



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, January 31, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
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

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

PRELUDE

Partita on 'Lux in Tenebris'

Franklin Ashdown
(b. 1942)

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

Light Shone in Darkness “Lux in Tenebris”

ELW 307



- 1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,
- 2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;
- 3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, “Praise for the light. A - men!”
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: LUX IN TENEBRIS, Mark Sedio, b. 1954

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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.

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

THE READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany is recorded in Deuteronomy, the 18th Chapter.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

Lord, Thou Art My Refuge and My Shield
from *Biblical Songs* Op. 99, No. 2

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Tyler Huk, *tenor*

Lord, Thou art my refuge and my shield, and in Thy word put I my trust.
Out of my sight, ye that do evil, for my heart is fixed, I will hold to God's
commandments.
Strengthen me, that I may keep Thy law, and that Thy statutes may be my delight.
I am afraid of Thee and of Thy greatness, trembling do I come before Thy
judgement seat.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

The holy gospel according to Saint Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

SERMON MEDITATION

Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie, Op 13

Maurice Duruflé
(1902 - 1986)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries. 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, Community of Good Neighbors, and Holy Trinity, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all God's works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and their families, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those living with HIV/AIDS, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need; for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides. We pray for those impacted by injustice, those on the front line of the pandemic, and all those we name out loud, or in the silence of our hearts and our minds, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries; for the people of God and for other needs in our community, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

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!

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

Be Thou My Vision

Bob Chilcott

Text: Early Irish, tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)
versified Eleanor Hall (altered) (1860-1935)

(b. 1955)

Tyler Huk, *tenor*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art; Be thou my best thought in in the day and the night, Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word; Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord; Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son; Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou and thou only the first in my heart; O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art; Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be thou my vision, O ruler of all.

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

God the creator strengthen you;

Jesus the beloved fill you;

and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

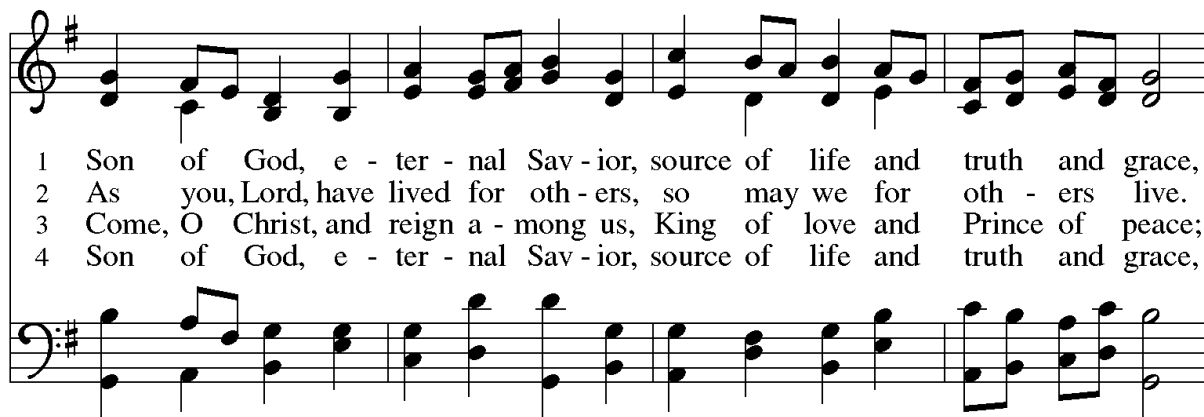
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

