



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Celebrating our 144th 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.

*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

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

PRELUDE

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland
from the Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come “Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland” ELW 263
(Ladies vs. 3, Men vs. 4)



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

(10:30)

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

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on † Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

(10:30)

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:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel “Veni 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.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Silent Night

Text: Josef Mohr (1792-1848), *tr.*

Franz Xaver Gruber

(1787-1863)

Ellie Yap, *flute*

Henry Flynn, *violin*

Holy Trinity Youth Choir

Erin Alexander, *conductor*

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday of Advent is recorded in Isaiah, the 7th Chapter.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE MOTET

Call to Advent

J. Jerome Williams

Text: *Veni Emmanuel*, tr. John M. Neale; *Piccardy*, Liturgy of St. James

(b. 1938)

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.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 1st Chapter.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

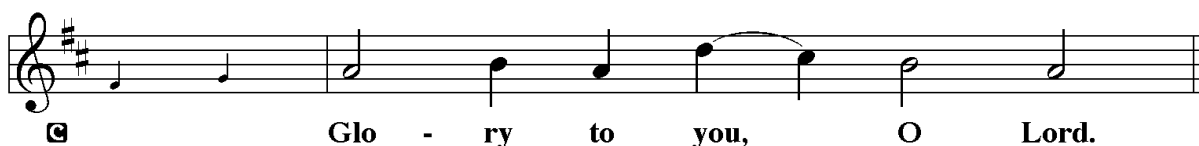
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew

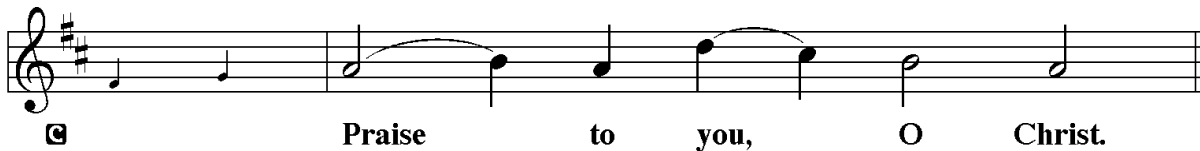


¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Imani Olear
Upstate NY Synod, Assistant to the Bishop for Justice
Director of Evangelical Mission

Please stand as you are able.

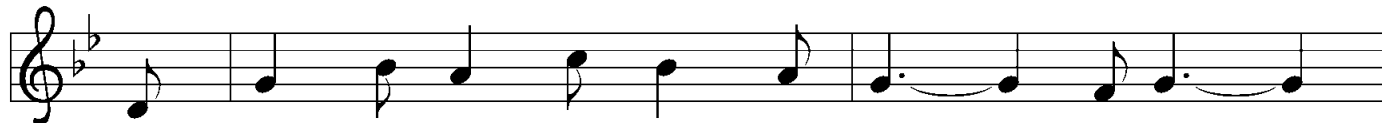
SERMON HYMN

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

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.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery and all those we name out loud, or in the silence of our hearts ... God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our life, keep us focused on Your never -failing presence in our lives and within the life of this congregation. Encourage members of the Call Committee that their work will bear fruit. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise, especially Brigitte Lenau, The Rev. Dr. Lee Miller, W. Dana and Elizabeth, and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children, especially Alexander and Carina. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

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

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM

Song of Mary (My Lord and Savior is my song)

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.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

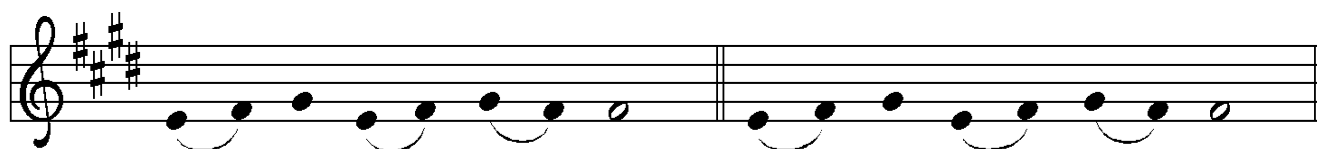
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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



