



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, July 19, 2020  
Seventh 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**

*It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.*

## **PRELUDE**

**Air, from The Green Hill**

**Bert Appermont**  
(b. 1973)

Jennifer Carden, *euphonium*

**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**

In this time of uncertainty, with a future unknown, let us give thanks to our God who is always with us.

Holy God, source of living water, all life flows out from you.

In the days of chaos,

Your voice moved over the water and life sprang forth.

In the days of the flood,

You kept Noah and his family safe from harm.

In the days of fleeing Egypt,

You separated the sea so your people could pass.

In the days of wandering in the wilderness,

You made water flow from a rock.

Holy God, source of living water, all life flows out from you. Through the baptism of Jesus, all water is made holy. The water that nourishes the land. The water we drink. The water we bath in. The water we use to wash our hands so many times a day.

Holy God, source of living water, all life flows out from you. We praise you for the gift of baptism that binds us to one another and to you.

As we stir and trouble this precious water, remind us of who we are: your beloved children. Help us see each person as a member of your body. Ease our anxieties and strengthen our resolve to care for each other. Deepen our faith.

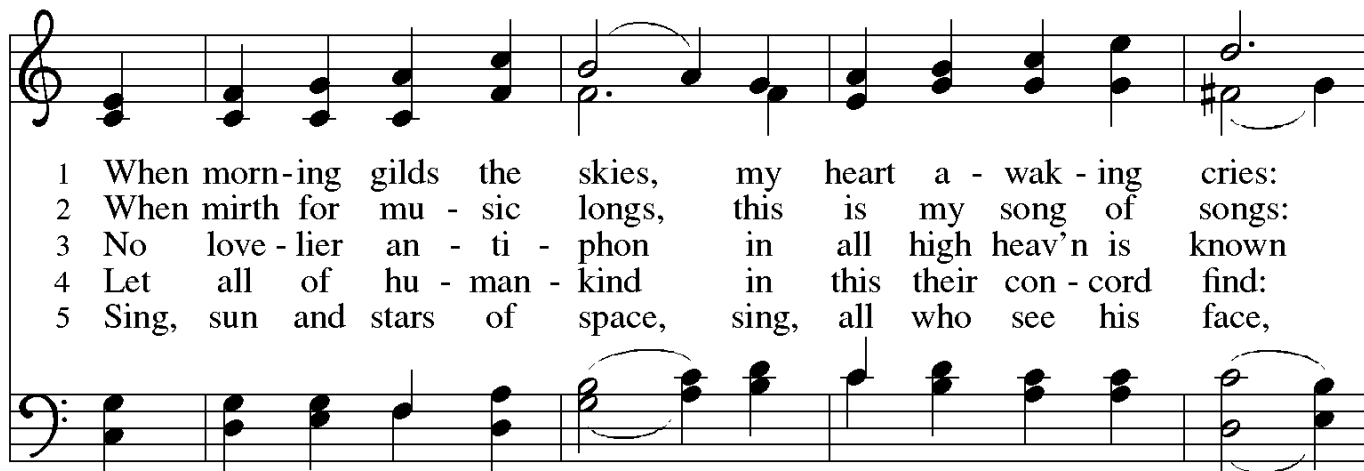
*(At home, dip your finger into a bowl or cup of water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead.)*

