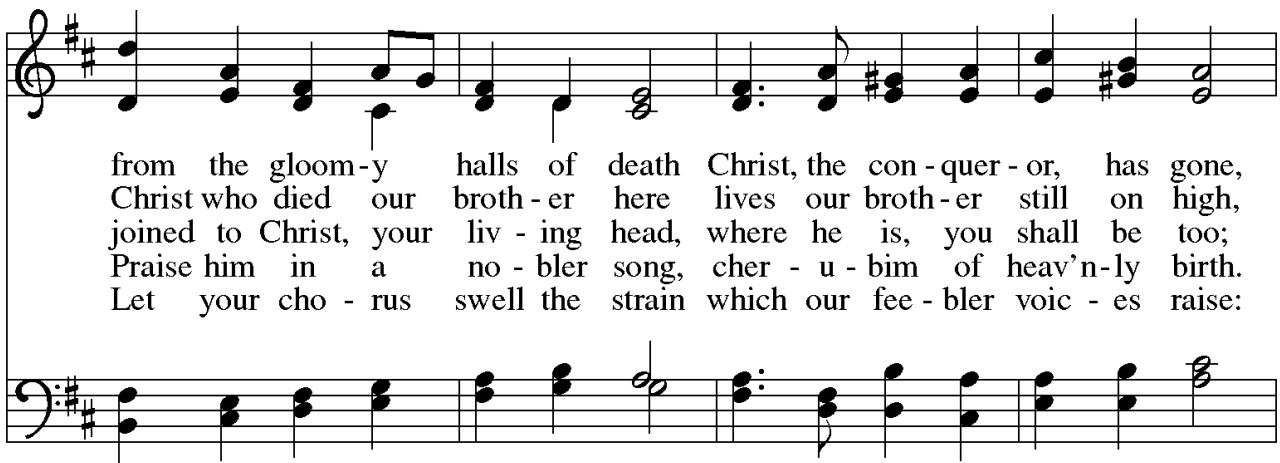
HYMN OF THE DAY

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! “Fred Til Bod”

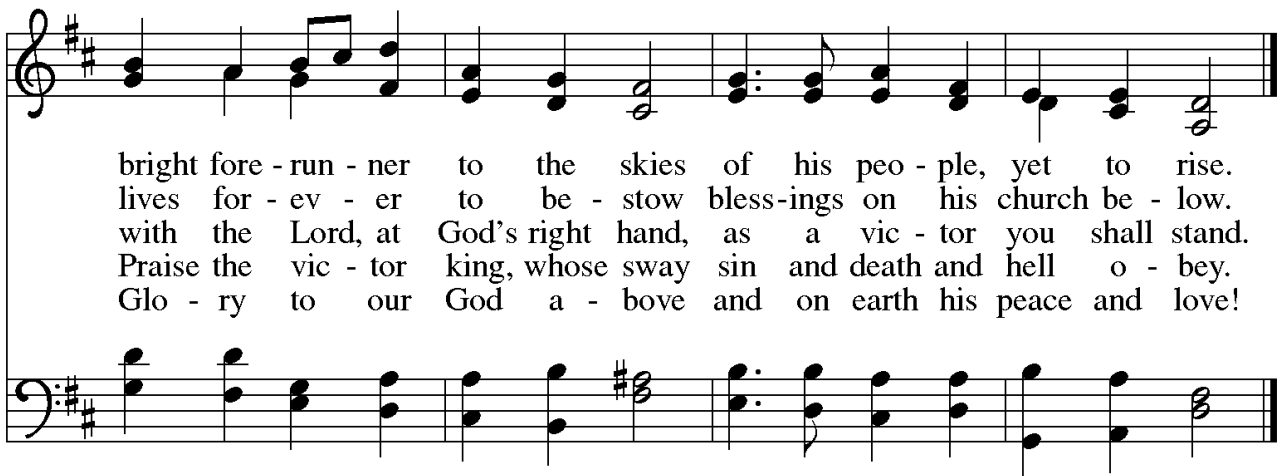
ELW 380 (vs. 1-4)



