



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, March 28, 2021
Palm Sunday
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

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

PRELUDE

Valet will ich dir geben BWV 735

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685 - 1750)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The story of faith is a story of courage.

It took courage for John the Baptist to prepare the way.

It took courage for Mary to say, "Here I am. Use me."

It took courage for the disciples to drop their nets and follow Jesus.

It took courage for the paralyzed man's friends to lower him through the roof.

It took courage for Peter to walk on water.

It took courage for Zacchaeus to give half of his possessions to the poor.

It took courage for Jesus to enter Jerusalem on a donkey.

Faith has never been easy. It is a journey of courage.

Again and again, God, show us the way.

THE BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

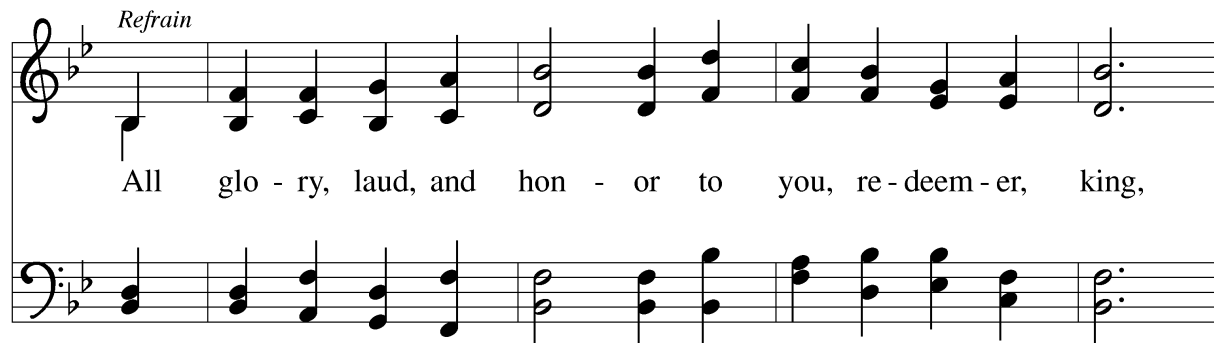
OPENING HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor “Valet Will Ich Dir Geben”

ELW 344

(vs. 1 & 5)

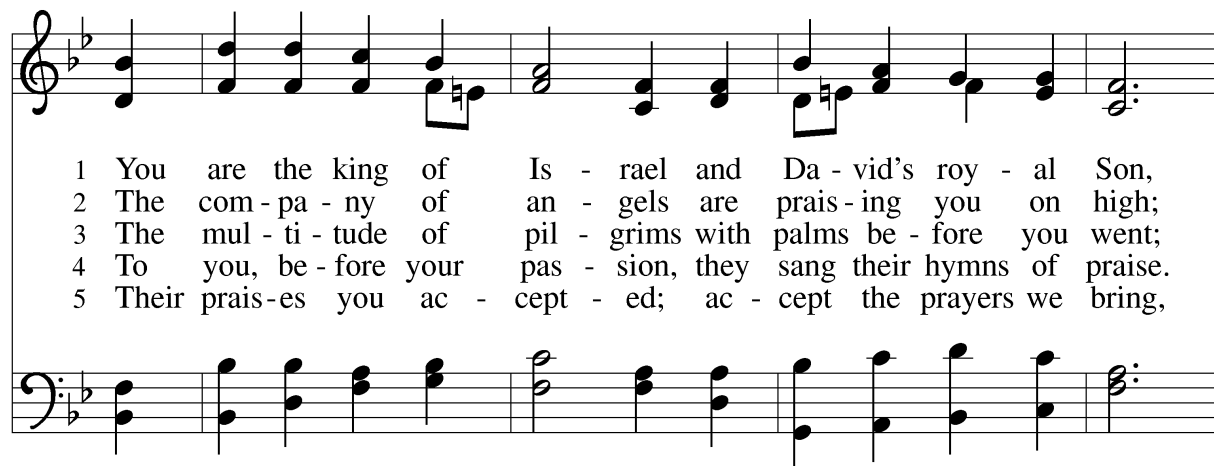
Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

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.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The first reading for Palm Sunday is recorded in Isaiah, the 50th Chapter.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

The Palms

Jean-Baptiste Faure

(1830 – 1914)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay are strewn this day, in festal preparation. Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, e'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare; join all and sing, His name declare, Hosanna! Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation. Hosanna! Praise to the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!