**Holy God, source of living water, All life flows out from you.  
Amen.**

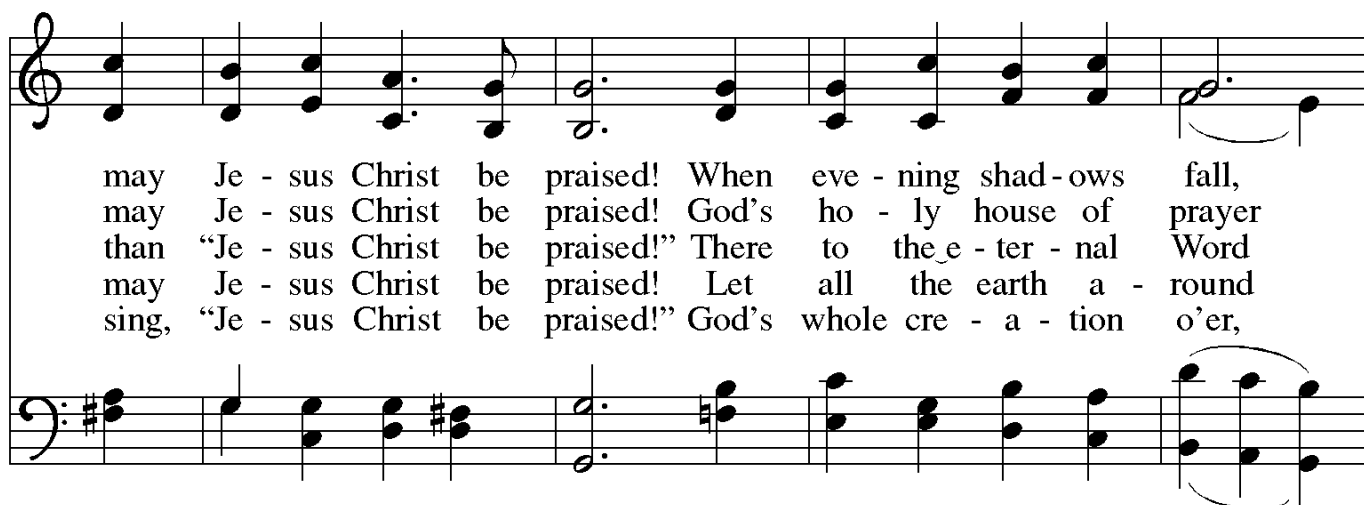
# OPENING HYMN

*When Morning Gilds the Skies* “*Laudes Domini*”

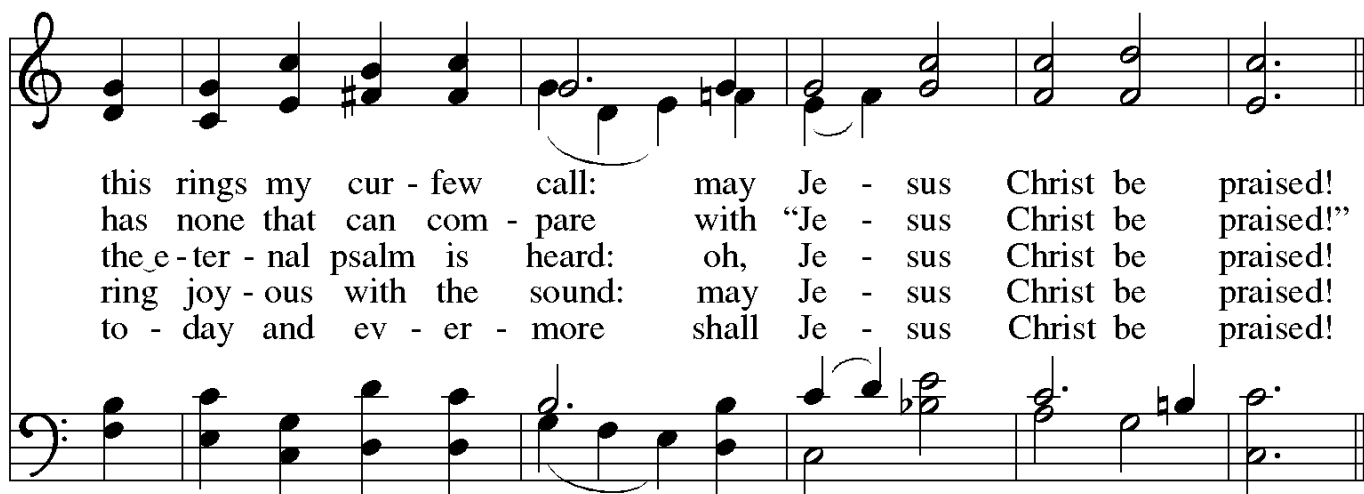
ELW 853 (vs. 1 & 2)



1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known  
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:  
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
than “Je - sus Christ be praised!” There to the e - ter - nal Word  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
sing, “Je - sus Christ be praised!” God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
has none that can com - pare with “Je - sus Christ be praised!”  
the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!  
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

## **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.

**Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **FIRST READING**

### **A Reading from Romans 8:12-25**

A Reading from Romans:

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;<sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup>He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **MEDITATION**

Raphael, from Archangel Suite

*It is God who heals - Archangel of healing*

Craig Phillips

(b. 1971)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident of God’s care for us in the midst of the world’s sufferings, we join together in the power of the Spirit to pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need, responding to the words Lord in you mercy with “**hear our prayer.**”