1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.
5 Hal - le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,
Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Still worshiping from our homes, but with our hearts bonded into one, let us pray for all who are in need, responding to each petition with, “hear our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Build us up, mothering God, as living stones united in your spiritual house. Continually strengthen your church as it is sent forth to proclaim your love. We pray especially for new congregations and those in redevelopment especially the exploration of the Community of Good Neighbors. Bless our ecumenical partners in Voice Buffalo, the Network of Religious Communities, and the Buffalo City Cluster: Grace, North Park, Parkside, Resurrection, and Holy Trinity. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Form us to be humble participants in your complex creation. We praise your power in evolving a magnificent earth, from flowering trees to tropical rainstorms, from black holes to beloved pets. Lead us to respect your wondrous earth with both all that creates and all that destroys. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Assist the leaders of nations to find and follow your ways of justice. Guide their way through the challenges of pandemic and poverty. Protect governors and legislators from sickness and burn-out. Despite our own considerable needs, keep us mindful of the needs of others, especially refugees and prisoners. We pray for all men and women serving in the armed forces, serving domestically, and those deployed. Sustain their families. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Accompany those who are sick, sorrowful, or confused. Comfort them in suffering, ease their distress, and carry their burdens. We are heartbroken for the death of Ahmaud Arbery, and we mourn and celebrate his life. We renounce the evil of racism, and we commit ourselves to the love of our neighbors in word and deed. We pray for those we name in our hearts before you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, we pray for those who tend and teach young children, for the safe pregnancies of expectant parents, and for families who struggle with infertility and miscarriage. Provide enough food and resources for families. We give thanks for all who have shown mothering care, and we remember all for whom this day is difficult. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Caring God, you have love for all your people. Watch over the young and young at heart. For your daughters and sons, including the children of our community. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We remember before you for all who have died in the faith, those like Stephen martyred for the faith, those struck down by the coronavirus, Ahmaud, and those whom we name now in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with someone in your home, or share a message of peace via text, tweet, or post (or call someone after worship.)

THE OFFERING

Thank you for your gifts and offerings which make our ministry possible. You may share your offering by clicking the “Contribute Today” link below this Livestream and on our Homepage, or by mailing your gift to the church office. Thank you!

THE SOLO

The Call

from *Five Mystical Songs*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872 – 1958)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as conquers death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none can move; such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray together.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

I Know That My Redeemer Lives! "Duke Street"

ELW 619 (vs. 1-3, 7, 8)

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters
(1903 - 1986)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LYO PLANTS: The pick-up date for the LYO plant sale will be Saturday, May 16. Pastor Brenda will arrange appointment times for pick up.

CRISIS SERVICES: For anyone feeling down, lonely or depressed, Crisis Services is working around the clock to respond to and combat the impact COVID-19 has on our community. Their hotline number is 834-3131 and are available 24-hours a day. If you are looking for counseling services, we share a partnership with Pat Greene, LMHC, and he may be reached at 716-361-4615.

WOMEN AT THE WELL will resume when worship in house resumes.

FOOD DONATIONS: To support those in need of food from our NRC food pantry and from the emergency bags our Pastors provide, if you are able to donate, these are the items most needed.

For our pastor's bags: The Pop top canned easy meals , ex. Ravioli meals.

For the Food Bank : Canned tuna, soups, and tomatoes. Items may be brought to the church. **Please call ahead to alert the staff that you are planning to donate and arrange a convenient time.**

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR: The reading schedule for May and June can be found on the church website or you can call the church office to have a paper copy mailed to you.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Holy Trinity has an electronic option for making regular offerings or a one-time donation. If you would like to sign up, please fill out the forms located on the tables in the narthex and return to the office. Please call the church office with questions.



We will continue to staff the church office to conduct everyday business, such as answering the phones and mail service.

The office is closed to the public.

We will continue to share information regarding life and worship at Holy Trinity. You can always check out the website for up-to-date information.

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Uli MacDonald, President
Emily Notari, Vice-President
Guy Huber, Treasurer
Jennifer Yap, Secretary

Theedralyn Bradley, Kathy Crissey, Ryon Fleming, Richard Lee,
Juan Perez, Raúl Saona, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Barb Wozniak

Staff Contacts for Programs and Services

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Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster
kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org
Linda Lipczynski, Office Manager
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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