His word goes forth, and people by its might once more regain freedom from degradation. Humanity doth give to each his right, while those in darkness are restored to light. Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, of all thy sons sing the emancipation. Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem brings faith and hope to thee forevermore.

Join all and sing, His name declare, Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation. Hosanna! Praise to the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation!

GOSPEL: John 12:1-19

The holy gospel according to Saint John

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor? ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)

⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." ⁹When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus. ¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord —
the King of Israel!"

¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

SERMON MEDITATION

Herzliebster Jesu Op. 122 No. 2

Johannes Brahms

(1833 – 1897)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. 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.

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and their families. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer; grant respite and renewal. 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 called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. We pray for your daughters and sons, including the children of our community and especially Maddison and Gracelyn. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. 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.

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

Ah, Holy Jesus "Herzliebster Jesu"

Tr.: Robert S. Bridges, 1899

Johann Heermann, 1630

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1640

arr. Richard Walters

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, That man to judge thee hath in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee! 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee, I crucified thee.

For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation, Thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; Thy death and anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore Thee, and will ever pray thee, Think on thy pity and the love unswerving, not my deserving.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

If we could buy our way closer to you, we'd sell everything we have. If we could work our way to you, we'd never take a day off. If we could walk our way to you, we'd lace our shoes up tight. But we know that we cannot buy, work, or walk our way closer to you.

So holy God, as you have so often done again and again, open our hearts and minds. Clear out the self-talk that keeps us from you. Dust out the negativity and distractions. Remove any doubt hindering our way. 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

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.

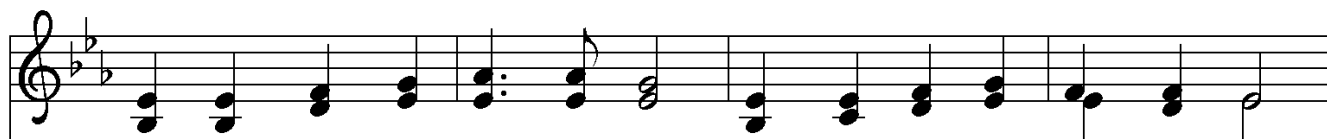
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane "Gethsemane"

ELW 347

(vs. 1 & 4)



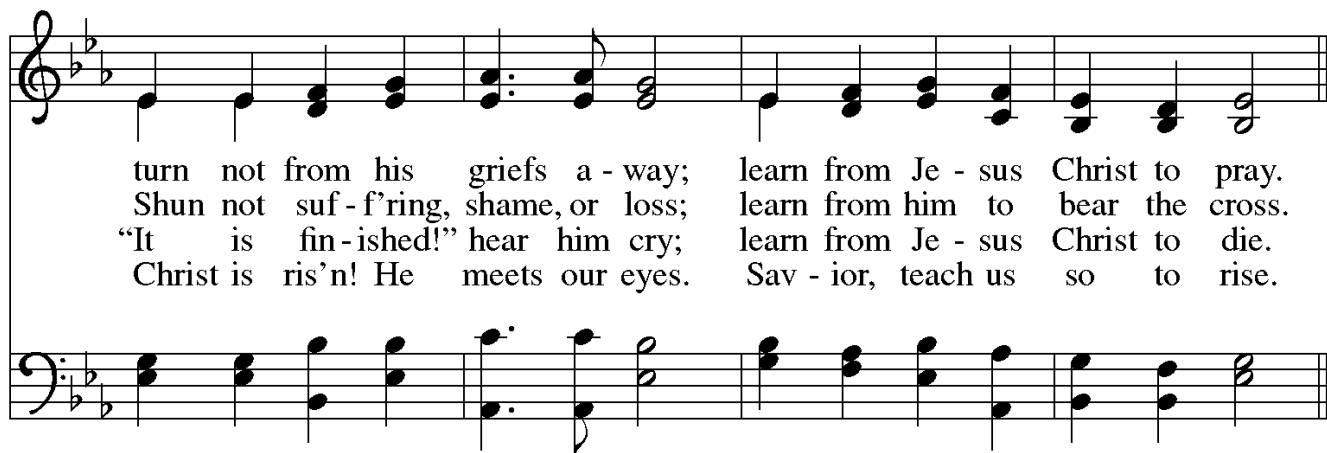
1 Go to dark Geth-se-m - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a-dor-ing at his feet,
4 Ear-ly has-ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit-ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir-a-cle of time, God's own sac-ri-fice com-plete.
all is sol-i-tude and gloom. Who has tak-en him a-way?