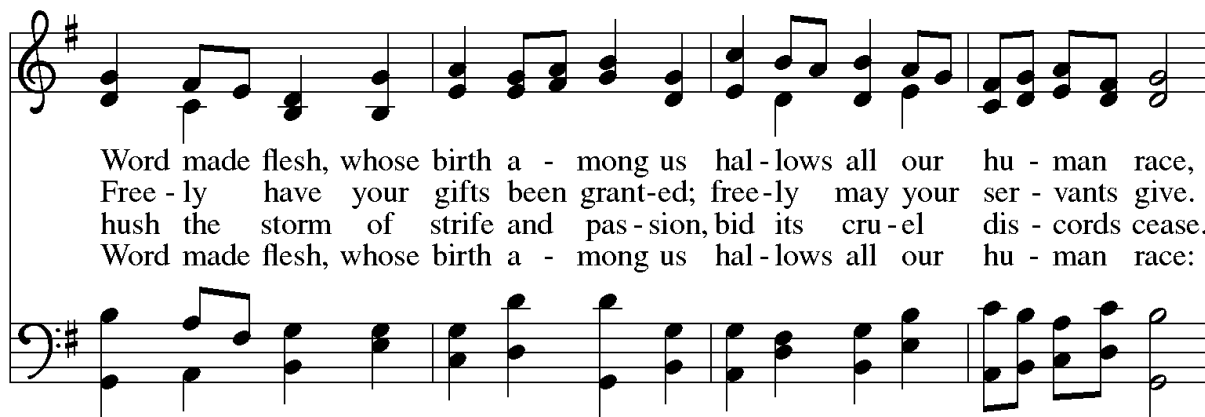
Son of God, Eternal Savior "In Babilone"

ELW 655

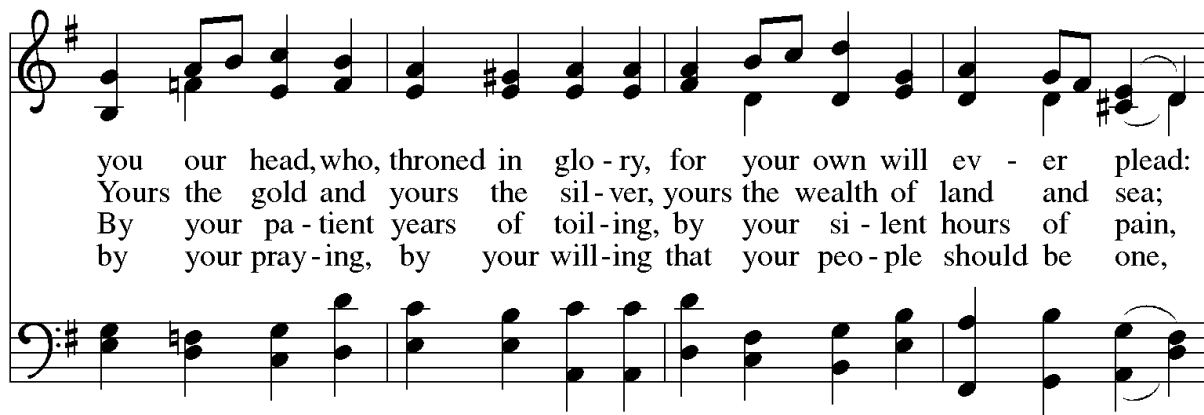
(vs, 1 & 2)



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfarria brillante Opus 1331

Carson Cooman
(b. 1982)



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.

REOPENING PLAN

In-Person Service

Sunday, February 7, 2021

10:30am

Holy Trinity will be starting in-person services on Sunday, February 7 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 – sitting from back to front.
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. Individual gluten-free communion will be available at the entrance from the ushers.
7. In order to comply with contact tracing, everyone will be asked to complete an orange sheet located in each bulletin.
8. 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.

The 10:30 Service will be Livestreamed, but we will encourage those using livestream as their primary worship, to watch the 8:30 service – which is both live and recorded.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Each week via Zoom at 9:30 am at

<https://zoom.us/j/427428740?pwd=Y1BZdUdLL3l4YU5QWnJUUTdkRlk4Zz09#success>. 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.

WINE AND CHOCOLATE PAIRINGS! Save the date for Thursday, February 11th at 7:30pm for a virtual wine and chocolate pairings event! For just \$60.00, this online event includes four bottles of wine and chocolates, available for pick up or delivery. Enter into our virtual tasting room for a guided experience with an expert from Addy's Fine Wine and Spirits. This makes a perfect gift for Valentine's Day! Register at our website wnylutherancharities.org.

BEER LOVERS UNITE! Give your taste buds a unique and exciting experience! For \$49 join us and a Master Brewer from Community Beer Works for an evening of fun you won't want to miss! Includes six beers (three flagship and three seasonal), house-made chips, and beer cheese. Register at www.wnylutherancharities.org.

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

Matthew Brown, Kathy Crissey, Gary Herrnreiter, Eliana Perez,
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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