# The Festival Service

of

# Holy Communion

# Christmas Eve

# 2021

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Candlelight Service at 10:30 p.m.

### Prelude Still, Still, Still

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and harp, to the melody of the lyre. For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy. *(Psalm 92)* 

Our congregation has been blessed extraordinarily with members and friends whose love of music and exceptional generosity make possible the special presentation we offer each Christmas Eve. Holy Trinity Church wishes to acknowledge and give thanks for gifts given in loving memory of:

> Elizabeth Lochhaas, Jack Grabenstatter Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Eckhert, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. James Marion Geiger, Helen Geiger, and Ruth H. Geiger

### *The Service* 10:30 p.m. *Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church!*

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 creatures welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status.
We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space through the protection against oppression internally, in institutions, interpersonally and structurally.
We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

For the love of one another, we kindly ask

 that you keep your mask on during the duration of this service.
 that our members and guests fill out the blue sheet and leave at your seat in the pew.
 We look forward to continuing to update our practices as we move forward.

We invite you to share your story and your worship experience! Check-in and share on any of our social media platforms using #poweroftrinity. You can find us on Facebook @holytrinitybuffalo, on Instagram @holytrinitybuffalo or on twitter @holytrinitybuff

Large print bulletins are available at the entrance ways

### **INTRODUCTION**

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

(Please stand as you are able.)

### WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY

### **AT THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE** The Christmas Proclamation

Today, on the eve of the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and created man and woman in God's own image.

Several thousand years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;

Thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges;

One-thousand years from the anointing of David as king;

In the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

The seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Emperor Octavian Augustus;

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The whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, the eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(*The congregation may be seated.*)

### THE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

(Those who are able may stand.)

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

<sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

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<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

<sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all

they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(*The congregation may be seated.*)

**THE SERMON** 

The Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll

(*The congregation may stand.*)

### THE HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful "Adeste Fidelis"

- O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
   O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
   Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
   (*Refrain*) O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.
- 2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! (*Refrain*)
- 3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: (*Refrain*)
- 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the father, now in flesh appearing: (*Refrain*)

### THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

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We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### THE 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.

### **THE OFFERING**

As part of our outreach into our neighborhood, city and region, Holy Trinity has supported a variety of social ministry agencies throughout the years. This year, we have shared gifts with:

Caribbean Children's Foundation, Lutheran Charities, The Network of Religious Communities, School 17, Niagara Lutheran Health System, LuMin, Voice Buffalo, LCLC, Reconciling Works, Resurrection Lutheran Church and Family Promise.

Your generosity at Christmastime helps to support these valuable ministries. Thank you!

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

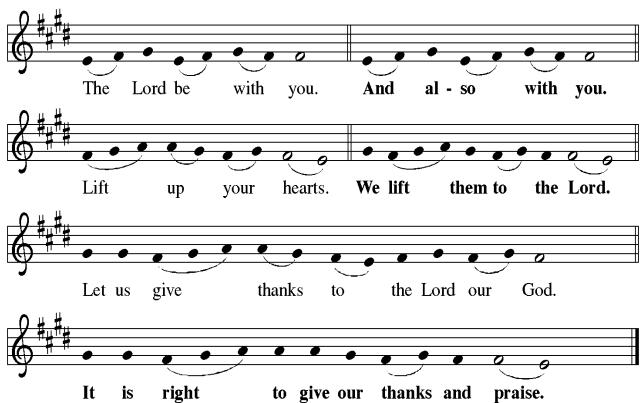
(Those who are able may stand.)

#### THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERING

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

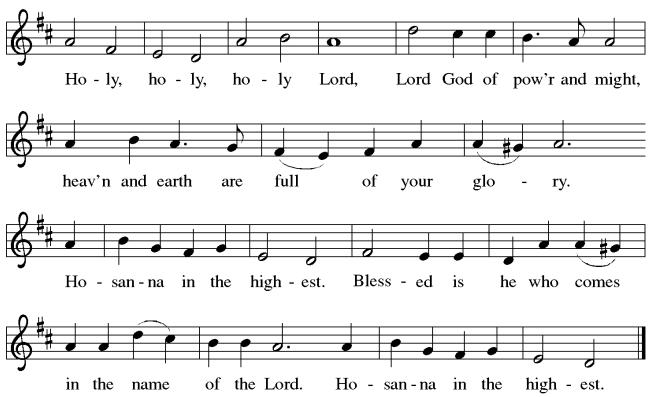


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### **PREFACE:**

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

THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

### Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

### **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

### THE 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. (*The congregation may 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. Please take your pre-package communion cup that you received at the entrance (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."