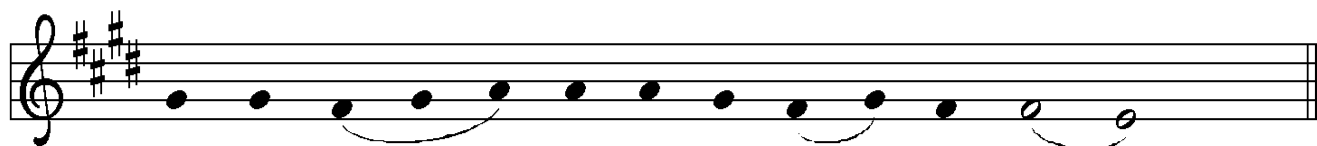
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

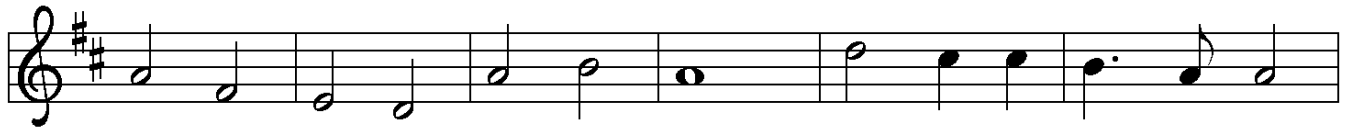


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



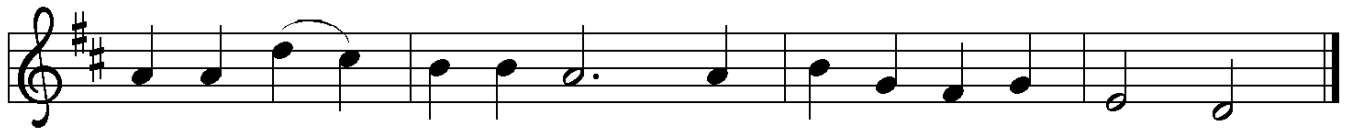
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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.

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 HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Beginning with those seated closest to the altar, you are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the presiding minister. Receiving the wafer in your hand, you are invited to dip or “intinct” the wafer into the chalice. There is wine in the silver chalice and grape juice in the ceramic chalice. For those who prefer, gluten-free wafers are available by simply asking the Pastor as you are served. Portable communion cups are also available for those who are not comfortable sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion in-person. Adults or children choosing not to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so. Come eat and drink; there is a place for you at the table of our Lord.

THE AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

SOLO at COMMUNION

I Want to Be Ready

African-American Spiritual

arr. Harry T. Burleigh
(1866-1949)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

I want to be ready, I want to be ready,
I want to be ready, my Lord, to walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.

John said the city was jus' four square, walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
An' he declar'd he'd meet me there, walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.

When Peter was preachin' at Pentecost, walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
He was endow'd with the Holy Ghost, walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.

(10:30)

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Verbum Patris Humanatur

Text: Moosburger Gradualia, 1630

Roland E. Martin

(b. 1955)

The word of the father is made man,
while a maiden is greeted;
the greeted one is fruitful
without knowledge of man.
Behold, new joys!

A new manner of birth,
but exceeding in power of nature,
when the creator of all things
is made creature.
Behold, new joys!

Hear of a birth beyond precedent:
a virgin hath given birth to the savior,
the creature bears the Creator,
the daughter, the Father.
Behold, new joys!

In the savior's birth
there is no parent of our kind:
a maiden gives birth,
nor do the lilies of her chastity wither.
Behold, new joys!

The God-Man is given us,
the given one is shown to us,
while peace is announced to the nations
and glory to the heavens.
Behold, new joys!

Please stand as you are able.

