



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, July 5, 2020  
Fifth 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**

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. But with the people and the prophet, we are prisoners of hope. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around the Word and the waters of baptism, we find rest for our souls.*

## **PRELUDE**

A Halcyon Presence

Prelude No. 1 from BWV 846

James Piorkowski (b. 1956)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

James Piorkowski, *guitar*

*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

*Let the Whole Creation Cry* "Salzburg"

ELW 876

1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"  
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,  
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"  
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.  
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;  
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;  
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.  
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"  
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

## **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.

**You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12**

A Reading from Zechariah:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **MEDITATION**

2 Preludes

Francesco Corbetta (1615-1681)

James Piorkowski (b. 1956)

James Piorkowski, *guitar*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. 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. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the nations. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to expansive love for our neighbor. We pray for all men and women serving in the armed forces and their families. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. We pray for those directly impacted by the coronavirus, for medical personnel and first responders. We pray for the scientific community as we await a vaccine. We especially pray for those we name now out loud, and those we name from the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize children's ministry volunteers, church administrators, and those who maintain our building as we adapt to the changes all around us. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those who have died in faith. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. 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.)*

## **OFFERTORY**

*An Idea*

Leo Brouwer  
(b. 1939)

James Piorkowski, *guitar*

## **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

*God Bless Our Native Land* "National Anthem"

ELW 891

1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may it ev - er stand  
2 So shall our prayers a - rise to God a - bove the skies,

through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of  
on whom we wait. Thou who art ev - er night, guard - ing with

wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.  
watch - ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812–1883; John S. Dwight, 1813–1893  
Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM, *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, 1744

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Oh, What a Beautiful City*

David Hurd

(b. 1950)



## Music Notes

This week, we welcome SUNY Fredonia Professor of Classical Guitar, Mr. James Piorkowski who performs several unaccompanied works, including a few of his own compositions.

James Piorkowski is a SUNY Distinguished Professor at the Fredonia School of Music, State University of New York, serving as head of the guitar program since 1983. In 2006, Piorkowski was the recipient of both the President's Award for Excellence and the Robert W. Kasling Award for Scholarly and Creative Excellence. He was the recipient of the University's William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award in 1998.

For eighteen years, Piorkowski was a member of the world-renowned Buffalo Guitar Quartet. The pioneering BGQ toured internationally and released four highly acclaimed recordings. Guitar Player Magazine declared that the Buffalo Guitar Quartet was "one of the world's premiere classical guitar ensembles."

David Hurd is an African-American New York City based concert organist, church musician, teacher, composer, and choral director. Educated principally at the Juilliard School, Oberlin College, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, he directed and taught at The General Theological Seminary for nearly four decades. He also taught at Duke University, Yale University, The Manhattan School of Music, and Westminster Choir College. He has been director of music at The Church of the Holy Apostles, All Saints Church, and The Church of the Intercession, and has served in various capacities at other New York churches. His musical accomplishments have been recognized with four honorary doctorates and various other national and international awards. In 1977, he received first prizes both in organ playing and in improvisation from the International Congress of Organists. More recently he was awarded the 2010 Distinguished Composer Award of the American Guild of Organists. Many of his compositions are widely performed, and he is well represented in major church hymnals in the US and abroad.

## **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.

**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. Stay safe.

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

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**

**1080 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209**  
**(716) 886-2400 phone/(716) 884-7505 fax**  
**e-mail: [info@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:info@holytrinitybuffalo.org)**  
**[www.holytrinitybuffalo.org](http://www.holytrinitybuffalo.org)**

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