



Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Advent
Celebrating our 143rd Anniversary

Holy Communion - 8:30 & 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 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

- 1. that you keep your mask on during the duration of this service.*
- 2. 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

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

PRELUDE

O Sapineta and O Oriens from *O Antiphon Sequence*

Cecilia McDowall
(b. 1951)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness “Kingsfold”

ELW 251

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Mary's world turned upside down with the visit of an angel. This is a moment we can relate to, because over the course of the last year and a half, our world has seemed to turn upside down more than once.

When those moments come, we hope to respond with grace; but more often than not, fear can get the best of us. So today we turn to God in prayer, asking for God's guidance and grace in the places and moments we need it most. Let us pray together now...

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

Let us pray together.

God of safe spaces, we wish we were more like Mary, who in the face of great change, went and sought help. She did not wait for help to find her; she walked to the shelter she needed. Too often we wait silently for the world to change around us instead of speaking up for the things we need. Forgive us for failing to care for ourselves the way you would care for us. Give us the courage to be more like Mary.

God of safe places, we wish we were more like Elizabeth, who greeted Mary with laughter and contagious joy. How many people have crossed our doorstep and how many times have we failed to see them? Give us the courage of Mary, and the grace of Elizabeth. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Family of faith, even if we miss the person standing on our doorstep, even if we fail to care for ourselves the way God would care for us, even if we forget and ignore, turn away and shut down, God still loves us. There is nothing we can do to lose God's love.

Rest in this promise:

If we get lost, we will be found. If we mess up, we are forgiven. If we withhold love, God is lavish in loving us. We are claimed. We are loved. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. **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.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

While we light the Advent Wreath we sing together:

(10:30) 1st Verse Sung by Youth Choir

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: ELW 257 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Holy God, we come to your Scripture today hoping that it will feel a bit like an open door, like Elizabeth welcoming Mary, like coming home. We want to fall into it. We want to find sanctuary here. We want to breathe easier just hearing these words. And we want to find ourselves laughing because this good news is just too good to keep inside. So hover close to us now, we pray. Open the door to our hearts so that we might find sanctuary in your words. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Brenda Maynor

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday of Advent is recorded in Micah, the 5th Chapter.

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(8:30)

MOTET

Call to Advent

J. Jerome Williams

Text: *Veni Emanuel* and *Piccardy*, Tr.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

(10:30)

ANTHEM

Mary Had a Baby

African-American Spiritual

Arr. William Dawson
(1899 – 1990)

Holly Holdaway, *mezzo-soprano*

Mary had a Baby, My Lord!
Where was He born? Born in a manger.
Oh, Mary had a Baby born in a manger, Mary had a Baby, My Lord!
What did they call Him? "King Jesus."
Oh, Mary had a baby, He was called "King Jesus," Mary had a Baby, oh yes!
He is called "King Jesus," "Mighty Counselor," "King Emmanuel,"
"Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," "Prince of Peace."
Mary had a Baby, My Lord.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

The second reading for today is recorded in Hebrews, the 10th Chapter.

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to

do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the

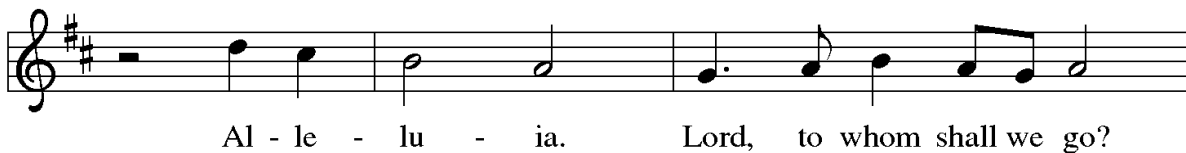
second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

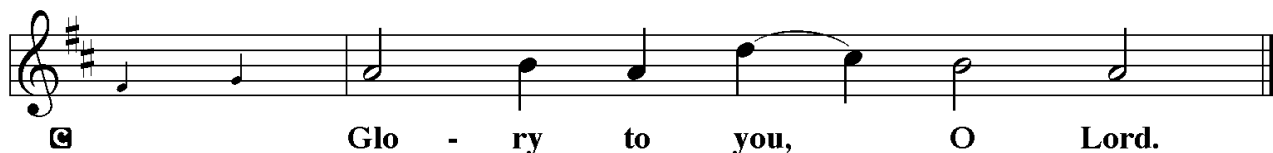
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-55

