



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
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

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

PRELUDE

Come as the Dew, Come as the Light
from *Paraphrases on Four Gregorian Themes*

Larry Visser

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come Down, O Love Divine "Down Ampney"

ELW 804

1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

(10:30)

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

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

(10:30)

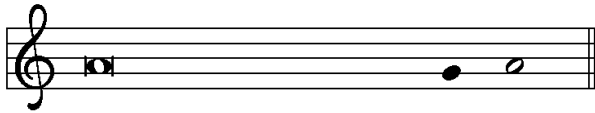
Please stand as you are able.

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



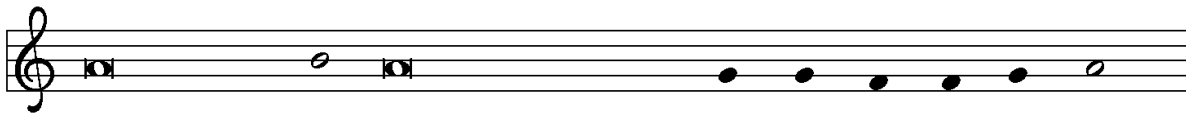
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



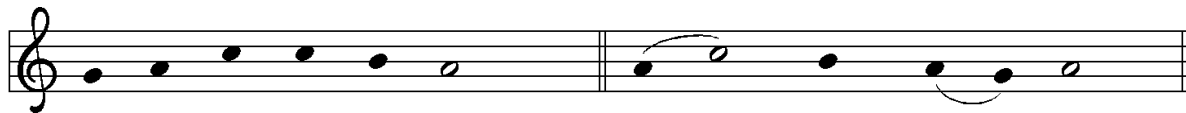
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

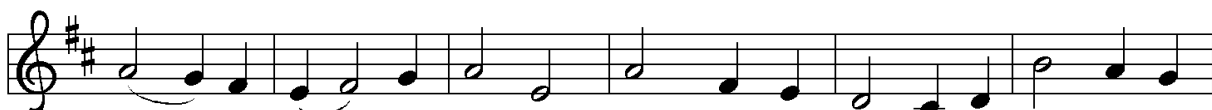
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

(10:30)

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Arise! Shine!

Carol McClure

Henry Flynn and Tony Lizauckas, *percussion*
Holy Trinity Youth Choir

Arise and shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is upon you.
Come, lift your eyes up to the skies; See the dawn!
Come, lift your eyes up to the skies; Light has come!
Now is the time for you will shine: at the dawn;
Now is the time for you to shine: Joy has come!

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The first reading for the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany is recorded in Deuteronomy, the 30th Chapter.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(8:30)

THE SOLO

Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn

Text: Matthew 13:43, Isaiah 51:11 adapted by William Bartholomew (1809-1847)

Tyler Huk, *tenor*

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.
Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee
away forever.

(10:30)

THE ANTHEM

O For a Closer Walk with God

Charles Villiers Stanford

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800)

(1852-1924)

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame;
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!
Return, O holy dove, return! Sweet messenger of rest;
hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.
So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

SECOND READING: 1st Corinthians 3:1-9

The second reading for today is recorded in 1st Corinthians, the 3rd Chapter.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

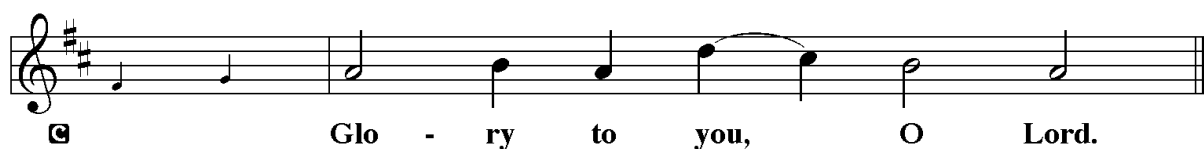
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37

The Holy gospel according to Saint Matthew



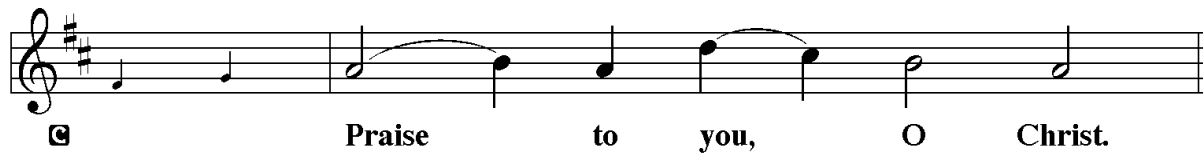
[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

