



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Celebrating our 141st 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.

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

PRELUDE

Beside Still Waters

Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

This music is based upon the folk-prayer,
"Beside the Still Waters," inspired by the 23rd Psalm:

Beside the still waters,
I will lay my body down,
with breezes floating o'er me,
and a garland for my crown.
I will see the Light Eternal.
I will breathe the open air.
Beside the still waters,
O Lord, please lead me there.

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.

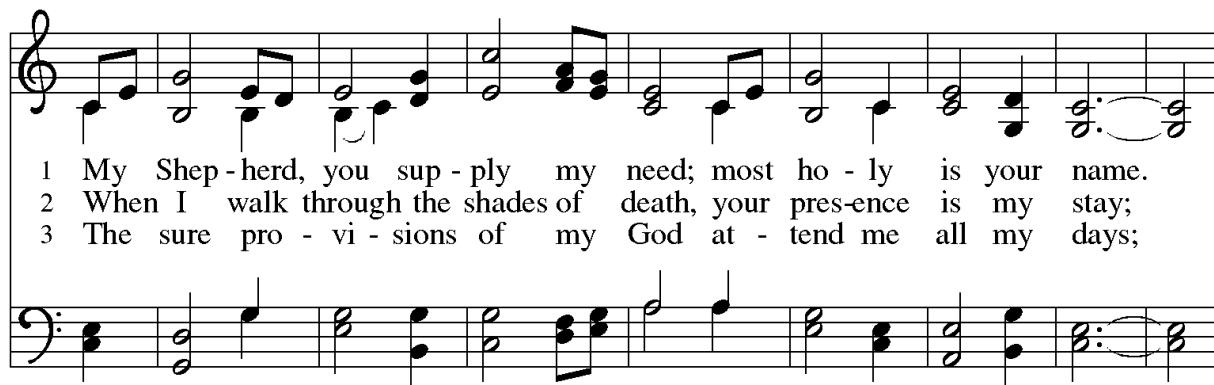
*(At home, dip your finger into a bowl or cup of water and make the
sign of the cross on your forehead.)*

**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

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need "Resignation"

ELW 782



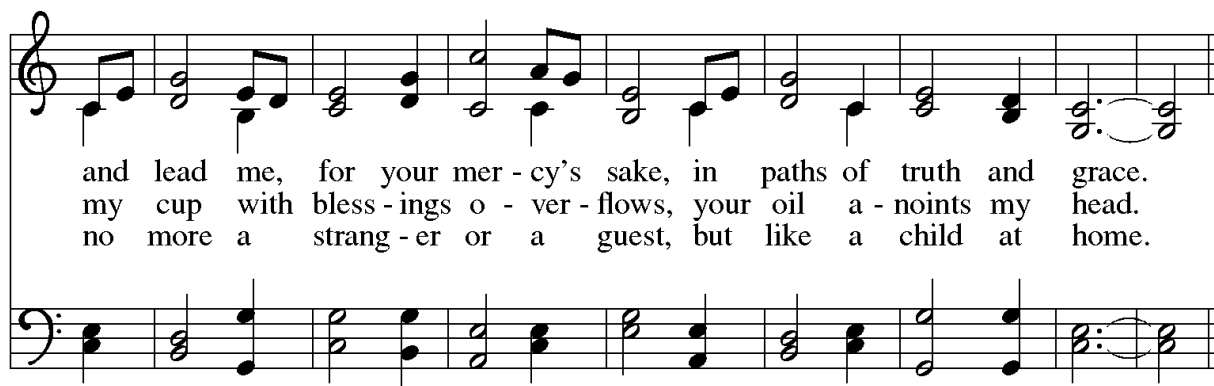
1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

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.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter is recorded in Acts, the 2nd Chapter.

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach (1685 – 1750)
arr. by Wanda Sobieska (b. 1946)

Colleen Flynn, *soprano*

Sheep may safely graze and pasture
In a watchful Shepherd's sight.
Those who rule with wisdom guiding
Bring to hearts a peace abiding
Bless a land with joy made bright.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

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

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to Saint John

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are Mine "You Are Mine"

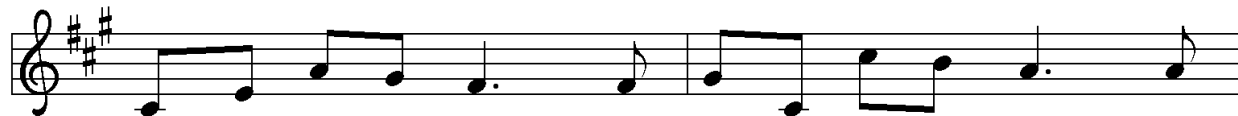
ELW 581



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*
Come and rest in me. *To refrain*
all will know my name. *To refrain*
up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



Refrain
Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine." *To stanzas 3 and 4*

4 "I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Penned up in our homes but united in the one flock of believers, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all in need, asking God our Shepherd using the words, “hear our prayer.”

