



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, October 18, 2020  
Twentieth 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**

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

## **PRELUDE**

Water music

Georg Frederic Händel

(1685 – 1759)

Air

Allegro Maestoso

Dedicated to Rev. Neil and Pam Kattermann's 47<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

## **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

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* "Nicea"

ELW 413

(vs. 1 & 3)

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## **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.

**Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

### **THE READING: Isaiah 45:1-7**

The first reading for Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Isaiah, the 45<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—  
and the gates shall not be closed:  
<sup>2</sup>I will go before you  
and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,  
<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,  
I surname you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.  
I arm you, though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SOLO**

*Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth* from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn  
Text: Matthew 13:43, Isaiah 51:11 adapted by William Bartholomew (1809-1847)

Kyle van Schoonhoven, *tenor*

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.  
Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee  
away forever.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22**

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think.

Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?”<sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?<sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius.<sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?”<sup>21</sup> They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”<sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

## **SERMON MEDITATION**

Einleitung Act V, *Rienzi*

Richard Wagner  
(1813-1883)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. 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, the Community of Good Neighbors, and Holy Trinity. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt. Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. We pray for those impacted by injustice, those on the front line of the pandemic, and all those we name out loud, and in (or in the silence) the prayers of our hearts and our minds. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you. We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of 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.)*

## **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!*

## **MINISTRY MOMENT - STEWARDSHIP**

Uli MacDonald

## **SOLO AT THE OFFERING**

Allmächt'ger Vater from *Rienzi*  
*Rienzi's Prayer*

Richard Wagner  
(1813-1883)

Kyle van Schoonhoven, *tenor*

Almighty Father, look down! Hear me in the dust praying to you! The power that you gave to me, Do not yet let it perish! You gave me strength, you gave me a higher power, you lent me a sublime character: to lighten that which was low, to lift that which was sunken into the dust. Thou hast transformed the people whom nobles reproach into sovereignty, glory, and majesty! O God, do not destroy the work, which is built at the price for you! Oh, make solvent, Lord, the dead of night, that still reveals itself within the souls of men! Give us the reflection of thy power, which extends into eternity! My Lord and Father, oh look down! Bend your mind from your heights! The force that gave me your miracle, Let it not yet perish! Almighty Father, look down! Hear me in the dust praying to you! My God, you gave me great power, hear my supplication!

