

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

#### HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, June 14, 2020 Second Sunday after Pentecost Celebrating our 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

Service of the Word 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**

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. The Word proclaims that we are send to tell the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

#### PRELUDE

*For the Beauty of the Earth* 

Conrad Kocher Arr. Craig Duncan

Rebecca Torres, violin

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** 

Gather Us In "Gather Us In"



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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.

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

#### FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a

The first reading for Second Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Exodus, the 19<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>2</sup>[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites." <sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup>The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**.

#### **GOSPEL:** Matthew 9:35 – 10:8, 16-23

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

<sup>16</sup>"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

# Lamenting Racism on the Commemoration of the Emmanuel Nine (June 17)

This lament was commissioned for All Creation Sings, a forthcoming liturgy and hymn supplement to Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

The sin of racism hurts communities of color, fractures human relationships, and denies God's good creation. Lament is a way for us to recognize the harm caused by racism. We are part of one body in Christ, called to act with equity, fairness, and justice. God's saving love creates grace-filled spaces within us and within our relationships. God's saving love calls and leads us toward rooting out the racism that continues to infect the body. Each petition concludes, "we cry out to you," and together we respond, "hear our lament, O God."

We recognize and lament the harm racism has caused to African Descent communities; American Indian and Alaska Native communities; Indigenous Peoples within Canada; Arab and Middle Eastern communities; Asian and Pacific Islander communities; and Latinx communities. We cry out to you, hear our lament, O God.

We have assigned the notion of race to human beings created in God's own divine image. We have judged God's beautiful diversity by our flawed and artificial standards. We cry out to you, **hear our lament, O God.** 

We have used language and images in ways that equate *black* and *dark* with dirt and sin, and that fail to welcome the treasures of darkness in God's good creation. We cry out to you, **hear our lament, O God.** 

We have accepted practices in our churches and in our society that privilege whiteness over diversity and equity. We have been complicit in how racism continues to exclude and harm people of color. We cry out to you,

#### hear our lament, O God.

When one part of the body of Christ hurts, the whole body hurts. As we listen to people who are harmed by racism, we call to you, **open our hearts, O God.** 

As we reflect on our daily interactions with people and communities of color, we call to you,

## open our hearts, O God.

As we reconsider what we have been taught about race and racism, we call to you,

#### open our hearts, O God.

As we contemplate what we have done and what we have left undone, we call to you,

#### open our hearts, O God.

As we labor to create a loving and safe community for our siblings of color, we call to you,

# open our hearts, O God.

Holy and merciful God, as your people we recommit ourselves to loving one another as you have loved us. Prepare us for this time of listening and discovery. We pray in the name of the one who has made us one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

**MUSICAL REFLECTION** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Frederick C. Atkinson Arr. Phillip Keveren

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

#### A brief silence.

Holy One, you bring us together and call us your own. Bless theologians, teachers, and preachers who help us grow in faith. Guide your church through these extraordinary days, that we might be a holy people. Hold the churches of all denominations together in one, as you are one including our ecumenical partners in Voice Buffalo, the Network of Religious Communities, and the Buffalo City Cluster: Grace, North Park, Parkside, Community of Good Neighbors -Resurrection Village, and Holy Trinity. Strengthen us to be bold in our proclamation. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Holy One, the whole earth is yours. Where there is fire, bring cool air and new growth. Where there is flooding, bring abatement. Where there is drought, bring rain. Inspire us to care for what you have provided. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

O God, Holy One of unity, as we commemorate this week the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, who in 2015 were killed while assembled in their Charleston church for Bible study, we pray: end the scourge of racism and white supremacy; protect protestors; halt those who intend violence; preserve our democracy. Raise up leaders who model repentance and reconciliation, and support legislators who seek justice in our land. We pray for all men and women serving in the armed forces and their families. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, Holy One of compassion, heal the sick, and embrace the fearful. Visit the millions who are suffering from the coronavirus. Protect us from another wave of disease. Uphold health care workers and medical researchers as they work on our behalf. Assist the unemployed in finding a job. Show us how to provide safe housing and daily food for the homeless in our nation and around the world. We pray for those we name out loud, and those who we remember in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

O God, Holy eternal One, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful departed, both the famous and the forgotten. We give you thanks for Angela Stack and for the life, love and family of Joan Limburg. At the end of all things, bring to yourself all your treasured people, to abide in your presence forever. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus 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.)

# VOLUNTARY

Prelude on We Shall Overcome

African-American Spiritual Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

#### 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!

#### 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**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**  Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling "In Babilone"

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** 



Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt. Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

#### **DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Arr. Burton Isaac

Rebecca Torres, violin



#### Music Notes

Adolphus Hailstork is an American composer and educator born in Rochester, New York. As a young person, he studied violin, piano, organ, and voice. He obtained a BA from Howard University, a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music, and a doctorate in music composition from Michigan State University. He also studied at The American Institute at Fontainebleau with Nadia Boulanger.

He has served as professor at Youngstown State University in Ohio, as well as professor of music and Composer-in-Residence at Virginia's Norfolk State University. He is currently a professor of music and Composer-in-Residence at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

Hailstork is of African-American ancestry and his works blend musical ideas from both the African-American and European traditions.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

# ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) July 27 - 31. Registration is now available online. The link for online registration is

https://forms.gle/Jk8euKKHTwLZaSAT7

A hybrid VBS through Google Classroom and a take-home kit provided by Holy Trinity. Internet/Google Classrooms not required, class materials including the lessons and supplies are included in the take home kit. You may also call the church office for a paper copy of the registration form.

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.

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 canned meals such as ravioli. 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.

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP ZOOM HAPPY HOUR: Join us every Friday at 5pm to link to a virtual Happy Hour by Zoom technology. We'll meet together through safe physical-distancing while being able to check-in with each other. Bring your own favorite beverage to the computer.

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 285 453 435 Password: 299123

One tap mobile +19294362866,,285453435# US (New York)

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)



Office Staff may be reached by phone daily Monday – Friday. Please call the church office should you need anything. As always, the Pastors are available by appointment. 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

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

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