



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, August 23, 2020  
Twelfth 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**

*In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.*

## **PRELUDE**

Prelude in a minor BWV 543

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685 - 1750)

*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.)*

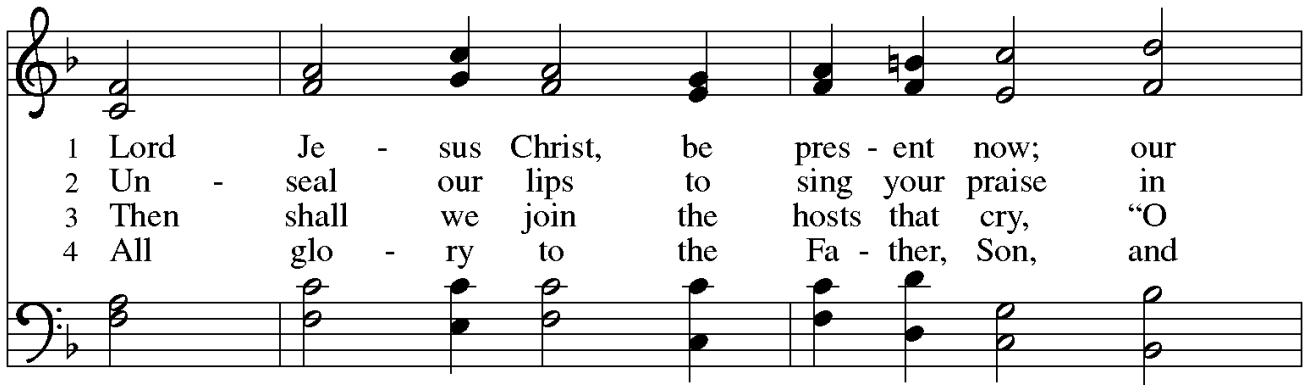
**Holy God, source of living water, All life flows out from you.  
Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

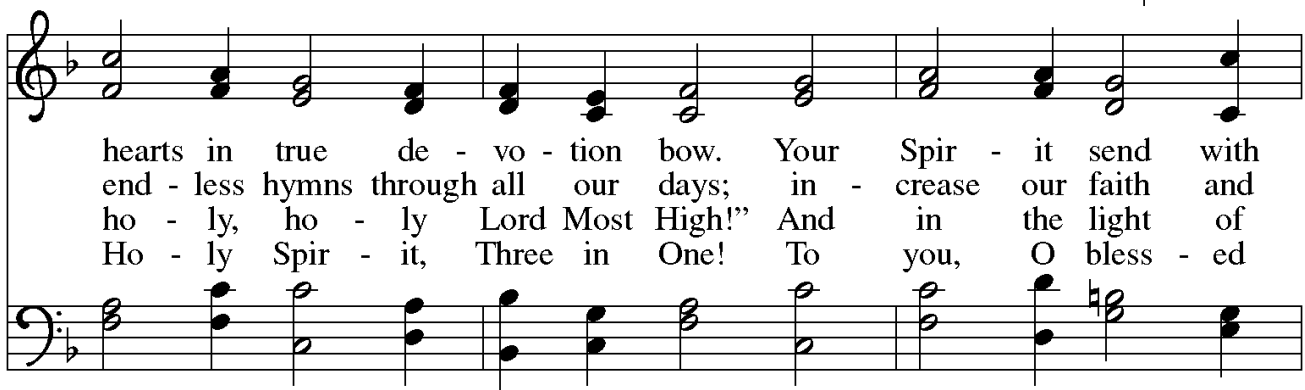
*Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

ELW 527 (vs. 1&2)

“Herr Jesu Christ, Dich Zu Uns Wend”



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; our  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing your praise in  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O  
4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and



hearts in true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
end - less hymns through all our days; in - crease our faith and  
ho - ly, ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of  
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



light di - vine, and let your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; and set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place we then shall see you face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: attr. Wilhelm II, 1598–1662; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND, *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628

## **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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

## **FIRST READING**

### **A Reading from Isaiah 51:1-6**

A Reading from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.

<sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and

whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”<sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

## **MEDITATION**

Improvisation

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**



All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care. 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.**

You call us into this community in which we, though many, are one in Christ. May we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for the building up of the church for the sake of the world. 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.**

You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. 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**

Offertory on *St. Catherine*

Henry F. Hemy (1818 - 1888)  
Setting by Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

## **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

*Faith of Our Fathers* "St. Catherine"

ELW 812

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,  
2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and  
3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in

fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate  
all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

*Refrain*

when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word.  
if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,  
by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.

ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Prelude in a minor BWV 543

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685 - 1750)



### **Special Announcement**

**Welcome Back!!**

**In-Person Service**

**Sunday, September 6, 2020**

**10:30am**

Holy Trinity will be starting in-person services on Sunday, September 6 at 10:30am. Following New York State guidelines, there will be a few procedures in place:

1. Masks must be worn at all times.
2. Social distancing will be in effect. Every third row will be open and you are welcome to sit in an open spot where you find a bulletin.
3. We ask that you follow the “One Way” signs located in the aisles.
4. We will have a soloist, however, there will be no congregational singing.
5. We are not yet able to offer childcare or Sunday School at this time.
6. Until further notice, there will no coffee hours.

If you prefer to continue watching through the website or Facebook, we will be broadcasting the 8:30 service via Livestream each Sunday.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OUTDOOR SERVICE:** A Service of Holy Communion will be held outdoors on Sunday, August 30 at 12noon (**weather permitting**). 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.

**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.

**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.

LUTHERAN CHARITIES FIRST-EVER CHIAVETTA'S DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN BBQ! Join us for this amazing fundraiser Wednesday, September 2 from 3pm to 7pm or until sold out. Drive-Thru Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ Dinner with Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Roll & Butter. Pre-sale tickets STRONGLY encouraged. \$11.00 per dinner pre-order, \$12.00 day-of on-site. St. John Lutheran Church 6540 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221. Executive Director Tom Madden will busk on the bagpipes in exchange for drive-thru tips to benefit Lutheran Charities.

Pre-register at [www.wnylutherancharities.org](http://www.wnylutherancharities.org)



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)

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