



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Buffalo, New York

Sunday, February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

Celebrating our 142<sup>nd</sup> 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 second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.*

## **VOLUNTARY**

*O Mensch, beweine dein' Sünde groß*  
BWV 622 from *Orgelbüchlein*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

## *RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OPENING HYMN**

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* “Lasset uns mit Jesu Ziehen”

ELW 802  
(vs. 1 & 2)

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Often the first step to change is listening. We have to listen to those we've hurt. We have to listen to creation as she cries. We have to listen to the voice of the oppressed, if we ever hope to make things right.

So today as we begin our prayer of confession, we will start with a moment of silence – a moment to listen. And then we will pray together trusting that God is always listening to us, and that God's ears listen with love.

So let us confess, silently and then together.

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

Listening God,

**Take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted in us and settle it. Take what is hurting us and hold it.**

**Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see. And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.**

**So open us, settle us, hold us, forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully.**

**With hope we pray, and with gratitude we confess. Amen.**

Siblings in Christ,

We confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us. No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand. So rest in this good news:

God invites us in. God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers. God forgives us.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

*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.

**O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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 Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

<sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SOLO**

*Gott sei mir gnädig*

from *Paulus*

Felix Mendelssohn

(1809-1847)

Shane Keyes, *baritone*

God to me be merciful according to your goodness,  
And blot out my sins according to your great mercy.  
Spurn me not from your face and take your Holy Spirit not from me.  
A contrite and broken heart will you God not despise.  
Then I will the trespasser your ways teach, that the sinner to you convert.  
Lord, open my lips, that my mouth your glory make known.  
Lord! Cast me not away!

*Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.*

## **GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38**

The holy gospel according to Saint Mark

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.<sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

**SERMON MEDITATION**

*Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*

BWV 639 from *Orgelbüchlein*

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

*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**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. 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. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and their families. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression. 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. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families. We pray for your daughters and sons, including the children of our community and especially Stuart and Simon. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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**

*Don't You Weep When I'm Gone*

Text: Jeremiah 22:10

African-American Spiritual

arr. Harry T. Burleigh

(1866 – 1940)

Shane Keyes, *baritone*

When I'm gone, gone, when I'm gone, gone, gone;  
O mother, don't you weep when I am gone.  
For I'm goin' to Heav'n above, Going to the God of Love,  
O mother, don't you weep when I am gone.  
O mother, meet me there, mother, meet me in de air,  
O mother, don't you weep when I am gone.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**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.

**God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

You are what God made you to be:

created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**Amen.**

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*O God, My Faithful God* "Was Frag Ich Nach Der Welt"

ELW 806  
(vs. 1 & 4)

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

*At the ringing of the bells, please exit 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 Paul Bauchle and Paul Biesinger. Worship Assistants are Justin Rojek, Natalia Bavaro and Griffin Miller.

The flowers on the altar are given In Loving Memory of Richard Bundt who was born 94 years ago on February 23 by Susan Bundt and Brian Webb; In Loving Memory of Arthur O. Pellnat; Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday today from Ron Pellnat; and in Honor of my first great-grandson, Austin Valor Byrne's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday today by Thomas W. Johnson.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Stuart and Simon Ames.



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

**LENTEN DEVOTIONALS:** Our theme for Lent this year, once again comes from A Sanctified Art and is Again & Again: A Lenten Refrain. This theme will be incorporated into our worship liturgy, as well as items included in our worship space, and through a sermon series each week. We will also be providing a Lenten Weekly Devotional to incorporate into your prayer life. Please see the weekly email for the link. If you would like to have a copy mailed to you, please call the church office.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** The Worship Committee has once again arranged for lilies to be placed in the chancel on Easter Sunday. Flowers are \$10 each and may be given in memory or honor of someone. Order forms can be found in the next church paper, in the weekly email, or by calling the church office, and completed forms may be mailed to the church office.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** 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 have one vase available - March 7<sup>th</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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.



**ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S 40 DAYS OF GIVING WALKING TO END HUNGER:** Get out those walking shoes, running sneakers or boots that were made for walking, and join Bishop John Macholz and members of the Upstate New York Synod as we walk and give to end world hunger. The Bishop is inviting participants to walk (or run) 40 miles in the 40 days of Lent and donate \$40 to ELCA World Hunger. Go to <https://upstatenysynod.org/new-events/2021/2/17/40-days40-miles40-dollars-walking-to-end-hunger> for more information. Log your miles at home each week. When you reach 40 miles, register your accomplishment at <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/3172318> to share your donation. You may also send a check to Holy Trinity with "ELCA World Hunger" on the memo line. Share your progress on social media using these hashtags #UNYSWalkingToEndHunger #40days40miles40dollars #ELCAWorldHunger. Join us for the ELCA World Hunger 40 Days of Giving Campaign!

**2021 LENTEN CONFERENCE COLLECTION:** You are invited to join the Niagara Frontier Conference in collection of Menstrual Hygiene Products for our local food pantries. All products we receive will be distributed between the food ministries of the Community of Good Neighbors, and the Network of Religious Communities Food Pantry. We have also been asked to help support Buffalo Seminary and their drive to benefit Her Drive and local shelters as well. While the Conference Collection is limited to menstrual hygiene products, Her Drive is accepting items such as gently used bras, menstrual products, contraceptives, dental care products, personal care items (including for natural curly hair) monetary donations, etc. for women (or anyone with a uterus). Gifts may be given in-person at Holy Trinity or by giving through Amazon (or another vendor) and sending to 1080 Main St., Buffalo, 14209. We hope you will be considering donating for both of these good causes. There might be a friendly competition among conference congregations. Let's see how well we do!

**PLANT SALE:** It's that time of year for the annual LYO plant sale! The pick-up date for the plant sale will be Saturday, May 15. Order forms can be found in the newsletter, in our weekly email, or by calling the church office. Orders are due back to the church by Sunday, April 4. The proceeds will go towards our mission fund which helps to support service events, such as the youth gathering, located in Minneapolis in 2022. Any and all orders are appreciated.

**RENOVATION PROJECT:** The Fellowship Room Renovation Project postponed when the pandemic began is back on schedule. Limited furniture items including small end tables and chairs are available for free-will donation. Pick up is available following the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, March 7. See either pastor or project manager, Ron Pellnat for more information.

**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. During Lent Pastor Brenda will be leading us on a new, inspiring way to think about the stories in the Bible. We will be basing our lessons on the book *Inspired*, by Rachel Held Evans. If you would like to download the reading guide for the book you can find that by going to <https://rachelheldevans.com/inspired>. There is no need to purchase the book, we will mostly be following the reading guide.

**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**

Barb Wozniak, President  
Emily Notari, Vice-President  
Guy Huber, Treasurer  
Jennifer Yap, Secretary

Matthew Brown, Kathy Crissey, Gary Herrnreiter, Eliana Perez,  
Juan Perez, Raúl Saona and Elizabeth Vihnanek

## **Staff Contacts for Programs and Services**

Kristen Pomietlarz, Organist  
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[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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