*A brief silence.*



God of the church, we praise you for sowing the good seed of the gospel throughout the world, and we mourn that at this time many Christians cannot assemble to nurture one another for growth in the faith. Tend your people; support bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; give us strength through your word. We pray for our ecumenical and inter-faith siblings in VOICE Buffalo, the Network of Religious Communities, and the Buffalo City Cluster: Grace, North Park, Parkside, Resurrection Village and the Community of Good Neighbors, and Holy Trinity. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the earth, we praise you for a wondrous creation, and we mourn that many lands and seas are groaning for rebirth. Nurture our green spaces and national parks; send rain where there is drought; protect engendered animals from poachers. Show us how to care for your earth and its creatures. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, we praise you for the good that has been given us in this country, and we mourn that many people here are poor and dispossessed, that we have allowed racism to distort our society, that violence breaks out in our land. Lead us to form communities in which all people are equal and where disputes are settled without violence. Save us from preserving a past that has been harmful to many. Bring an end to warfare around the world, and mend the torn fabric of humankind with your truth and mercy. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of humankind, we praise you for wherever health and happiness prevail, and we mourn that many people suffer. Each day thousands more contract the virus; renters are facing eviction; medical workers are exhausted; some of the sick have no access to health care; countless people are broken by sorrows. Open our hearts to your children who suffer in any way, and show us how to serve them. We lift up to you all those we name out loud, and the prayers of our hearts and our minds. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the seasons, we praise you for summertime, and we mourn that this year many hopes and expectations are denied. Give relief to those who suffer from the heat. Protect travelers from infection. Guard our children. Give rest to those with no vacation time, hope to those who are unemployed, and patience to all who must endure this difficult time. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of eternity, we praise you for all who have died in the faith, especially this week the apostles Mary Magdalene and James. We mourn our own beloved dead. At the end, bring us all into the shining light of your presence. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; 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.)*

## OFFERTORY

Rochut No. 7

Marc Bordogni  
(1789-1856)

Jennifer Carden, *euphonium*

## 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.

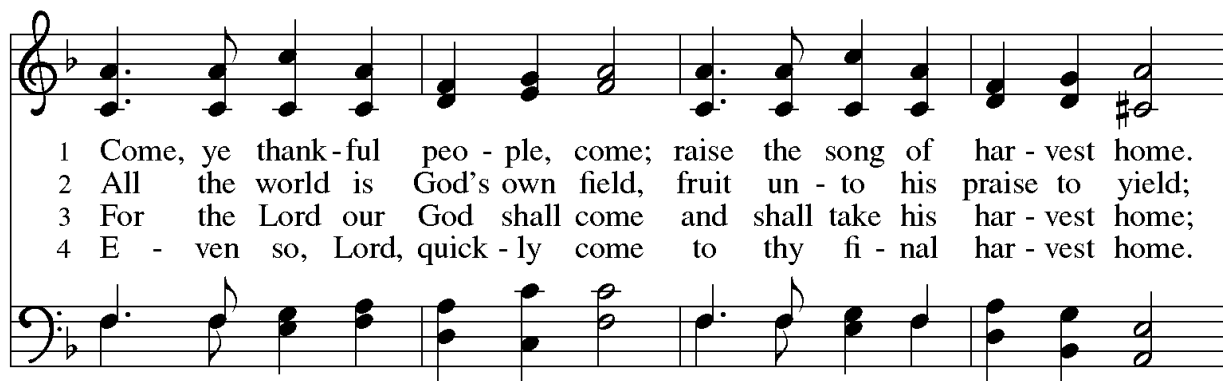
**Amen.**

# RECESSIONAL HYMN


*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* "St. George's, Windsor"

ELW 693

(vs. 1 & 4)



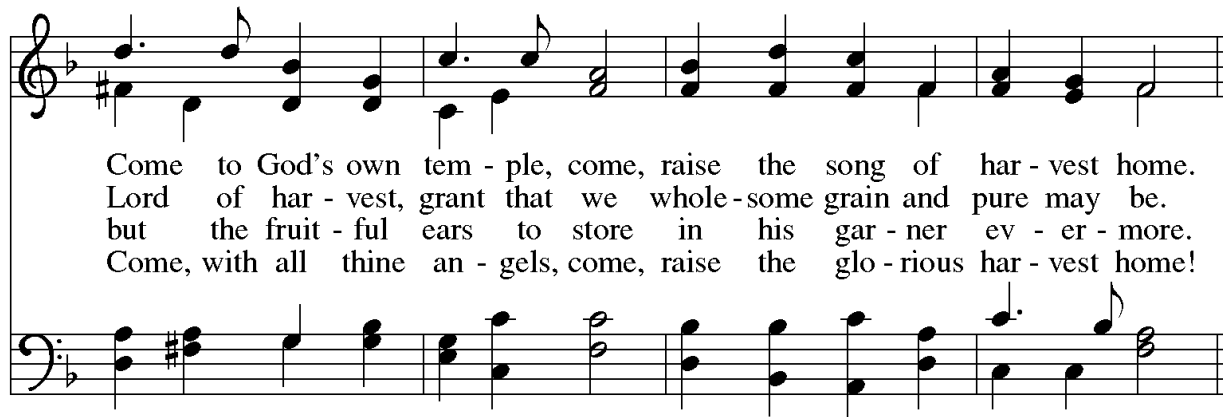
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;  
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;  
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.  
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Be Thou My Vision/

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Arr. Brant Adams

(b. 1955)