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke



³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

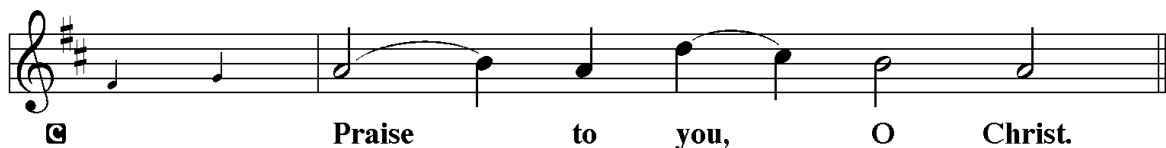
⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came “Gabriel’s Message”

ELW 265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
“To me be as it pleas - eth God,” she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
“My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
“Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL’S MESSAGE, Basque carol

(8:30)

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.

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.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *Brian*, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of his baptism.

Council President, Barb Wozniak.

I present *Brian Ibsen* who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism.

The presiding minister may continue with prayer.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for our brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called him to yourself, enlightened him with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished him in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Brian, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidate and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Brian, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support our brother and pray for him in his life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in *Brian* the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us rejoice with our brother in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

CERTIFICATE AND GIFT

ACCLAMATION OF APPLAUSE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Holy God,

Our prayers are often one lovely act of seeking. We bow our heads, we close our eyes, and we seek— we seek you, we seek belonging, we seek sanctuary. And what is lovely is that we know, deep in our bones, that if we knock, we will find you.

So today we pause our seeking to simply give you thanks. Thank you for the Elizabeths in our lives—

the ones who have been there when we needed them most,

the ones who have blessed us with joy, allowing our happiness to take up space,

the ones who have opened the door for us and ushered us in.

We pray for the children of our congregation, especially Natalie and Maia.

We pray for all those serving in the armed forces and their families.

We pray for all the victims and families affected by the deadly tornadoes.

We pray for Gwen Schopp and Paula Bradley in their recovery.

And thank you not only for the Elizabeths in our lives, but for the strangers who have cared for us, for those older and wiser who paved the way before us, and for individuals who share no relation to us, but love us like family. Our lives are undoubtedly better because of them.

Gracious God, we also pray for those without an Elizabeth in their life.

We pray for those who do not have a hand to hold in the dark, who do not have a front porch to show up on, or even a porch to call their own. We

pray for those in life transitions who carry that fear and anxiety alone,

and we pray for all who know loneliness in the face of these hardships.

Wrap your arms around those individuals. Circle back, again and again, dwelling tenderly in the wounds of their hearts until healing might be found. Open our eyes so that we might see the need in our own backyard.

Thank you for being our safe place. Thank you for always welcoming us home. **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.*

(8:30)

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

Song of Mary

Text: Mary Holtby, after Luke 1:46-55

Richard Shephard

(1949-2021)

My Lord and Savior is my song, He fills my spirit with delight,
To raise me up his arm is strong, The lowly precious in his sight.
Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

My name shall live from age to age, And ev'ry tongue his servant bless,
For mercy is their heritage Whose hearts the Holy One confess.
Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

The proud beguil'd by dreams of pow'r Divided and degraded lie:
He casts them down from throne and tow'r And stoops to lift the humble high.
Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

He feeds the hungry at his board And sends the rich unfill'd away,
And mindful of his promis'd word He answer'd Israel's prayer today.
Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

With all the elders of our race, And those unborn who seek the birth,
I sing the glory of his grace Who brings eternity to earth.
Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

(10:30)

MOTET AT THE OFFERING

Ave Maria

Franz Biebl

(1906–2001)

Tim Flynn, *bass*
Tyler Huk, *tenor*

The angel of the Lord spoke to Mary, and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
“Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.”

And Mary said, “Behold the handmaiden of the Lord;
let it be to me according to thy word.”

“Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.”

