



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, September 6, 2020  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Celebrating our 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

Service of the Word 8:30 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**

*Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.*

## **PRELUDE**

Concerto in G Major BWV 592

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Allegro Assai

*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**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

**We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in this font,  
and for all water everywhere.**

**Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

**Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.**

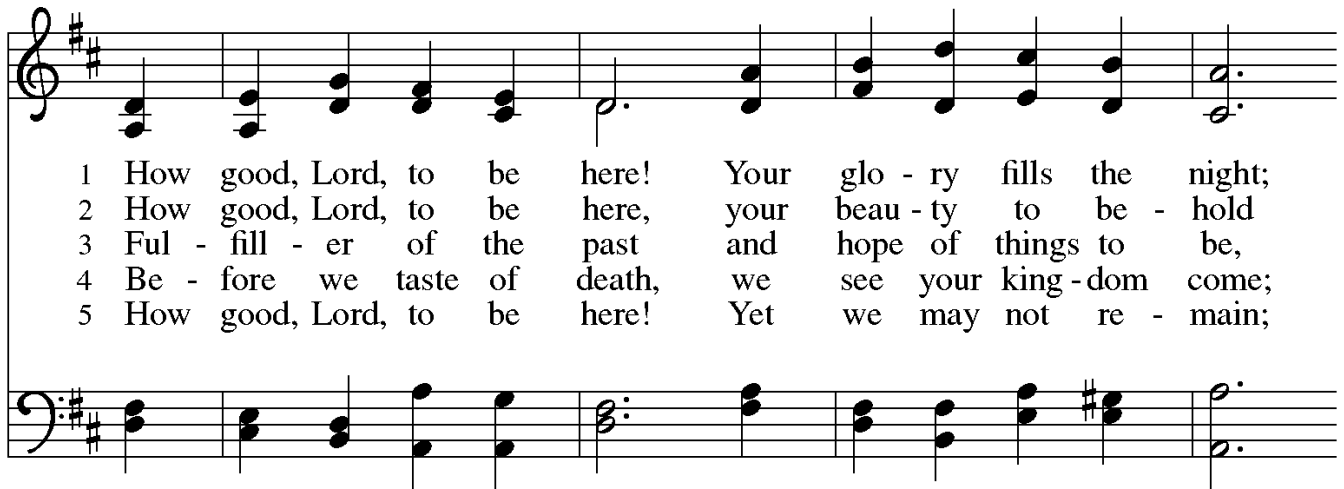
*(At home, dip your finger into a bowl or cup of water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead.)*

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

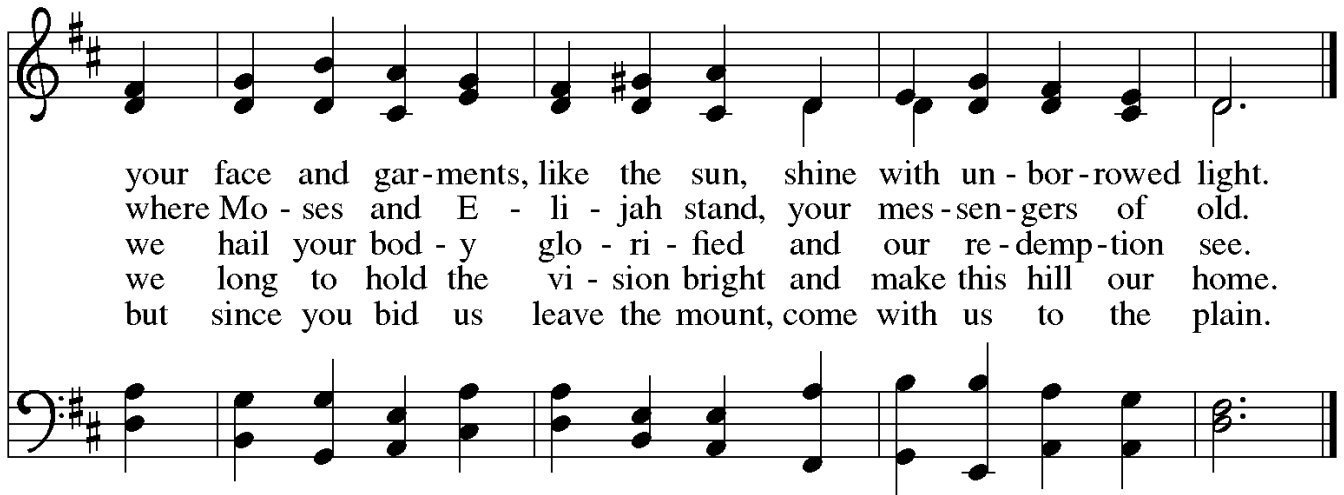
## OPENING HYMN

*How Good, Lord, to Be Here!* "Potsdam"

ELW 315 (vs. 1-3)



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

## 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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

### **THE READING: Romans 13:8-14**

The first reading for Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Romans, the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE SOLO

### Love Bade Me Welcome

from *Five Mystical Songs*

Text: George Herbert (1593 – 1633)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872-1958)

Jaman E. Dunn, *baritone*

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,  
Guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack  
From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,  
If I lack'd anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:  
Love said, You shall be he.  
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,  
I cannot look on thee.  
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,  
Who made the eyes but I?

Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame  
Go where it doth deserve.  
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?  
My dear, then I will serve.  
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:  
So I did sit and eat.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

<sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **SERMON MEDITATION**

*So Fades the Lovely Blooming Flower*

from *Sacred Sounds*

George Shearing

(1919-2011)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. 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.**

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those impacted by injustice, those on the front line of the pandemic, and all those we name out loud, and the prayers of our hearts and our minds. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**



All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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.)*

## **SOLO AT THE OFFERING**

*Great Day!*

African American Spiritual  
Arr. Uzee Brown, Jr.  
(b. 1950)

Jaman E. Dunn, *baritone*

Great day! Great day the righteous marchin'.  
Great day! God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

Chariot moved on de mountain top. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.  
My Lord spoke an' de chariot stopped. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

When I was a mourner just like you. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.  
I prayed and prayed till I came through. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

This is the year of jubilee, God's gonna build up Zion's wall.  
When my Lord set his people free. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

We want no cowards in our band. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.  
We call for vaillant hearted men. God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

## **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.**

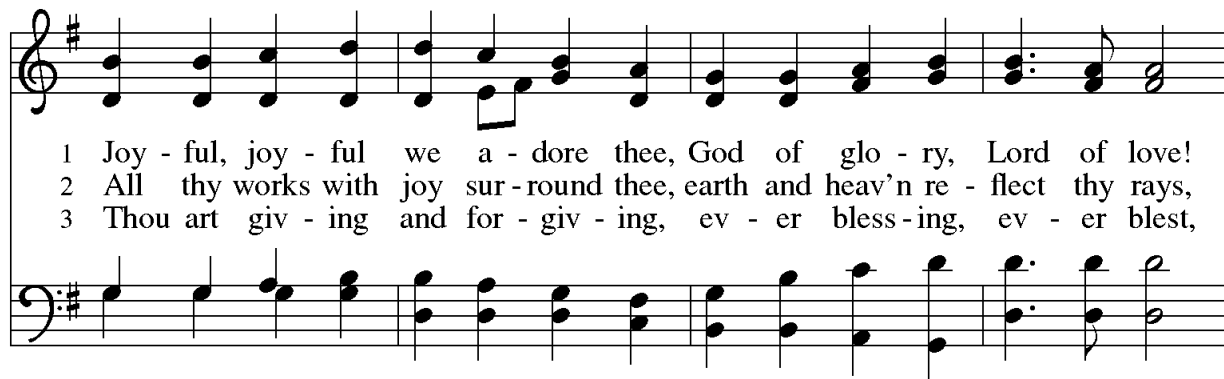
## **BENEDICTION**

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

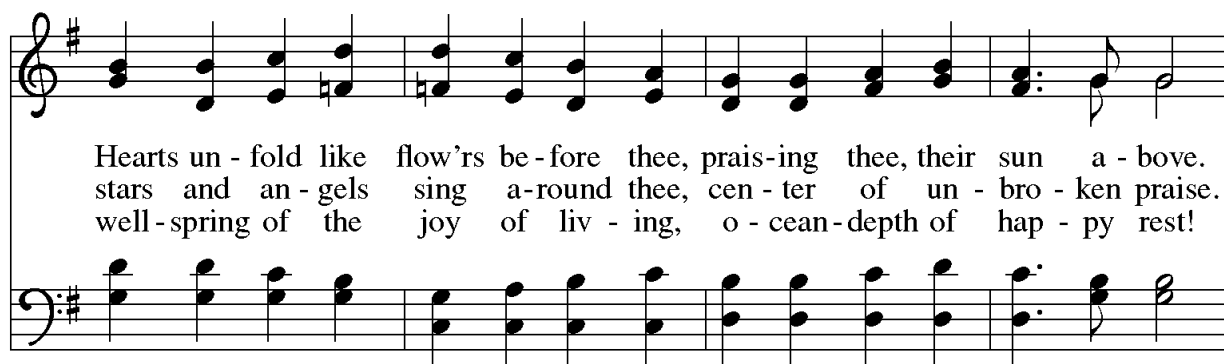
# RECESSIONAL HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* "Hymn to Joy"