Jennifer Carden, *euphonium*



## **About Ms. Jennifer Carden**

A recent 2020 graduate of Lancaster High School and a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Jennifer Carden has been involved with numerous music ensembles, including the LHS Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, Musical Pit Orchestra, Carnival Kids Steel Orchestra (Steel Drum Ensemble), LHS Concert Choir, Brass Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band, and a member of the Academy of the Visual and Performing Arts. Jennifer was selected numerous times to perform with Erie County Music Educators Assn. (ECMEA) and NYSSMA Area All-State Honors Ensembles, and was selected to be a part of the prestigious NYSSMA Conference All-State Symphonic Band at the Eastman School of Music her senior year. Outside of school, Jenny continues to be a soprano member of Holy Trinity's Chancel Choir and plays euphonium with the Lancaster Town Band. During her Junior year, Jenny had the opportunity to be a guest artist with the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra. Jennifer was recognized as the LHS Music Department "Student of the Year" her Sophomore Year, and this year was the recipient of the Wilma Taylor Dedication Award, the Leadership Award, the Music Major Scholarship, the Distinguished Musicianship Award, the Richard E. Pascucci Memorial Music Scholarship, the Persistence and Effort Award, and the Music Major Award from the LHS Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. She will be attending the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam pursuing a degree in Music Performance.

## 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. Registrations are due no later than July 20.

**SIDEWALK CHALK SUNDAY!** A chance to gather together - with physical distancing in mind - and spread some love and positivity in our City. Individuals and Family Groups are welcome to come to Holy Trinity at **noon on Sunday, July 19 and Sunday August 16** and receive direction from Pastor Lee or Pastor Brenda on which sidewalk square they will be "assigned." Individuals and families are encouraged to bring their own chalk, but some will be available for those who don't have their own. Chalking groups will be distanced from each other to keep one another safe. Inspirational ideas will be provided, but your own images and designs are welcome and encouraged.

**OUTDOOR SERVICE:** *A Service of Holy Communion will be held outdoors on Sunday, July 26, at 12noon.* Worshippers will be encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs, while folding chairs will be available for those who are not able to bring their own. Chairs will be placed a minimum of 6-8 feet apart from one another at designated pre-marked spaces. Face coverings will be required in addition to other safety protocols in place. A second service of Holy Communion is being planned for August.



**HT ON PARADE:** Our Parade had to be postponed due to the extreme weather conditions on Thursday. We have rescheduled for Thursday, July 30 when we ask you to join us for a physically-distanced car-parade as we celebrate some of our members who have limited opportunity to leave their homes and connect with others. We will meet at **Noon on Thursday, July 30** in the front church parking lot and then caravan past the homes of several members of our H.T. family. An HT lawn sign will be placed in the yard of each parade stop whenever possible. Participants will be asked to remain in their cars throughout the parade. *Please email the church office if you want to suggest the name of an HT community member who would benefit by being a stop on the parade route.*

**LYO FUNDRAISER:** Flocking season is here! How it works: Place an order for a flock of flamingos to be sent to your friend's yard. Volunteers will be sent out to covertly flock the yard. The flamingos will roost on the lawn for a week when they will mysteriously migrate to another friend's lawn. The "flockee" will have the opportunity to select the flock's next migration location, for a reasonable donation. If you are not interested in having our fine pink feathered friends make a trip to your yard, you can purchase Anti-Flocking Insurance. This will guarantee the flamingos fly past your yard and flock at a different home. The flamingos will only be in the Buffalo area for a short time, from July-Sept so catch them before they continue on their migratory path. All proceeds of this Fundraiser will go to support the LYO Mission Fund. You can find the order forms in the church newsletter. Flocking Fees are \$20 for migration location, \$25 for Anti-Flocking Insurance and \$15 for early-herding and transportation of flock.

**HT GOLF TOURNAMENT:** We are sorry to report that Covid-19 has forced us to cancel our annual Holy Trinity golf tournament at Tan Tara Country Club. With God's grace we will be back in 2021.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** While in-person faith formation might not begin in September, Confirmation Class will gather virtually until we can meet in-person. There will be a virtual confirmation informational session for all parents/students in August, date to be announced. This informational session will cover the class schedule, class expectations, as well as answer any questions you might have regarding confirmation class. Please be on the lookout for a letter to be mailed to your home in the next couple of weeks, which will include the date of the meeting as well as additional information. Confirmation Class is for students who are entering 7th and 8th grades. If you are unsure whether or not your child is on our roster to begin confirmation this year, please call the church office or reach out to Pastor Brenda. You may also contact Pastor Brenda with any questions you may have.

**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.



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

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

## **Staff Contacts for Programs and Services**

Kristen Pomietlarz, Organist  
Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster  
[kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor.lee.miller@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor  
[pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

## **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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