## **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.

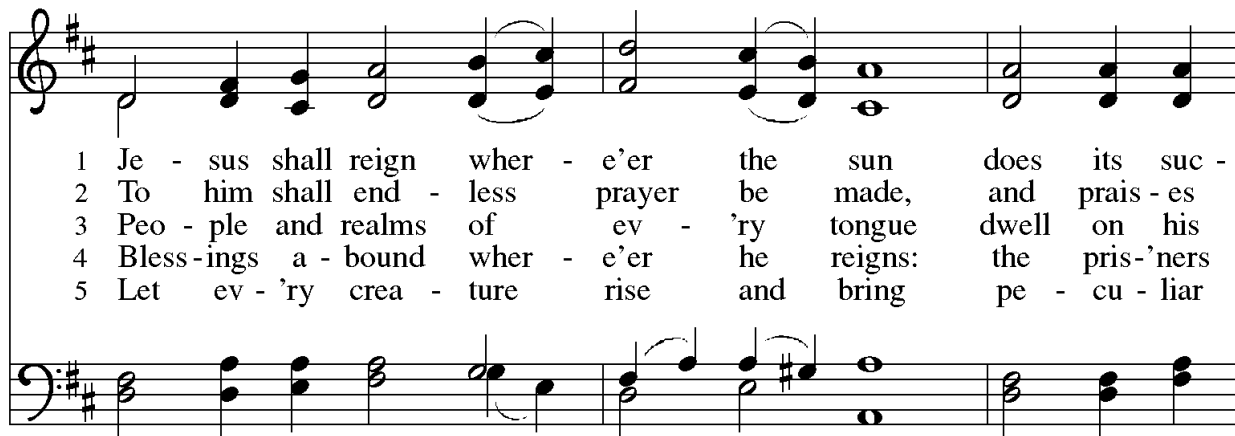
**Amen.**

# RECESSIONAL HYMN

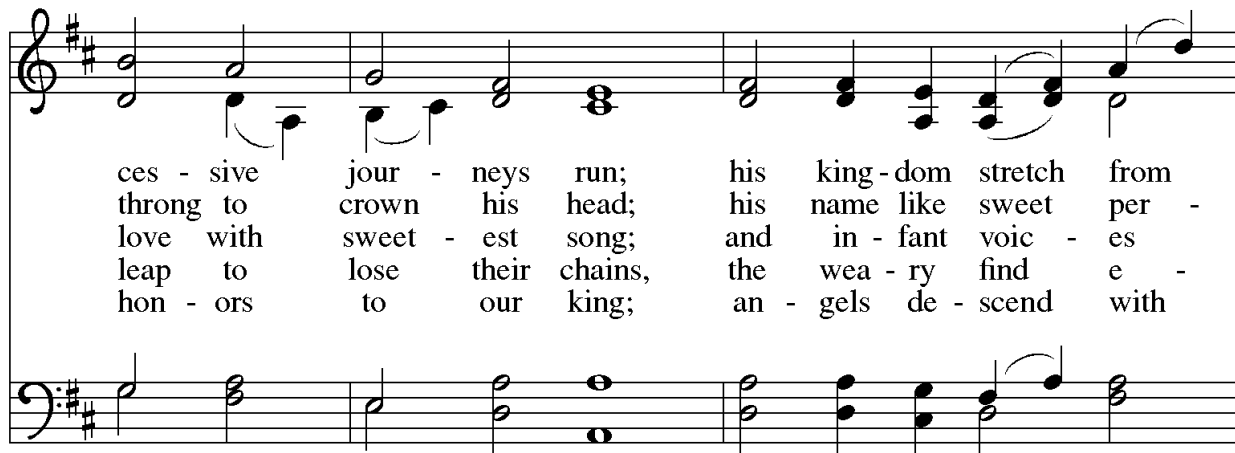
## *Jesus Shall Reign* "Duke Street"

ELW 434

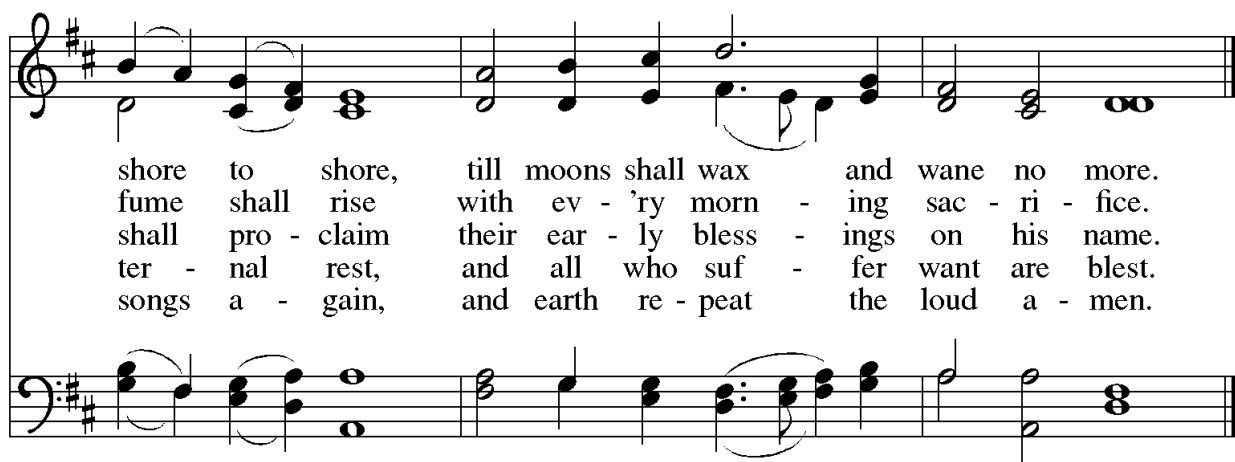
(vs. 1 & 5)