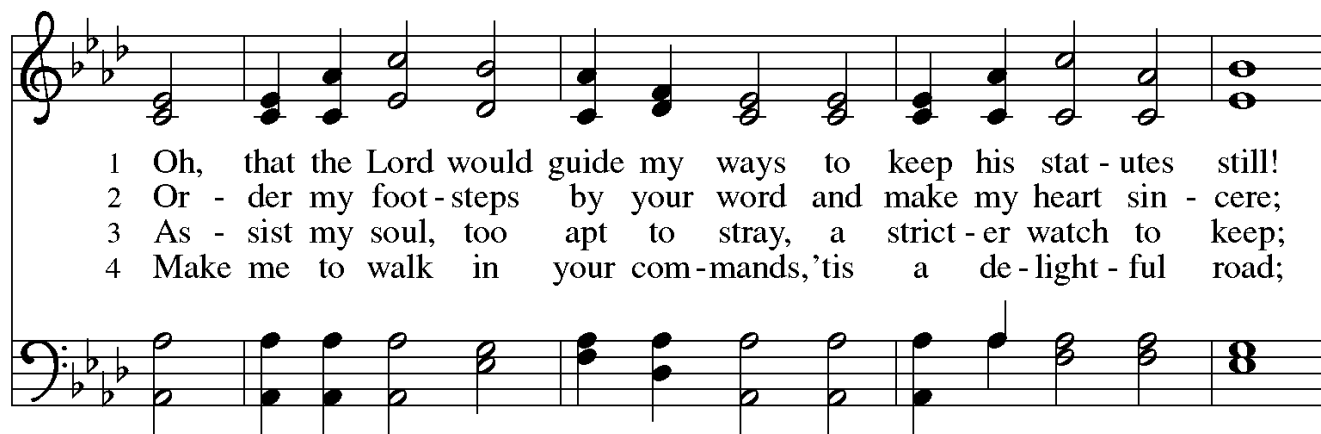
The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways “Evan”

ELW 772



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire your church, gracious Lord, that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. We pray for all your beloved children, especially Abigail and Natalie. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who tend the soil and nurture what grows there. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Through our assistance, comfort the people of Turkey and Syria who have been harmed by the recent earthquakes. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nurture all in need. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration and all those we name out loud, or in the silence of our hearts Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose, that our differences do not become divisions. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
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

(8:30)

THE SOLO

I Want to Be Where the Music Comes From

Lee Hoiby
(1926-2011)

Tyler Huk, *tenor*

I want to be where the music comes from,
Where the clock stops, where it's now.
I want to be with the friends around me,
Who have found me, who show me how.
I want to sing to the early morning
See the sunlight melt the snow;
And oh, I want to grow.

I want to wake to the living spirit
Here inside me where it lies.
I want to listen till I can hear it,
Let it guide me, and realize
That I can go with the flow unending,
That is blending, that is real;
And oh, I want to feel.

I want to walk in the earthly garden,
Far from cities, far from fear.
I want to talk to the growing garden,
To the devas, to the deer,
And to be one with the river flowing,
Breezes blowing, sky above;
And oh, I want to love.

(10:30)

OFFERING ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Text: John 14: 15-17

Philip Stopford
(b. 1977)

If ye love me, keep my commandments.
And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Comforter,
even the Spirit of Truth.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Liberating God,

**you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.**

**Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,**

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

**You we magnify and adore, through Jesus 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 also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

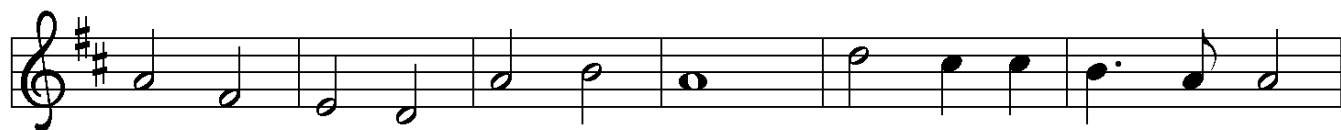
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



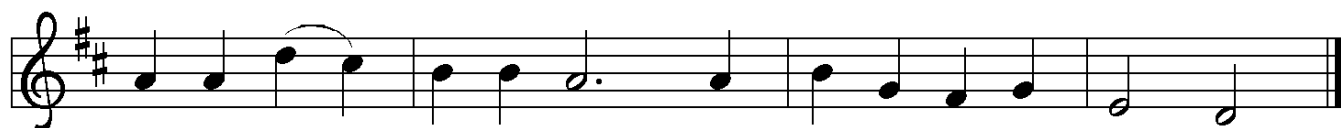
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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 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.

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.

(10:30)

COMMUNION SOLO

I Want to Be Where the Music Comes From

Lee Hoiby
(1926-2011)

Tyler Huk, *tenor*

Please See text on page 16 at The Offering Solo (8:30)

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé
(1902–1986)

Where charity and love are, there is God.
The love of Christ has brought us together into one flock.
Let us rejoice and be glad in that love itself.
Let us fear and love the living God,
and let us love from a pure heart. Amen.