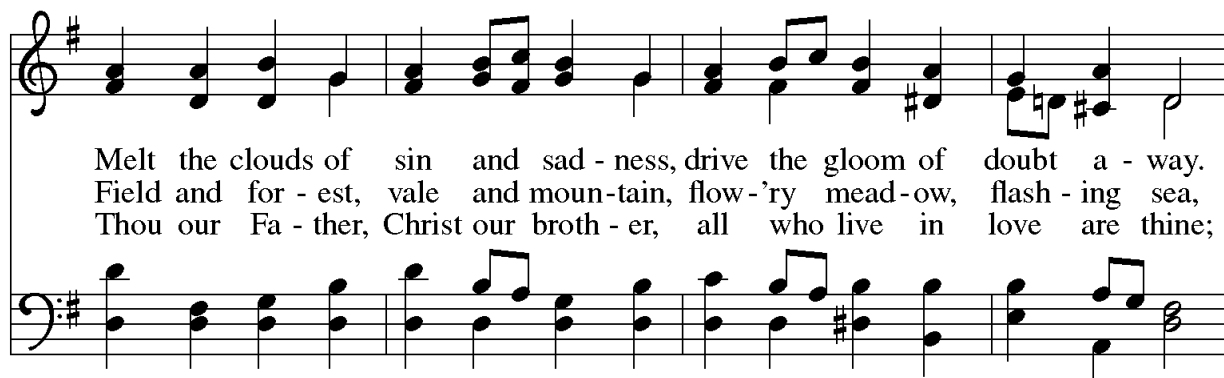
ELW 836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Toccata on 'Great Day'

Adolphus Hailstork  
(b. 1941)



## Music Notes

*Great Day!* is full of joy and robust enthusiasm. It is a spiritual that, like so many others, alludes to a biblical story as the basis for its message. *Zion's Wall* cites Zion, the city of David, as a stronghold against warring adversaries. It counsels the faithful to march on towards a righteous cause, for God will build up Zion's wall. At the root of its meaning, it is similar to the [the Lutheran] hymn *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* in that God is perceived as captain and protector in the battle against evil. An expression of triumph and confidence should be paramount in any meaningful interpretation of this spiritual.

**Dr. Uzee Brown, Jr.,**

Morehouse College Professor of Music and Chair of Creative and Performing Arts

**Jaman E. Dunn** is an African American orchestral conductor of classical and film music. He currently holds the positions of Assistant Conductor, Community Engagement with the Buffalo Philharmonic, and Interim Music Director of the Buffalo Master Chorale. A native of Chicago, IL, he attended The Ohio State University for his undergraduate studies, earning a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance under the study of Dr. C. Andrew Blosser. During his time at Ohio State, Mr. Dunn founded and conducted the Buckeye Philharmonic Orchestra, which is the university's only orchestra completely student run. Mr. Dunn also earned his Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting, under the instruction of Maestro Bruce Hangen at The Boston Conservatory at Berklee. While at the Boston Conservatory, he led the Conductor's Orchestra, assisted the Boston Conservatory Orchestra, and conducted the Boston Conservatory Orchestra in Copland's *Billy the Kid*. Other conducting activities included forming an ad-hoc orchestra and performing three concerts, premiering pieces on student composer recitals, and conducting the Berklee Boston Conservatory Recording Orchestra. Vocally, Mr. Dunn has performed throughout the Midwest and Northeast in both oratorio and operatic repertoire, including works of Handel, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Verdi, and Orff, among others. In a professional capacity, he hopes to raise awareness for African-American performers in classical music at all levels and in all mediums.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow in observance of Labor Day.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE BACK: Each Sunday, the beautiful vases of flowers gracing the chancel are often dedicated by members of our congregation in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for these or any other specific date during the year. She can be reached at [msmarylschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:msmarylschmidt@gmail.com) or 716-835-3325. Vases are currently \$40.00 each.

FLU CLINIC: The flu clinic will be held on Sunday, October 4 in Redeemer Hall. More information to follow.

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP Happy Hour – Join us each Friday via Zoom at 5:00pm. We'll meet together through safe physical-distancing while being able to check in with each other and enjoy the company. Bring your favorite beverage to the computer. Zoom Meeting ID: 285 453 435. Password 299123.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Each week via Zoom at 9:30 am. Join via Zoom ID 427 428 740. Password 849195.

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.



The flowers on the altar are given In Thanks for the gifts of labor and love of family, friends and HTLC in my life by Guy Huber.



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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