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Carillon

Herbert Murrill

(1909-1952)



### Music Notes

Tenor Kyle van Schoonhoven is a recent graduate of the world-renowned Adler Fellowship at the San Francisco Opera. In 2017, van Schoonhoven was named a winner of the prestigious Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Additionally, he was the recipient of a 2018 Sara Tucker Study Grant, received the Nicolai Gedda Memorial Award from the prestigious George London Foundation, was awarded the top prize in the Brava! Opera Theater and James M. Collier Young Artist Program Vocal Competition and was a finalist in the 2016 Jensen Foundation Voice Competition. His performance credits include principal-role appearances with the Cincinnati Opera, San Francisco Opera, New York Lyric Opera, Manhattan Opera Studio, Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, and our own Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Mr. van Schoonhoven holds degrees from the Fredonia School of Music and Westminster Choir College, and is a native of Lockport, NY.

*Rienzi* is an early opera by Richard Wagner in five acts, with the libretto written by the composer after Edward Bulwer-Lytton's novel of the same name. It was first performed in 1842 in Dresden and was the composer's first success.



## Music Notes Cont.

The opera is set in Rome and is based on the life of Cola di Rienzi (1313–1354), a late medieval Italian populist figure who succeeds in outwitting and then defeating the nobles and their followers and in raising the power of the people. Magnanimous at first, he is forced by events to crush the nobles' rebellion against the people's power, but popular opinion changes and even the Church, which had urged him to assert himself, turns against him. In the end the populace burns the Capitol, in which Rienzi and a few adherents have made a last stand.

The music you will hear during the sermon meditation is an orchestral transcription of the instrumental interlude that begins Act V. Following the peace, we will hear Rienzi's prayer, "Allmächt'ger Vater" (Almighty Father!), which follows the orchestral interlude in Act V.



The flowers on the altar are given In Celebration of our 47<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary by Pastor Neil and Pam Kattermann.



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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES:** It's that time of year again! While colleges have looked much different this year for many of our students, we want to make sure that we are sending college care packages as we have in the past. Whether your student is away at college or at home doing on line classes we want to make sure that they receive a package from Holy Trinity. If you have a college student, please contact the church office with the name and address of the student (and let us know if they are home or away). You can also email Beth Pellnat at [eapellnat@gmail.com](mailto:eapellnat@gmail.com) or Kathy Crissey at [kc1008@aol.com](mailto:kc1008@aol.com). We would like to get these out by mid to the end of October. If you would like to make a donation toward the care packages, please contact one of us as well. Thanks and stay well!

**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 honor of loved ones. Looking ahead, the following date is available: November 29 - 2 vases. 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.

**HOLY CONVERSATIONS Series** will be offering its first session on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 7:00pm through ZOOM. The topic will be "Racial Justice and the Gospel". Several speakers will provide information on terms such as "white privilege" and "racism" followed by a question and answer session. A ZOOM link will be provided in the Friday, October 23 email news.

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

**ANNUAL COMMITMENT:** The Stewardship Committee thanks all of you for your continued support. You should receive the annual commitment card this coming week. Please fill it out and return it either in person on a Sunday or by mailing to the church office.

**AMAZON SMILE:** With the holidays approaching we would like to remind everyone to select Holy Trinity Lutheran Church as the charity for AMAZON SMILE. This will ensure that a donation to HT will be made with each of your purchases through AMAZON SMILES.

**THE FLU CLINIC WAS A SUCCESS!!** Thanks to all for supporting the Flu Clinic. We had 23 church members receive their vaccine. A big Thanks to all of you.

**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.

**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.

# **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**

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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  
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The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor  
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