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.

**Holy One, we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling "In Babilone"

ELW 582

1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er dwell-ing in the ho - liest realms of light;
2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er liv - ing as the church's ver - y life;
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er work-ing through the church's min - is - try;

Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing through us in a cease - less strife;
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free;

Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er rais - ing those of earth to thrones on high;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul

liv - ing, life - im - part - ing Spir - it, you we praise and mag - ni - fy.
you we praise with end - less wor - ship for your gifts and fruits un - priced.
in com - mu - nion nev - er end - ing, you we wor - ship and ex - tol.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Michael Helman

(b. 1965)

*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.*

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, February 12, 2023 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:40 a.m. Coffee with the Pastor (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)
- 12:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at HT (FR)

MONDAY, February 13, 2023

- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (FR)
- 6:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (RH)

TUESDAY, February 14, 2023

- 12:00 p.m. Women at the Well (FR)

THURSDAY, February 16, 2023

- 10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)
- 6:00 p.m. Chapel Choir (CH)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

FRIDAY, February 17, 2023

- 11:30 a.m. Occupational Training Center/BPS Dance (RH)

SUNDAY, February 19, 2023 – Transfiguration of Our Lord

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/Chapel Choir (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:40 a.m. Coffee with the Pastor (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)

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 Judy Kroll. Usher and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Morgan Leiser.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Matt Brown. Reader is Ron Leiser. Ushers are Marty Bauer, Matt Brown, Carole Casterline, Roger Draper, Craig Johnson and Juan Perez. Acolytes are Brandon Howard, Henry Peterson, Max Peterson and Griffin Miller.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of my husband David by Elizabeth Vihnanek; and

In dedication to my children, Christopher, Lauren, Katie and Kelly, who will be turning 40 years old on February 18, by Guy Huber.

Collection counters are Peter Bergenstock, Linda Horton and Thomas Johnson.

Council Member, Matt Brown, 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 Abigail and Natalie Gazzo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR: Join Pastor Rich for the next three Sundays after the 8:30 a.m. worship service (approximately 9:40 a.m.) in the Fellowship Room for a time of fellowship and free-ranging conversation as we get to know his journey of faith, explore our own, and discuss our life and ministries at Holy Trinity.

2023 MONDAY BIBLE STUDIES (9:30 a.m. session only) will continue tomorrow with our own David Ulrich who will present 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. Tomorrow’s program will be “Lincoln Re-defines and Re-affirms the Creed.” Because the church office will be closed, there will be no session February 20. The series will continue on February 27 with “Applying the Creed: The Constitution, 1787”.

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE: Lutheran World Relief already has a team coordinating a response to the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria and our generosity will rush that emergency care. If you would like to make a donation online, please go to lwr.org/quake or you can send a check made payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and we will forward all donations to LWR. Please write “Quake” in the memo. All donations are appreciated.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS: The 2023 Lenten Devotionals “Water & Spirit” are available on the tables at the entrance ways. *Water and Spirit* provides daily devotions from Ash Wednesday to the Resurrection of Our Lord. Please feel free to take a copy.

MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF LENTEN COLLECTION: For the last three years during Lent, we have held a friendly "competition" to see who could collect the most toilet paper, female hygiene products, and diapers. This year the conference council would like to challenge congregations to collect **change for change**. Millions of Americans are struggling under the weight of medical debt. Nearly ½ of all Americans struggle to afford healthcare costs. For Black, Hispanic, and low-income adults that figure jumps to at least 6 in 10. We are working with nonprofit medical debt to make a difference. They have a unique model that combines generosity of donors with debt industry experts to produce a high volume of debt relief. Every \$100 dollars donated leads to about \$10,000 forgiven. For mere pennies on the dollar, you can help relieve someone of the crushing weight of debt. The conference goal is \$10,000 dollars. All of this would be forgiven in New York State. We ask that you drop your spare change in the plastic jars located at the entrance ways which can be found during the Lenten season. Thank you to all for supporting this worthwhile cause.

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.



Ash Wednesday Schedule

February 22

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Ashes on the Run on Main Street in front of HT
7:00 p.m. Holy Communion/Imposition of Ashes with Choir

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Jennifer Yap, President
Kathy Crissey, Vice-President
Fred Howard, Treasurer
Linda Horton, Secretary

Paul Bauchle, Matthew Brown, Gail Camilleri,
Christopher Huber, Karen Kolb, Pat Lonergan,
Raúl Saona and Elizabeth Vihnanek

Staff Contacts for Programs and Services

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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
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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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