A brief silence.

For the church, O God, we pray: that we will hear and follow your voice calling to us in the word; that bishops and pastors be sustained for their shepherding tasks; that churches devastated by the virus be upheld; that in this time churches find ways to continue their ministries of education and service. 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.

For the earth we pray: that lands and waters be renewed; that animals and plants enjoy safe growth; that rain and soil nurture the fields; that drought and floods in Yemen be averted and locusts of Kenya cease their frenzy: Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations of the world we pray: that heads of state and legislators cooperate for the good of all; that medical experts be heeded; that government moneys serve the nations’ greatest needs; that during Ramadan Muslims are granted release from prejudice. 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.

For all in need we pray: that those afflicted with the coronavirus be cared for; that the sick be healed; that those in despair find hope; that those who are lonely be comforted; that medical workers be safeguarded; we lift up to you those we now name out loud, and those we remember in our hearts... 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 praise you for those who have died in the faith, and we pray that at our end, as sheep of your own fold, as lambs of your own flock, we will be gathered into your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your everlasting arms we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your care for us, through Jesus Christ, our guardian and friend.
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 Lord’s My Shepherd

Text: Psalm 23, The Scottish Psalter, 1650

Bob Chilcott

(b. 1955)

Colleen Flynn, *soprano*

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green:
he leadeth me the quiet waters by, the quiet waters by.
My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make within the paths of
righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake, e'en for his own name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill:
for thou art with me and thy rod and staff comfort still.
My table thou has furnished in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows, overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:
And in my Father's heart always my dwelling place shall be,
my dwelling place shall be, my dwelling place shall be.

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.

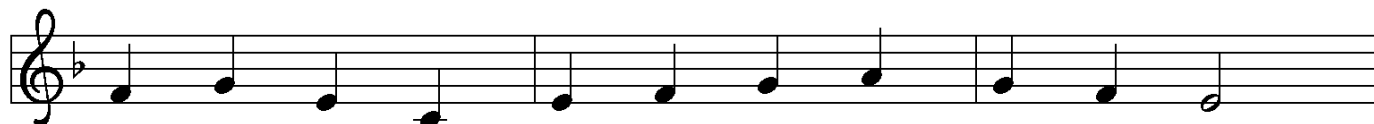
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing “Alles ist an Gottes Segen” ELW 544



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Fantasy Toccata and Variations on “Crimond”
(The Lord’s My Shepherd)

Barbara Harbach
(b. 1946)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LYO PLANTS: The pick-up date for the LYO plant sale will be Saturday, May 16 from 10:30am to 12:00pm. 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.

Holy Trinity Has Talent! - Friday, May 8, 7:00pm. Have you discovered a new talent or trick during quarantine? Do you love to sing, dance, perform, play an instrument, or do magic? Can you balance a spoon on your nose? Make the dog roll over? Whatever it is you've been doing to keep from going stir-crazy - that may be a talent! Join us for a Zoom-based, Facebook-Live event to have a little fun! **To register, email the church office at info@holytrinitybuffalo.org** with "HT has Talent" in the subject line. Tell us what your talent will be and Pastor Lee will send you the Zoom Link for the night of the show. On May 8 at 7pm we will "go live" onto Facebook for all to enjoy at that time, or on the replay. I know you're out there - let's have some fun and share our talents!! All ages welcome!!

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.

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.

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.

The Amazing Love Campaign



Housing Hunger Our Life Together

THE AMAZING LOVE CAMPAIGN is a part of Holy Trinity, Buffalo's response to the Covid-19 global pandemic. In these times of uncertainty people are making decisions of whether to pay the rent, or to buy groceries, between paying the utilities or picking up needed prescriptions.

Gifts made to The Amazing Love Campaign may be directed to one of three areas:

Housing gifts may be used to support newly unemployed folks may their rent or make their mortgage payment.

Hunger gifts may be used to support ongoing HT ministries like the Burrito Project and new programs to support people who live with food insecurity, especially in the City of Buffalo.

Gifts for **Our Life Together** will support regular giving which provides for staff, daily ministry, pastoral care, and our local and global mission.

Thank you for considering a gift to The Amazing Love Campaign through a check payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, or through electronic giving. Call the church office to learn more about electronic options.

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I know you're out there - let's have some fun and share our talents!!

All ages welcome!!



HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

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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

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

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The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor
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