turn not from his griefs a-way; learn from Je-sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf-f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin-ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je-sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav-ior, teach us so to rise.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.



The flowers on the altar are given In Loving Memory of Randall F. Smith and Marie E. Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Maddison and Gracelyn Becker.



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.



***Day “Buy” Day Thanksgivings
March 2021***

*March 7 Happy 70th Birthday to Pam Kattermann by The Rev.
Neil Kattermann and Family*

Now you can honor special events and special people in your life!
Send us a Day Buy Day Form with a check made payable to
Holy Trinity for \$25 for each event you wish to honor.
Proceeds will go toward the Education Committee and help sponsor the
Confirmation Camp for youth here at Holy Trinity.



Lenten and Easter Worship

Monday, March 29 – Friday, April 2

8:00 a.m. Holy Week Morning Devotions via Facebook

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7:00 p.m. Holy Communion/stripping of the altar with Carolyn Lansom, *mezzo-soprano* (in-person / Livestream / Facebook)

Good Friday, April 2

3:00 p.m. Family Service in Main Church (in-person / Facebook)
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service with Tim Flynn, *bass-baritone*, and Amie Vredenburg, *violin* (in-person / Livestream / Facebook)

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:15 a.m. Pre-service music
*8:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion in Main Church
(in-person / Livestream / Facebook)
10:15 a.m. Pre-service music
*10:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion in Main Church
(in-person / Livestream / Facebook)

*Both services will be *identical* in music and celebration with soloists and brass quartet, featuring Dr. Aurora Deeds, *soprano*, Dr. Brian Zunner, *baritone*, and Maestro Jaman E. Dunn, *associate conductor of the BPO*. You will not miss any special music if you attend either service.

*Reminder that seating will be limited.



Since the pandemic started in early 2020, there have been more than 3,000 reported incidents of anti-Asian racism, according to Stop AAPI Hate, an initiative that tracks violence and harassment among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. In January 2021 these violent attacks targeted the elderly. An 84-year-old Thai man was shoved to the ground as he was taking his morning walk in San Francisco. In the neighboring city of Oakland, a 91-year-old man was pushed down, which caused him to fall face first into the pavement. For a community whose elders are deeply respected and looked up to as the source of communal and filial unity and wisdom, this hits hard.

The Asian and Pacific Islander Association of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America issued a statement on March 4, 2021 addressing the increase in violence directed toward Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. The ELCA Conference of Bishops affirmed the statement on March 5, 2021. Read the full statement here: <https://elca.org/News-and-Events/8089>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

CHRISM MASS: There will be a Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 30, at noon, via Zoom and live-streamed to UNYS You Tube Channel.

Zoom link for the service:

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87388754266?pwd=RU5hRkFHTEFlpcWx2VXZiZ0pVWHdiUT09>). Meeting ID: 873 8875 4266. Passcode: 012534

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.

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 each have two vases available – May 23rd and May 30th. 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.

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.

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

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The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor
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