



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Buffalo, New York

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Celebrating our 142nd Anniversary

Holy Communion – 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.

Following New York State guidelines, we kindly ask

- 1. that you keep your mask on during the duration of this service.*
- 2. that you follow the one way direction signs noted in the aisles.*
- 3. that our members and guests fill out the orange sheet for contact tracing purposes and leave at your seat in the pew.*

As our worship continues to be transformed,

we invite you to share your story and your worship experience!

Please check-in and share on any of our social media platforms.

You are invited to share the peace or any part of our worship via text message.

Please use #poweroftrinity for all your social media interactions.

You can find us on Facebook @holytrinitybuffalo, on Instagram @holytrinitybuffalo or on twitter @holytrinitybuff

INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

VOLUNTARY

Schönster Herr Jesu

Gerre Hancock

(1934 - 2012)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN

Beautiful Savior “Schönster Herr Jesu”

ELW 838

(vs. 1 & 3)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

You are invited to kneel or sit, as you are able

Holy God,

you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

THE READING:

A Reading from 2 Kings 2:1-12

¹¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

African-American Spiritual
arr. by Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Grace Mingoea, *mezzo*

Swing low, sweet chariot, Comin' for to carry me home. I looked over Jordan, what did I see, Comin' for to carry me home? A band of angels comin' after me, Comin' for to carry me home.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

The holy gospel according to Saint Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

SERMON MEDITATION

Come As Light from *Paraphrases on Four Gregorian Themes*

Larry Visser

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light...be filled with the Spirit." -Ephesians 5:8, 18b KJV

Please stand, if able.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

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 the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world. 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 creation: sun, moon and stars; life forming in the dark earth and ocean deep; mountains, clouds and storms, and creatures seen and unseen, and for the Holy Spirit's guidance in our stewardship of God's creation, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those responsible for safety and protection: for emergency responders and security guards, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and their families, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who suffer this day, that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace. 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 companions on life's journey in this worshiping community, for loved ones who cannot be with us this day, and for guidance during struggles we face, that God's glory is revealed around and among us. We pray for your daughters and sons, including the children of our community and especially Cameron, Zachary and Jacob, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their earthly pilgrimage, that their lives of service and prayer inspire us in our living, 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.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

We ask that you remain at your seat.

*You may share the sign of peace
with a head nod or peace sign.*

Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

*Offerings and tithes may be left in the offering plate
located at the exit.*

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

Laudamus te from the *Mass in C minor*, K. 427 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 - 1791)

Grace Mingoea, *mezzo*

We praise thee,
We bless thee,
We adore thee,
We glorify thee.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

We give you thanks, O God, through Jesus Christ, your beloved son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you today and to serve you as your priestly people.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and 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.

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

Please follow Pastor's instructions on the distribution of communion

All are welcome to share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. At this time we will be serving communion in a contact-less manner. In your pews you will find pre-packaged grape juice and wafers (gluten free are available, please see an usher at the entrance). The wafer can be found at the top of the cup (lift up the top, clear layer) and you will be invited to eat the wafer at the word, "The body of Christ given to you." You may then open the grape juice and drink at the word, "The blood of Christ given to you." Please leave the used and unused communion cups in the pews.

Please stand as you are able.

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

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

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise “St. Denio”

ELW 834

(vs. 1 & 4)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Voluntary on ‘St. Denio’

Bert Carlson

(b. 1937)

*Please wait until after the music to leave the church building
beginning with those seated closest to the Main Street doors
(back of church).*



*In order to follow NYS guidelines,
we are unable to host coffee and refreshments
after service until further notice.*



Today's ushers are Jim Dunnigan and Joe and Martha Kryszczuk. Worship Assistants are Sean Mann, Madalyn Brown and Morgan Leiser.

The flowers on the altar are given In Loving Memory of my husband David by Elizabeth Vihnanek; and In Honor of Ellie's 11th Birthday by Jeff and Jen Yap.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Cameron, Zachary and Jacob Agro.



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.



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

On February 17 we will be offering a variety of ways to receive your ashes in a safe environment.

We will be holding our annual Ashes on Run which will take place on Main Street from 7:30am – 9:30am. Individual Q-tips will be used by the Pastors to bless each person.

There will also be two services in the Main Church,
12:00 pm – Spoken Service with Holy Communion
7:00pm – Traditional Service with Holy Communion

Both services will be also be Livestreamed.
In order to keep everyone socially distanced,
individual ashes will be provided.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet today at 2:00 via the Canvas classroom. Please log-in at least 5 minutes before the start of class so that we may promptly start at 2 and work out any tech difficulties that may arise.

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow in observance of Presidents' Day. BIBLE STUDY will still go on via Zoom at 9:30 am at

<https://zoom.us/j/427428740?pwd=Y1BZdUdLL3l4YU5QWnJUUTdkRlk4Zz09#success>. Join via Zoom ID 427 428 740. Password 849195.

UPDATED COUNCIL DATES: Installation of Council will be held on Sunday, February 21 during the 10:30 service. Council Retreat will be held via Zoom on February 21 from 12:00 – 1:30. The next council meeting will be Tuesday, February 23 at 6:00pm via Zoom. Pastor Miller will send the links out prior to the meeting.

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.

WIGGLY GRACE SPACE: This space, located to the left of the baptismal font, is intended especially for families with toddlers and preschoolers, recognizing that smaller kids are more engaged when they can see what is going on. Small tables and chairs, and age-appropriate soft toys help to keep our little ones occupied. The Wiggly Grace Space, as mentioned, is designed for toddlers/preschoolers (2-4 years of age) who are too old for nursery care (birth to 3 years) and not quite old enough for faith formation (Pre-K-12). This is a space that is more open than in the pew and just the right size for our littlest ones to move around and get their wiggles out! Here they can engage in age-appropriate activities while still experiencing worship in the sanctuary alongside their families and the whole community in Christ here at Holy Trinity. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to worship with their child(ren) when this space is being used. During COVID, the activities in the space will be limited and we ask that while in this space you continue to follow the HT COVID precautions (wear a mask, social distance, etc.).

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.

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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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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