



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, August 9, 2020
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebrating our 142nd 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

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

PRELUDE

The Peaceful Forests

Heinrich Isaac
(c. 1450 – 1517)

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

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me "Pilot"

ELW 755

1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
3 When at last I near the shore, and the

life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy
fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful

roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and
will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous
rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I

com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

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 our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith 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 1 Kings 19:9-18

A Reading from 1st Kings:

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

MEDITATION

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

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.

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: “Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid.” May we follow Christ wherever he leads. 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.

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We pray for those suffering this day. 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.

For our congregation. You have gathered us here today as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers preparing for a new school year, and for those struggling with unexpected hardship. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. 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

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Herr

Johann Ahle
(1625 - 1673)

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.

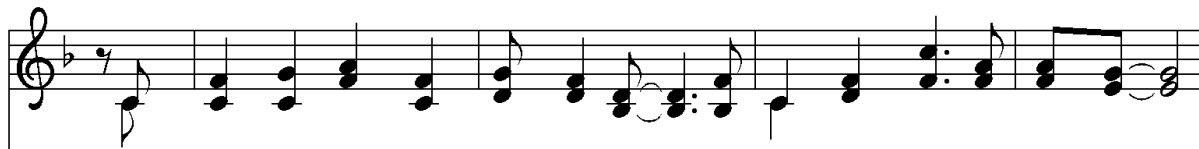
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

ELW 763

“How Can I Keep From Singing”



1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
What though the dark - ness gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?



Refrain



No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav - en and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude from Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 553

J. S. Bach
(1685 – 1750)



Many Thanks to our Guest Organist, Doug Alderdice

Doug recently retired from more than 30 years of teaching computers and math at Lafayette High School in Buffalo. Doug considers himself to be a hobbyist organist as he was never a formal music student beyond organ lessons. He started organ as a middle schooler with Arlene Seeger, a neighbor, church organist and retired music teacher from Bennett HS in Buffalo, who gave organ lessons in her home on her small pipe organ. His church performance debut came as a ninth grader in a youth group-led sunrise Easter service at Central Presbyterian. That led to being invited a number of times by Dr. Roy Clare to play the Sunday prelude, first hymn and postlude at Central Presbyterian.

Doug continued organ lessons with Mrs. Seeger through his high school years and in college at Susquehanna University studied with Susan Hegberg as a non-matriculating music student and was a member of SU's student AGO group. After Mrs. Seeger's passing in the late 1990s Doug purchased her pipe organ which now resides in his home as his practice instrument.

After being hired to teach computers and math at Lafayette High School, Doug found himself to be the resident commencement organist at LHS nearly all of his 33 years there, and a few years also found him at Bennett High's organ accompanying their graduations as well. He started commencement playing with the accompanying of his own eighth grade graduation ceremony from Buffalo's PS 22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, 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.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: There will be a virtual confirmation informational session for all parents/students on August 16 at 2:00pm via Zoom. Please call the church office to confirm email (registration for the zoom meeting will be emailed or you can register for the meeting using the following link,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcoce-ypz0qHtEjsO7w2OK9IHL5vyK26qHJ>. This informational session will cover the class schedule, class expectations, as well as answer any questions you might have regarding confirmation class. Confirmation Class is designed for students who are entering 7th and 8th grades. Please contact Pastor Brenda with any questions you may have.

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.



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

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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
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The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor
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