

*A Celebration of Holy Communion  
And  
the Rite of Ordination for  
The Rev. Miranda Hammer*



*July 18, 2020  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1080 Main St.  
Buffalo, NY 14209*

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

**Prelude**

Julie Grindle

**Welcome**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

Grafted on the Vine by the waters of Holy Baptism, we are called and chosen, clothed with forgiveness, and filled with Grace. Now we give thanks.

*As water is poured into the Font the prayer is offered*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and by your Word, you created all things, calling forth life in which you delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea, you delivered your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your sons and daughters, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives in your forgiveness, grace and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of your Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

**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.

Almighty and merciful God, you built your church on the foundation of the prophets and the apostles, and you instituted the office of the ministry of Word and Sacrament so that the prophetic and apostolic work might continue throughout the ages. Grant that Miranda, now to be ordained, may carry out this ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **✠ WORD ✠**

**First Lesson**

Olivia Retallack

Exodus 1:15-21

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>15</sup>The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, <sup>16</sup>When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live. <sup>17</sup>But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. <sup>18</sup>So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" <sup>19</sup>The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." <sup>20</sup>So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.

*After the lesson is read*

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
<sup>3</sup>You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup>Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.  
<sup>5</sup>You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
<sup>7</sup>Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
<sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
<sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup>even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.  
<sup>11</sup>If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
<sup>12</sup>even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.  
<sup>13</sup>For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

<sup>17</sup>How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>I try to count them — they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end — I am still with you.

**Holy Gospel**

The Rev. Kwame Pitts

John 4:4-26

The Holy Gospel, according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>4</sup>But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.

The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

*After the Gospel is read*

The Gospel of our Lord.     **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Kwame Pitts**

**Hymn of the Day**

**Will you Come and Follow Me? ELW 798**  
Julie Grindle, The Rev. Roger Griffiths

## **Nicene Creed**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## ✠ ORDINATION ✠

**Presentation**

The Rev. Norma Malfatti

*The Assembly remains standing*

I present for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Miranda Hammer, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the synod to this ministry through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Assembly is seated*

### **Address and Questions**

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the Office of Word and Sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

*A reading from John:* Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (*John 20:21-23*)

*A reading from Matthew:* Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:18-20*)



*A reading from First Corinthians:* I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. (*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)

Miranda Hammer, before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the church’s call is God’s call to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The church in which you are to be ordained confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the Word of God and are the norm of its faith and life.

We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles’, the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the Holy Scriptures. Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? Will you pray for God’s people, nourish them with the Word and Sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

**Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*The assembly stands for the prayers of intercession.*

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, we pray:

+For the holy catholic church, that, filled with your love, we may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For all members of the church, that they may serve you in true and godly lives.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For Miranda, called to be a pastor in the church, that, sustained by your Holy Spirit, she may carry out her ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust,

serve your people, build up your church, and glorify your name. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For all rostered leaders, for Elizabeth and John, our bishops; that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For peace in the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For all nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice

and promote the dignity and freedom of every person. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For this nation as we confront the evil and hatred of racism, that we might rise above our own prejudices and failed understandings and find our way together to treat all people with the respect and honor due them, healing divisions and creating new hope on this journey.

God of mercy,

**hear our Prayer.**

+For the whole creation, that everything you love into existence may fulfill your purpose and that we may cherish your diverse gifts. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be comforted, healed, and protected. God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+For the glorious company of all the saints, those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope, we praise you, that their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ: God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

+Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Hymn of Invocation**

**Spirit of Gentleness ELW 396**

Julie Grindle, The Rev. Roger Griffiths

*Bishop Macholz prays with the Ordinand as a Hymn of Invocation to the Spirit is sung by a soloist.*

## **Thanksgiving**

**Bishop John S. Macholz**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

*The Bishop lays both hands on the head of Miranda as ordained pastors who are socially distanced may extend their hands toward the Ordinand.*

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Miranda and fill her with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament. Bless her proclamation of your Word and administration of your Sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make her a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **Blessing of the Stole**

We give you thanks, O God, for this stole. We ask you to bless the fruits of her service. Grant her grace to serve in health and in peace, remembering always to follow the example of Jesus, our Servant-Leader, with the Father, and in the Spirit, now and always.

**Amen**

## **Giving of a Stole**

Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

## **Charge**

The Rev. Lee Miller, II

*Hear the words of the apostles:* Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (*1 Timothy 6:11-12*)

*And again:* Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you guardian, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (*Acts 20:28*)

*And again:* Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be an example to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (*1 Peter 5:2-4*)

*And again:* Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (*1 Corinthians 4:1-2*)

Miranda, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence.

So discipline yourself in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

### **Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

### **Acclamation by the Assembly**

*The Ordinand stands and faces the congregation*

Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive Miranda as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her as a servant of Christ?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Will you pray for her, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Let it be acclaimed that Miranda is a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ. She has Christ's authority to preach the Word of God and administer the Sacraments, serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

### **Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **Offering**

*Your gifts to Christ's Church will be received this day on your way out of the Sanctuary. The offering will be shared with Resurrection Village in East Buffalo.*

## ✠ MEAL ✠

### *Instructions regarding the Holy Communion*

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

#### **Proper Preface**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through the great shepherd of your flock, Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the age. And so, with patriarchs and prophets, with the apostles, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Julie Grindle, The Rev. Roger Griffiths

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray in the words Jesus teaches 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.**

**Lamb of God**

Julie Grindle, The Rev. Roger Griffiths

## **Distribution**

Explanation of how Holy Communion will be distributed

## **Post Communion Blessing**

May the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His Grace! **Amen**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

We thank you, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with Heavenly Food, the Body and Blood of your Son, uniting us through Him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. As you have again raised up among us, a faithful servant for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, grant that we, with Miranda, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your Glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## **Benediction**

O God, our source and our summit, our beginning and our end, celebrate with us now as we rejoice in this day, as you did at Cana, lead us in safety as we travel, and bless our homecoming, as you did your beloved Israel, until you bring us together once again in your Glory, with our Lord Jesus, and your Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sending Music**

**Canticle of the Turning ELW 723**  
Julie Grindle, The Rev. Roger Griffiths

## ✠ SERVICE NOTES ✠

From the Beatitudes

Blessed are those who wear their masks all the time during worship with the exception of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and practice social distancing while together with other children of God. Their reward shall be life and health and great joy in caring for others.

As a gift of thanksgiving for your presence, please take a cookie on your way out of worship this day.

Rest Rooms are available in the lower level of the building. Please follow signs.

The Stole presented to Pastor Miranda Hammer was crafted by Barbara Cleveland, Miranda's grandmother.

## ✠ SERVICE PARTICIPANTS ✠

### **Lectors**

Mrs. Olivia Retallack  
The Rev. Ruth Snyder

### **Preacher**

The Rev. Kwame Pitts

### **Vergers**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

### **Presiding Minister**

The Rev. John S. Macholz, Bishop

### **Organist**

Ms. Julie Grindle

### **Soloist**

The Rev. Roger Griffiths

### **Presenters of the Stole**

Barbara Cleveland and Christine Rich-Reese, Miranda's Grandmother and Mother