



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, October 4, 2020
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebrating our 142nd 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 gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

PRELUDE

Praeludium in C Major BuxWV 137

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

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.

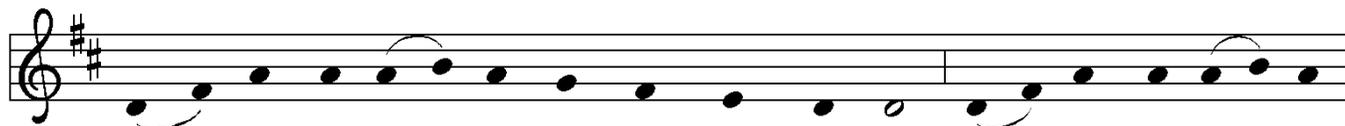
*(At home, dip your finger into a bowl or cup of water and make the
sign of the cross on your forehead.)*

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

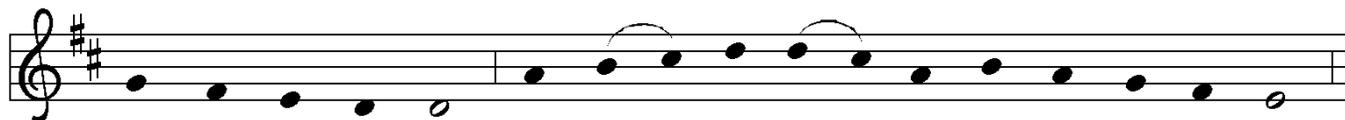
OPENING HYMN

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ “Adoro te Devote”

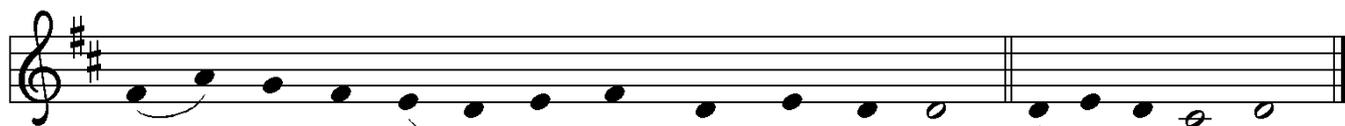
ELW 402



1 E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ, I know not how to
2 Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your
3 Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need to serve my God and



ask or what to say; I on - ly know my need, as deep as life,
pur - pose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done a - miss;
all hu - man - i - ty; ful - fill - ment of my life in love out-poured:



and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
my life in you, O Christ, your love in me. A - men.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996

Music: ADORO TE DEVOTE, plainsong mode V; *Processionale*, Paris, 1697

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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.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

The first reading for Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Isaiah, the 5th Chapter.

¹Let me sing for my beloved

my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,

and planted it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it,

and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes,

but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem

and people of Judah,

judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard

that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,

why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you

what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,

and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,

and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste;

it shall not be pruned or hoed,

and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;

I will also command the clouds

that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

O Lord on High

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 – 1791)

Colleen Flynn, *soprano*

O Lord on high, we pray Thee guide us, And keep our souls in Thine own care;
When dark our way, with light provide us, Teach us Thy righteousness to share,
teach us Thy righteousness to share. Lead Thou us on thro' dangers low'ring, Be
thou our shield in fears o'er pow'ring; Oh, let Thy mercy e'er be our guard, Over our
life keep watch and ward, over our life keep watch and ward.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way.

³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

SERMON MEDITATION

Improvisation on Adoro te Devote

Larry Visser
(b. 1962)

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.

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. 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, and the Community of Good Neighbors, and Holy Trinity. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and for their families. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today. 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.

We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard. We give you thanks for the life, love and family of Sue Biesinger. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. 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.)

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

The Lord's Prayer

Gweneth Walker

(b. 1947)

Colleen Flynn, *soprano*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heav'n.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us, who trespass against us,
Our Father who art in heav'n.

Lord make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is anger, peace;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there emptiness, hope;
Where there is darkness; light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

And lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, and ever. Amen.

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.

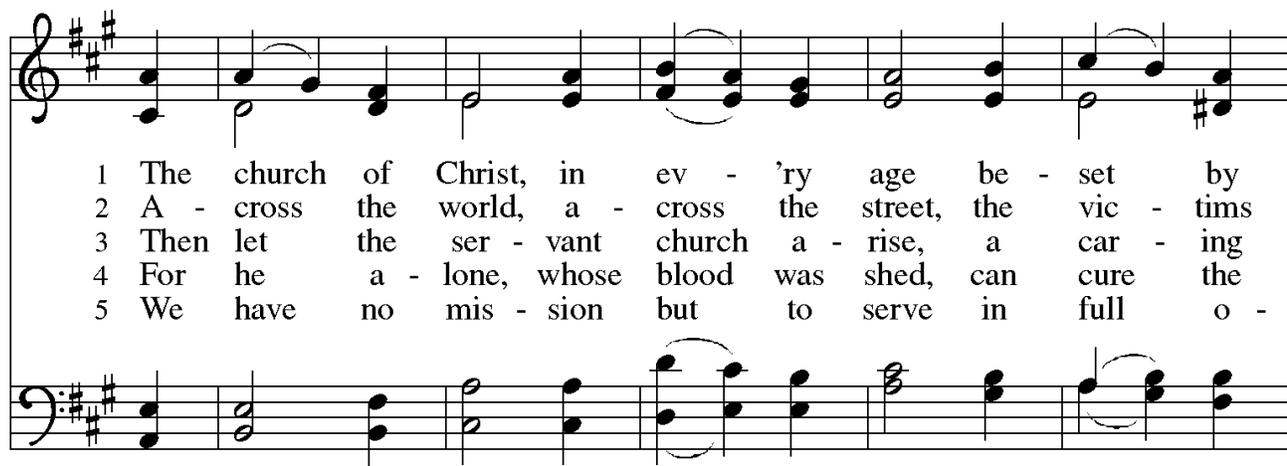
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Church of Christ, in Every Age “Wareham”

ELW 729

(vs. 1 & 5)



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters

(1903 - 1986)



Music Notes

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer Gwyneth Walker is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical community of Randolph, Vermont.

Colleen Flynn will perform Walker's dramatic setting of The Lord's Prayer. An unusual feature of this song is the insertion of the Prayer of St. Francis into the text of The Lord's Prayer. After the words, "as we forgive those who trespass against us," the vocalist sings "Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace." The music continues through the Prayer of St. Francis "where there is sadness, joy..." and then returns to The Lord's Prayer, "and lead us not into temptation..." This return is the climax of the work, with the voice rising to a powerful "Amen."

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 or Kathy Crissey at 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 dates are available: October 18th - 1 vase, November 29th - 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 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.

WOMEN AT THE WELL will reconvene on Tuesday, October 13 at noon in Redeemer Hall.

THE BURRITO PROJECT - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We will meet this **Tuesday, October 6**. If you would like to help assemble the burritos, we will meet in the HT kitchen at 5:30pm to prepare and heat the burritos. At 6:45 we depart HT and begin our delivery. Masks will be required at all times.

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

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.



The flowers on the altar are given In Loving Memory of son Paul by Paul and Sue Biesinger and In Thanksgiving for Susan; and To the Glory of God from Jim and Norine Dunnigan.



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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Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster
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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
pastor.lee.miller@holytrinitybuffalo.org

The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor
pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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