(Those who are able may stand.)

### THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

### THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

(You may be seated as worship leaders light candles beginning at the aisle. As you light the next candle down the row, please lean the unlit candle to the flame.)

(Those who are able may stand.)

#### **THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### THE CONGREGATIONAL HYMN Silent Night "Stille nacht"

### ELW 281

- Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright; Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child, Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2. Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia. Christ, the Saviour, is born!"
- 3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

## THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER

The people who walked in darkness **have seen a great light!** 

God is with us! **Emmanuel!** 

May the light of Christ, rising in glory **dispel the shadows in our hearts and minds.** 

The light of Christ. Thanks be to God!

## THE BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.** 

### (Please extinguish your candles.)

#### **THE RECESSIONAL HYMN** *Joy to the World* "Antioch" Setting by Robert A. Hobby

### ELW 267

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### THE POSTLUDE

Toccata on Joy to the World

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God.** 

- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

### **Craig Phillips**



*Worship Leaders* The Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll – Preacher The Rev. Brenda Maynor – Celebrant

> *Reader* Sofia Atlas

#### Worship Assistants

Crucifer: Justin Rojek Missal Bearer: Griffin Miller Acolytes: Timothy Yap and Elizabeth Yap

Ushers

Mike Day, Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Herb Hough and Ron Leiser



A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated musicians. We appreciate the brass, percussion and harp who have already come in to prepare this music. We appreciate the chancel choir who have been working for over a month to prepare this glorious music to honor the musical legacy of Holy Trinity and to bring Glory to God.

> *Guest Conductor* James Burritt

### Instrumentalists

**Trumpets** Mark Filsinger, Matthew Miraglia

## **French Horn**

John Georger

### Trombones

Diana Bley, Gerald Bacon

### Percussion

Andrew Ziemba

#### Harp

Beth Anne Breneman

# Holy Trinity Chancel Choir Christmas 2021

Justin T. Pomietlarz, conductor 2003

Erin Alexander, alto 2021 Mary Kay Atlas, soprano1984 Michael Blaschke, tenor 2015 Cris Campana, soprano1997 Jennifer Carden, soprano 2019 Daniel Culross, tenor 2005 Aurora Deeds, soprano 2010 Colleen Flynn, soprano 2004 Timothy Flynn, bass 2002 John Georger, bass 2008 Holly Holdaway, soprano 2005 Tyler Huk, *tenor* 2021 Brian Isben, baritone 2021 Joshua Kane, tenor 2021 Shane Keyes, *baritone* 2017 Carolyn Lansom, alto 2008 Stefanie Lizauckas, soprano 2005 Ryan Lockwood, baritone 2019 Magdalene Lord, alto 2021 Ronald Pellnat. bass 1971 Kristen Pomietlarz, alto 2017 Anne Schneider, alto 1987 Julie Tunstall, soprano 2008 Roger VanDette, tenor 1996 Darold Wobschall, bass 1957 Jennifer Yap, soprano 1998

### Acknowledgements

The organs of the church are gifts to the Glory of God In Loving Memory of Margaret L. Wendt.

The pianos in the church are gifts to the glory of God given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Kuhn (given by the late Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. York and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Kuhn);
Virginia and Dorothy Mayer (by the Mayer Estate); Mildred R. Wales (by the Wales Family); Gerrie Schleifer (by her family); by S. Dwane Thomas, M.D.; and by Paul and Judy Kroll.

The timpani in the church are gifts given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ruth H. Geiger.

### **CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Dr. Robert Schopp by The Schopp Family

Gifts for Christmas poinsettias decorating the church were received from:

#### In loving memory of:

My husband Andre from Loretta Queffelec James and Elizabeth Manzella by Mary and Kurt Kaufmann Carl and Frances Kaufmann by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann The DeSabio and Carden Families Loved Ones by the Carden and Greenough Families The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller by his wife, Joan Theresa "Grammy" Pomietlarz and our Grandparents by Justin and Kristen Pomietlarz Earl J. Kunz, Jr. by Sarah, Margaret and Heidemarie Kunz Ruth and Michael Bloos by Heidemarie Kunz My mother and father by Doris Ratcliffe The Rev. Dr. Ralph Loew and Maxine Loew by Janet and Michael Day Ron Frank by Anne Schneider Carolyn, Henry and David Hughes and Margarita and Raúl Saona by Karen and Raúl Saona Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Palmer by Prudence Hollands Brother and sister Nelson J. Palmer and Jane P. Schaefer by Prudence Palmer Hollands Melissa Thomasula by her Family Elaine Fuhlbruck by the Carmer, Thomasula, Fuhlbruck, Addison and Hoebel Families Marion Cooper by her sister Paula Bradley Phillip T. Bradley by his mother Paula Bradley William Bradley by his wife Paula Bradley Departed loved family members by Pam and Neil Kattermann Doris and Walter Stroman and Marion Trier by the Battaglia Family Father, Frank Ricchiazzi, by the Battaglia Family Susan W. Lask by Frederick, Martha and Richard Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rick by Tony and Sue Lizauckas Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Lizauckas Sr. by Tony and Sue Lizauckas William, Eleanor, Nancy and Carol Wolf by Linda Patricola Dan, Josh, Daniel and Johnny by Gail Camilleri Susan Biesinger by Paul Biesinger Our mother, Eileen Petrisko by JoAnn Chavanne and Susan Petrisko Richard Bundt, Irving, Alberta and Carol Bundt by Susan Bundt Our Parents by Ron and Donna Leiser Elaine Fuhlbruck by Paul Hoebel Louis, Vera and Robert Hoebel by Paul Hoebel Father, Jesse James Terry; Mother, Reveinor Fears Terry; Sister, Shirley Davis; Sister, Barbara Jean Terry by Clyde Terry

Dave Grabenstatter by his wife Nanc and son Eric Frederick and Elizabeth Maas by Doug Alderdice Hugh and Anne Alderdice by Doug Alderdice All who have left us over the years, many thanks by Guy Huber Kenneth A. James by Ruth James John Camilleri, Jr. by Ruth James Emma and William Bauchle, Richard W. Bauchle, Albert T. Bauchle, Robert & Shirley Klas and Robert R. Klas by Paul and Karen Bauchle Ruth and Jack Alexander by The Hunt Family Jo and Bud Hunt by The Hunt Family Our Parents by Jayne and Doug Lloyd Parents, Clifford and June Hehr by David Hehr Grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Staffel and Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Hehr by David Hehr Darwin C. Staffel by Nephew, David Hehr

#### In honor of:

Richard J. Lee Family by Richard Lee Family by Linda and Norma Horton Holy Trinity's faithful choristers and musicians by Justin and Kristen Pomietlarz Our families by Janet and Michael Day New members (Ma, Linda, Val and Clyde) by Pam and Neil Kattermann Rose Dolan by Susan Bundt Our Family by Ron and Donna Leiser And the Blessings of my children: Lauren and Brad Nieman and Matthew Carmer by Claire Carmer and the Blessings of my grandson Wesley Nieman by Claire Carmer and many thanks to the HTLC staff by Guy Huber All my children and grandchildren, what great blessings I have received, by Guy Huber Our grandkids Ella Hope and Hannah Grace Bauchle, and Walker James O'Connor by Paul and Karen Bauchle Helen and Martin Wright by Kristen, Matthew, Avery and Clayton Best

### Merry Christmas to All

By Guy Huber

#### To the Glory of God

And my Beloved Son Randy Goulet by The Goulet Family

#### In Thanksgiving for:

The blessings of Alexander and Emily by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann

*In memory of loved ones by:* Carol Alderdice, Alberta Matesick, Dave and Mary Linda Schmidt, Gwen Schopp, David Schopp, Sue Spindler

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#### A Few Announcements

Our Christmas Day service will be held at 10:30 am in the Chapel. Our Sunday services will remain the same; 8:30am in the Chapel and 10:30am in the Main Church.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, December 27 for the Christmas holiday.

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at the completion of the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services. Agenda items include: approval of the budget and candidates for council.

On behalf of Dr. Carroll, Pastor Maynor and The Church Council ~ We would like to wish everyone a blessed Christmas!

**Regular Sunday Service of Holy Communion** 

8:30 a.m. Chapel 10:30 a.m. Main Church

#### HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

**Congregational Council** 

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

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

Staff Contacts for Programs and Services Kristen Pomietlarz, Organist Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster 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. Brenda Maynor, Pastor <u>pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org</u> The Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll, Intentional Interim Pastor <u>drcarroll@holytrinitybuffalo.org</u>

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