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Elizabeth offers her home. She offers her arms. She offers her joy. She offers her affirmation and confidence. Elizabeth offers everything she has when Mary shows up at her door, and it just feels holy, doesn't it?

Part of our call as people of faith is to give when and where we can. So today we are invited to be a little more like Elizabeth. Today we are invited to give generously, trusting that God will take these gifts and build a better world here.

Let us give with joyful hearts.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Good and gracious God, we give these gifts for the seekers. We give these gifts for those who need sanctuary. We give these gifts for those who build sanctuaries. We give these gifts for those who have lost sanctuary, and for those who find sanctuary all over the place. Use these gifts to bring us closer to home. With joy and hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

OFFERTORY

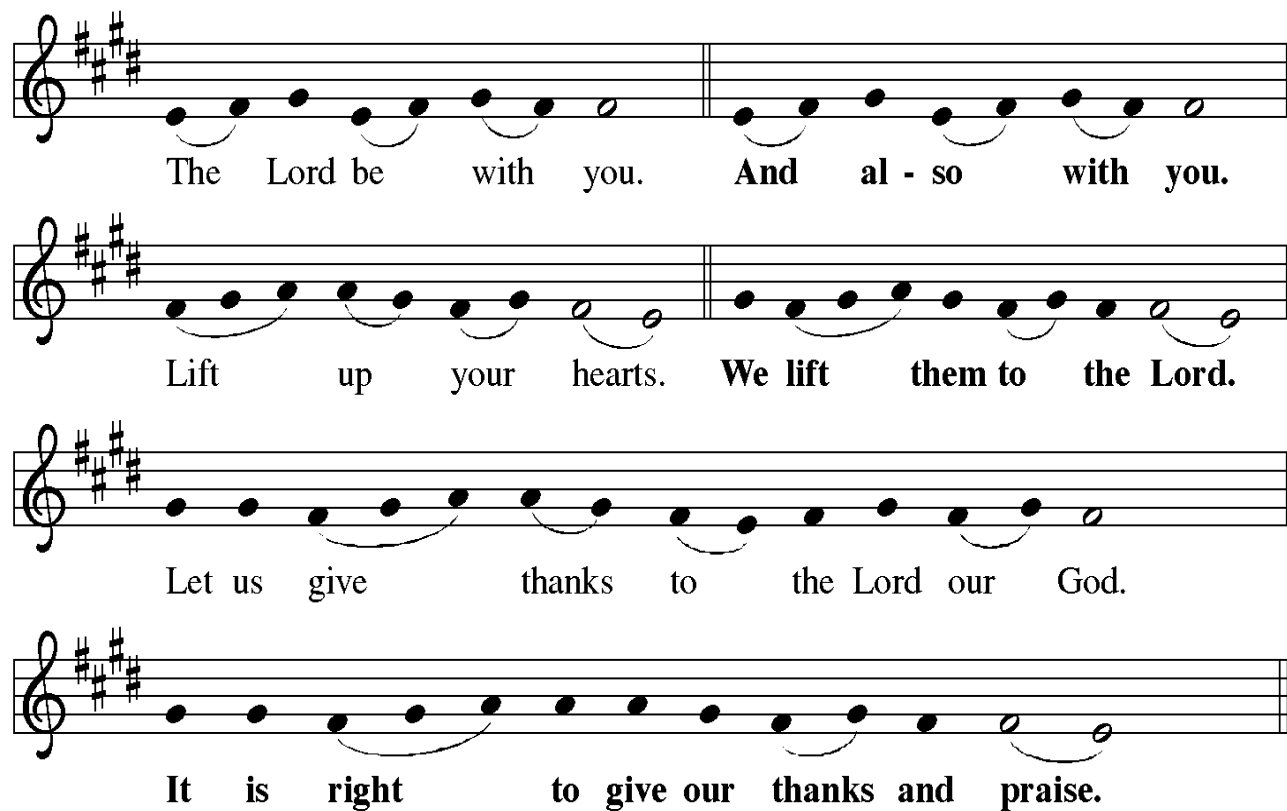
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW 885

