

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, January 1, 2023 First Sunday of Christmas Celebrating our 144th Anniversary

Holy Communion - 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

Holy Trinity recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us. We proclaim ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation to all of God's 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

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

PRELUDE

Variations on "Das alte Yahr" (The Old Year Has Passed Away) Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory "Regent Square"

ELW 275



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

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

God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

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.

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Richard Neal

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

The first reading for the First Sunday of Christmas is recorded in Isaiah, the 63rd Chapter.

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior ⁹in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly "W żłobie leży"

ELW 276



- 1 In fant ho ly, in fant low ly, for his bed a cat tle stall;
- 2 Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing vig il till the morn-ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the child is Lord of all. saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, an - gels sing-ing, bells are ring-ing, tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the mor-row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt. Music: W ZŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

The second reading for today is recorded in Hebrews, the 2nd Chapter. ¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

¹³And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

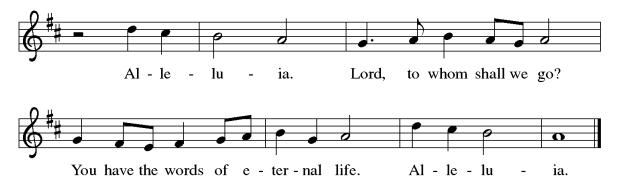
"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

The Holy gospel according to Saint Matthew



¹³Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain "Go Tell It"

ELW 290



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

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

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty and all those we name out loud, or in the silence of our hearts ... Protect and nurture all children, especially Eden and Jameson. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

hear our prayer.

Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastors and all who minister in your name. God of grace,

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 of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. We remember the life, love, and faith of Betty Hutcheson. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And

And also with you.

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

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.

Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.

Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW 885

high - est.

"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 also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

in the

name

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 - san - na in the

of the Lord.

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.

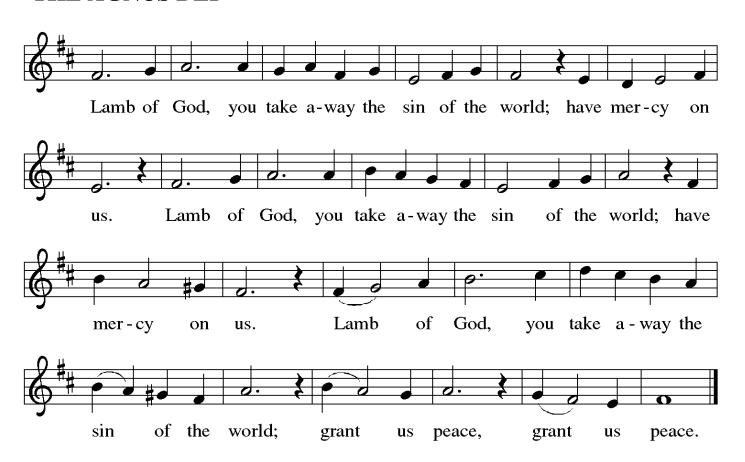
All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 AGNUS DEI



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.

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION HYMN

The Bells of Christmas "Det kimer nu til julefest"

ELW 298



- O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
 O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
 O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
 great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest, and keep your Christmas in our breast; then David's harpstrings, hushed so long, shall swell our jubilee of song.

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.

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you,

+ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN



Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

THE DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice (In Dulci Jubilo)

Paul Otto Manz (1919-2009)

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.

There will be no Coffee Hour today, we will resume next Sunday.



At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Barb Wozniak. Reader is Ron Leiser. Ushers are Ron Leiser, Mike Day, Alan Heiss, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Marty Wright.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In thanksgiving for Pastor Adam Arend's new call and his family's return to Western New York from the Fleming Family

Council President Barb Wozniak 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 Eden and Jameson Daumen.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, January 1, 2023 – First Sunday of Christmas

Happy New Year

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

MONDAY, January 2, 2023

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, January 3, 2023

5:30 p.m. Burrito Project

THURSDAY, January 5, 2023

10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)

7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

SUNDAY, January 8, 2023 – Baptism of Our Lord

8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (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)

11:30 a.m. De-greening

12:00 p.m. Confirmation Class at Good Shepherd

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS 2022

Gifts for Christmas poinsettias decorating the church were received from:

In loving memory of:

Mr. and Mrs. John Hollands and Family by Prudence C. Hollands Judge and Mrs. Robert N. Palmer and Family by Prudence C. Hollands