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway "Bereden Väg For 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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THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Gabriel's Trumpet

Franklin D. Ashdown

(b. 1942)

*You are encouraged to take the bulletin
home with you for future reference.
Otherwise, please place them in the recycle bins
at the entrance ways.*

*We invite you to join us downstairs in Redeemer Hall
for refreshments and fellowship following the 10:30 Service.*

*Many Thanks to our guest preacher today,
The Rev. Imani Olear*

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, December 18, 2022 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/Chapel Choir (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Eve rehearsal with acolytes (MC)

MONDAY, December 19, 2022

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

TUESDAY, December 20, 2022

- 9:30 a.m. Nurturing Our Bodies/Feeding Our Souls (FR/CH)
- 6:00 p.m. Nurturing Our Bodies/Feeding Our Souls (FR/CH)

WEDNESDAY, December 21, 2022

- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Flowers delivered
- 1:00 p.m. Christmas Flowers set up (MC)

THURSDAY, December 22, 2022

- 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Choir rehearsal (CH)
- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

SATURDAY, December 24, 2022

- 7:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion/Children's Time (MC)
- 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Preservice Music (MC)
- 10:30 p.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion (MC)

SUNDAY, December 25, 2022 – Christmas Day

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

CH = Mansperger Chapel

FR = Fellowship Room

MR = Music Room

SC = Sacristy

CI = Crib Room

FI = Fireside Room/Library

PS = Pastor's Study

SS = Sunday School

CR = Conference Room

MC = Main Church

RH = Redeemer Hall

YR = Youth Room



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer and reader is Linda Schmidt. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heide Kunz. Acolyte is Madalyn Brown.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Fred Howard. Reader is Fred Howard. Ushers are Marty Bauer, Matthew Brown, Carole Casterline, Roger Draper, Craig Johnson and Juan Perez. Acolytes are Adrianna Wareham, Max Hakansson, Morgan Leiser, Griffin Miller, Tim Yap, Rowan Leiser and Ellie Yap.

The flowers on the altar are given:

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

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

Council Member Fred Howard will be at the Main Street entrance to address any questions or concerns you may have this morning.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Alexander Cialone and Carina Culross.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANGEL TREE: Gifts will need to be turned in by today, wrapped or bagged and securely tagged with the student's name and room number. Thank you to all who have helped bring smiles to the students at PS 17.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENT: Join us this Tuesday, December 20 for *Nurturing Our Bodies, Feeding Our Souls*. Christmas carols and hymns whose texts are sung to different tunes in the United Kingdom (led by our own Doug Alderdice). Two sessions:

**9:30am for brunch and 10:30am for Carols or
6:00pm for a light supper and 7:00pm for Carols.**

Meals will be held in the Fellowship Room and carols and hymns in the Chapel. Reservations through the Church office are appreciated for the food planning.

2023 MONDAY BIBLE STUDIES will be led by our own David Ulrich (**9:30am session only**).

January 9: Martin Luther King, Jr. and his (often-misinterpreted) Legacy.

Starting January 30: A multi-week program – “America’s Sacred Texts: the divine and the profane in our civic religion.” How religious thought and political realities have shaped many of the most important documents in United States history. More specific details and dates will follow.

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. The following dates are available - January 1, 8 and 29 - 1 or 2 vases. 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 \$50.00 each.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at the completion of the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services. Agenda items include: approval of the budget and candidates for council.

CRISIS SERVICES: For anyone feeling down, lonely or depressed, Crisis Services is available. 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 Mr. Pat Greene, LMHC, and he may be reached at 716-361-4615.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS EVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion/Children's Time

10:00 p.m. Preservice music

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

CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

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

NEW YEAR'S DAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Barb Wozniak, President

Kathy Crissey, Vice-President

Guy Huber, Treasurer

Jennifer Yap, Secretary

Paul Bauchle, Matthew Brown,
Linda Horton, Fred Howard, Pat Lonergan,
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

John Busch, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Charles Ryniec, Steward of Buildings and Grounds

The Rev. Jeremiah P. Smith, Transitional Pastor

prjeremiahpsmith@gmail.com

The Rev. Miranda Hammer, Part-Time Interim Pastor

for the Nurturing of the Congregation

pastormiranda@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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