“Old Hundredth”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

DIALOGUE

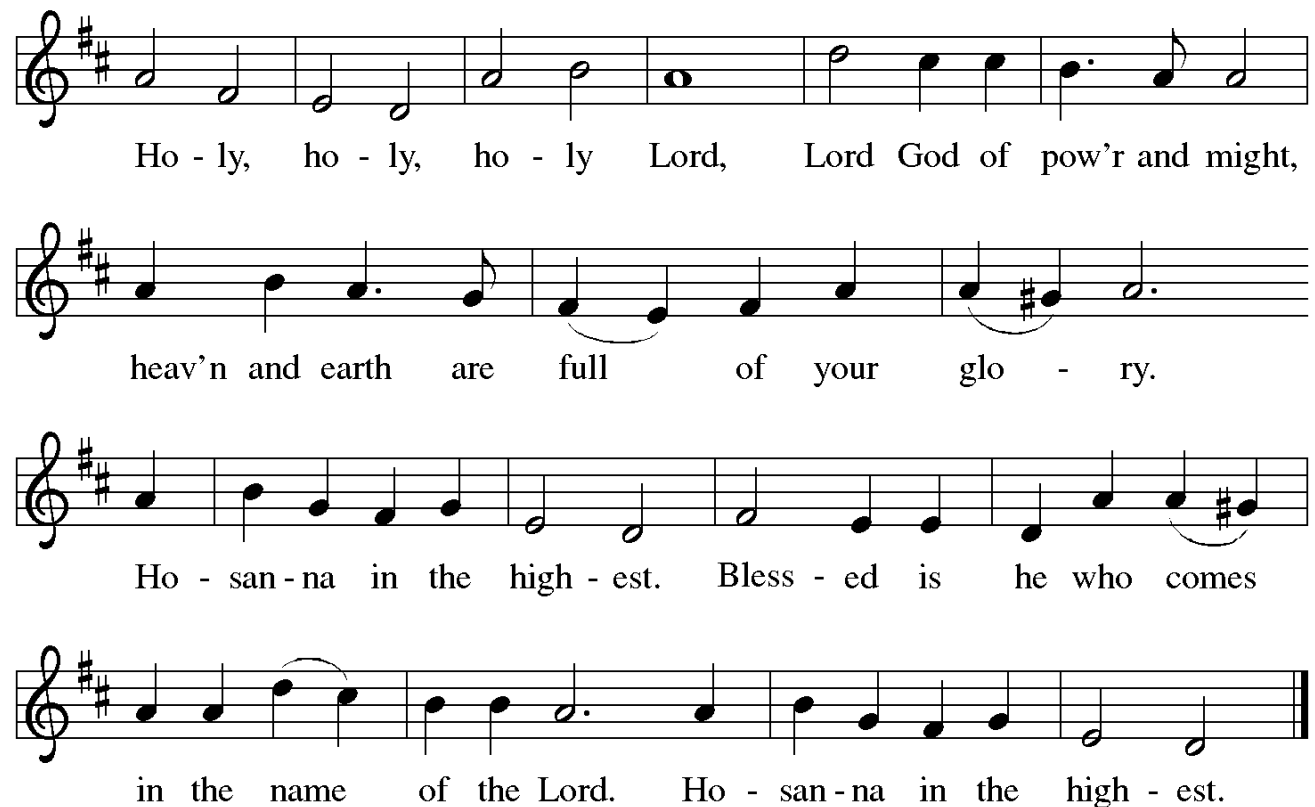


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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. 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." 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.

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound or imprisoned. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Comfort the homesick. Open your doors to others. Seek sanctuary. Be brave enough to go home by another way. And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come back soon. In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway "Bereden Väg För Herran"

ELW 264

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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Please feel free to be seated for the Postlude.

POSTLUDE

O Clavis David from *O Antiphon Sequence*

Cecilia McDowall

(b. 1951)

*Please remain at your seat until the conclusion of the postlude
and the cross has returned to the chancel.*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

*Please continue to leave your bulletin, communion cup
and attendance sheet at your seat.*

We will collect everything following the service.

There is no coffee hour at this time.