Our grandparents and Theresa "Granny" Pomietlarz by Justin, Kristen and Lillian Pomietlarz

James and Elizabeth Manzella by Mary and Kurt Kaufmann

Carl and Frances Kaufmann by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann

Jeanette A. Kuck by Kurt, Mary, Alexander and Emily Kaufmann

The Rev. Dr. Lee M. Miller by his wife, Joan

Doris & Walter Stroman, Marion Trier & Frank Ricchiazzi by The Battaglia Family

Our parents, George and Della Diehl by John Sullivan and Cynthia Lange

Our parents, Richard and Mary Sullivan by John Sullivan and Cynthia Lange

My wonderful husband Paul by Millie Nikischer

William and Mabel Johnson by Thomas Johnson

My parents Raúl and Margarita Saona by Raúl Saona

My parents Carolyn and Henry Hughes, my brothers Robert and Carlton Hughes and my nephew David Hughes by Karen Saona

Louis, Vera and Robert Hoebel by Paul A. Hoebel

Elaine Fuhlbruck by Paul A. Hoebel

My parents by Doris Ratcliffe

Elaine Fuhlbruck by the Carmer, Addison, Fuhlbruck and Thomasula Families

Dr. Ralph and Maxine Loew by Michael and Janet Loew Day

In loving memory of:

Jacqueline Ruth Holcombe by her Family

William, Eleanor, Carol and Nancy Wolf by Linda Patricola

Dave Grabenstatter by his wife Nanc and son Eric

Grandparents, Anne and Hugh Alderdice by Doug Alderdice

Grandparents, Frederick and Elizabeth Maas by Doug Alderdice

Our parents, Viola and Layton Leiser by Ron and Donna Leiser

Our parents, Victoria and John Caffarelli by Ron and Donna Leiser

John, Dan, Josh and Daniel by Gail and John Camilleri

Melissa Thomasula, Elaine Fuhlbruck, William Fuhlbruck and Aaron Fuhlbruck by their Families

Earl and Virginia Kohler, Roger Kohler and Michael Alan Zaehringer by Melanie (Kohler) and Michael Durkee

Our parents, siblings and grandparents, Richard W. Bauchle, William and Emma Bauchle, Albert Bauchle, Robert Klas, Shirley Klas and Robert R. Klas by Paul and Karen Bauchle

Our parents by Jayne and Doug Lloyd

Marie Guzdek and all of our other loved ones that have passed by Nicole and Chris Guzdek

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

Randall F. and Marie Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

W. Dana and Elizabeth Jones by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

Randall E Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

Marshall Tyler by Ryon and Eileen Fleming

Earl J. Kunz by Heidi, Margaret and Sarah Kunz

Ruth and Michael Bloos by Heidi Kunz

Ruth & Jack Alexander and Jo & Bud Hunt by The Hunt Family Our beloved parents by Joe and Martha Kryszczuk

In loving memory of:

Ken James by Ruth James John Camilleri, Jr. by Ruth James Our grandparents by Holly Holdaway and Daniel Culross

In honor of:

My children, Lauren, Brad and Matthew and grandson Wesley by Claire Carmer

Our families by Michael and Janet Loew Day

The Richard J. Lee Family by Richard Lee

Our grandkids, Ella Hope, Hannah Grace and Walker James by Paul and Karen Bauchle

Helen and Martin Wright by Kristen, Matthew, Avery and Clayton Best

To the Glory of God

By Jim and Norine Dunnigan

In Thanksgiving for:

the blessings of Alexander and Emily by Kurt and Mary Kaufmann

In memory of loved ones by: Carol Alderdice, Paul Biesinger, Richard Keuck, Dave and Mary Linda Schmidt, Sue Spindler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow in observance of the New Year's holiday.

DE-GREENING of the church will take place next Sunday following the 10:30 a.m. service. All are welcome to stay and help. Lunch will be served to all who help.

POINSETTIA: Christmas flowers are available. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a family member or even a friend. They will be available following today's service.

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.

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.

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 dates are available - January 8th and 29th, February 5th and 12th -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.

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.

A Happy, Safe and Blessed New Year to All!

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
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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. Richard Neal, Intentional Interim Pastor richneal@together.net

The Rev. Miranda Hammer, Part-Time Interim Pastor for the Nurturing of the Congregation pastormiranda@holytrinitybuffalo.org

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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