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer is Heidemarie Kunz. Usher is Gail Camilleri. Altar guild is Gail Camilleri. Reader is Heidemarie Kunz. Worship Assistant is Justin Rojek.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Karen Kolb. Reader is Claudia Kolbe-Hawthorne. Ushers are Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Herb Hough, Charmaine Kaltrider, Kurt and Mary Kaufmann, Joe and Martha Kryszczuk and Juan Perez. Worship Assistants are Natalia Bavaro, Oscar Guzzino, Timothy Yap and Ellie Yap.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller given by Bishop Lee, Heather and Griffin Miller; and

In Loving Memory of my father David Ray Rice and in celebration of what would have been his 84th birthday by Pastor Brenda Maynor; and

In Loving Memory of W. Dana Jones and Elizabeth Jones by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Natalie and Maia Leiser.



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.

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| <i>THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY</i> |
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SUNDAY, December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/chapel choir (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:30 a.m. Budget Presentation (RH)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)
- 12:00 p.m. Food Basket Assembly (RH)

MONDAY, December 20, 2021

- 6:00 p.m. Gamblers' Anonymous (RH)

TUESDAY, December 21, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Christmas flowers delivered
- 7:00 p.m. Christmas flower set up

WEDNESDAY, December 22, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (RH)

THURSDAY, December 23, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 p.m. Story Time
- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

FRIDAY, December 24, 2021

- 5:00 p.m. Family Service (MC)
- 10:00 p.m. Pre-service Music (MC)
- 10:30 p.m. Festival candlelight service (MC)

SATURDAY, December 25, 2021

Merry Christmas

- 10:30 a.m. Christmas Service (CH)

SUNDAY, December 26, 2021 – First Sunday of Christmas

Happy Birthday Carol Littlefield

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)

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|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| CH = Mansperger Chapel | CI = Crib Room | CR = Conference Room |
| FR = Fellowship Room | FI = Fireside Room/Library | MC = Main Church |
| MR = Music Room | PS = Pastor's Study | RH = Redeemer Hall |
| SC = Sacristy | SS = Sunday School | YR = Youth Room |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to our new member being received today at the 10:30 service: Brian Ibsen.

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE is grateful for all who have sent in their commitments for the coming year. If you have not returned your pledge card, we would appreciate it if you could do so by the end of December. Know that we appreciate and are thankful for every gift that will allow us to continue our mission of being God's hands, ears and eyes in the Western New York region and around the world.

ANGEL TREE: Please be sure to drop off your gifts at Holy Trinity by today. Thank you to all who participated.

APPLE PIES: There are a limited number of apple pies available for pick-up after both services today. Pies will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis and are \$10 each. Pies can be picked up downstairs in the library.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY will resume on January 10, 2022 at 9:30am and 7:00pm in the Fellowship Room.

HOLY CONVERSATIONS: Please pick up your copy of the November Holy Conversation summary located under the Kahler portrait next to the church office, on the upper table at the Main Street entrance or on the music stand on the Chapel side. Please feel free to contact the church office to have the document sent to you via electronic or postal mail.

Mark your calendar for the next Holy Conversation related to the perceived strengths and gifts of the new pastor on January 11 from 10-11:30am in the Fellowship Room and 7-8:30pm via Zoom.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Sunday, January 23, 2022 at the end of each worship service. Agenda items include: approval of the budget and candidates for council.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Once again the congregation is being asked to contribute toward the purchase of poinsettias which will be placed in the chancel for Christmas. Flowers are \$12 each and may be given in memory or honor of someone. Order forms can be found at the entrance ways, in the newsletter or in the weekly email.

ALTAR FLOWERS Each Sunday, the beautiful vases of flowers gracing the chancel are often dedicated by members of our congregation in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Looking ahead, the following date has two vases available- January 30. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for this 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.

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.

2021 HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS EVE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 p.m. Family Service

***10:00 p.m. Preservice music**

10:30 p.m. Festival candlelight service of Holy Communion

with our Chancel Choir

accompanied by brass, percussion, and harp

Works by Dan Forrest, Stephen Paulus,

and John Rutter, among others.

CHRISTMAS DAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:30 a.m. Christmas service in the Chapel

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:30 a.m. Worship Service in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Worship Service in the Main Church

***Note time change**

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
pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org
The Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll, Intentional Interim Pastor
drcarroll@holytrinitybuffalo.org

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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