

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, June 25, 2023 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Celebrating our 145th 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.

Visitors interested in membership may talk with a Council representative at the Council desk, contact the Church office or indicate on the blue sign in sheet.

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

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

PRELUDE

Joyous from *Exaltations* (2001)

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name." Philippians 2:9

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

If You But Trust in God to Guide You "Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott" ELW 769



Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. 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.**

KYRIE



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30) HOLY BAPTISM THE HYMN

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Children of the Heavenly Father "Tryggare kan ingen vara" ELW 781

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Jeremiah, the 20th Chapter.

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me,

and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,

I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me

a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." ¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(10:30) THE SOLO

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands African-American Spiritual Arr. Moses Hogan (1957–2003)

Roger VanDette, tenor

He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got all the power in His hands. He's got you and me, brother, in His hands. He's got you and me, sister, in His hands. He's got the little baby in His hands. He's got mother and father in His hands. He's got stars and moon right in His hands. He's got ev'rybody in His hands.

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-4

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 6th Chapter. ^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

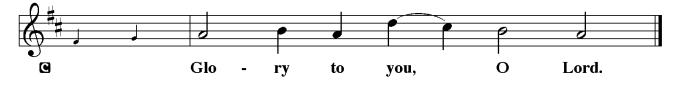
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-25a, 39

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master.

³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

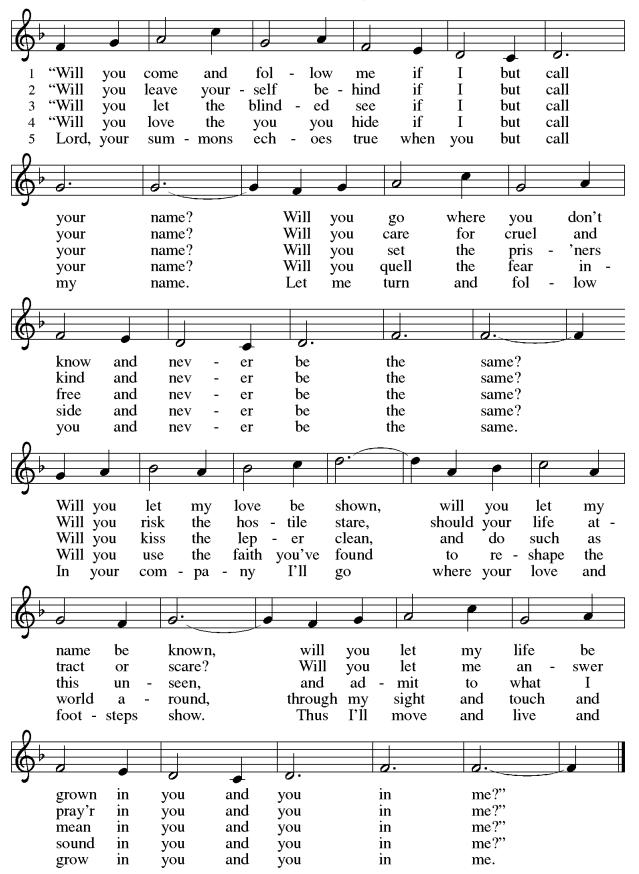
The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Will You Come and Follow Me "Kelvingrove"

ELW 798



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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(8:30)

APOSTLE'S 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 PASTOR AND PEOPLE

Blessed are you, O Lord or God, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning you breathed into us the breath of life. Time and again you send your Spirit into our midst to entice us and overpower us with the subtle strength of your call to life in all its fullness. In Christ you show us the life you have given us. Help us recognize it clearly and live it perfectly. Now, trusting in your abundant mercy, receive the prayers we offer for a world in need.

A brief silence.

You entice your church to be truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Inspire and help us to safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Help us extend the influence of those who rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Bless us and the children of our congregation, especially Kilian and Finnley. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorably upon all who struggle, especially Paul Kroll, and all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Even when we experience rejection, your love invites us to new life. Help us be your lifegiving love for anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All who have died with Christ also live with him. We give thanks for all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **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 SOLO *The Lord's Prayer*

Albert Hay Malotte (1895–1964)

Roger VanDette, tenor

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow "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.

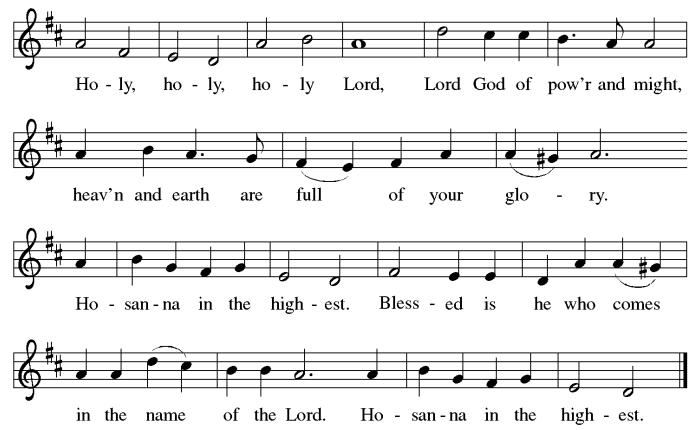
DIALOGUE

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



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who called you Abba, Father.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,

you embraced a people as your own

and filled them with a longing for a peace that would last

and for a justice that would never fail.

In Jesus' suffering and death you took upon yourself our sin and death and destroyed their power for ever.

You raised from the dead this same Jesus,

who now reigns with you in glory,

and poured upon us your Holy Spirit,

making us the people of your new covenant.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread . . . After supper, he took the cup, . . .

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

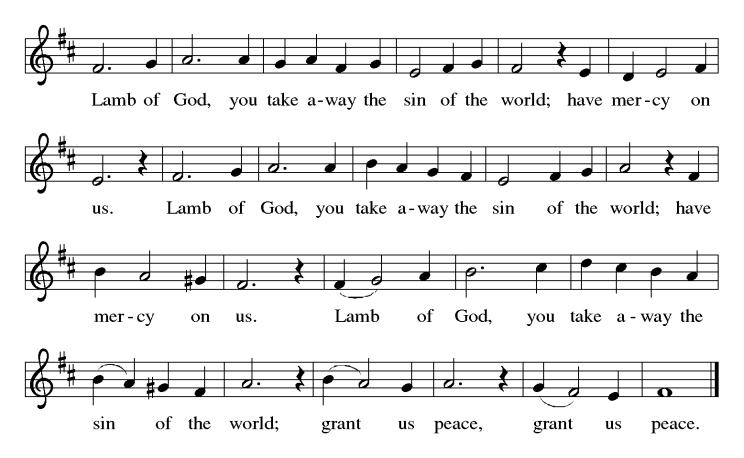
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ for the world, redeemed by Christ's blood. As the grain and grapes, once dispersed in the fields, are now united on this table in bread and wine, so may we and all your people be gathered from every time and place into the unity of your eternal household and feast at your table for ever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **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.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Reflective from *Exaltations* (2001)

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." Matthew 23: 12

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. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a broken and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes, in prisons, or in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we are one in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We invite congregation members to share this holy meal with those who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to join us in person. Communion elements and a simple printed liturgy are available on the altar for your use. If you take a bulletin from this morning's worship service, you will be able to easily share today's scripture and prayers with the meal.

BENEDICTION

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen. **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

How Firm a Foundation "Foundation"



THE DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Heralding from *Exaltations* (2001)

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34:3

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



The sacrament of Holy Baptism has several parts which together constitute the fullness of the sacrament of initiation into the community of faith: presentation, thanksgiving, renunciation, profession of faith, baptism with water, laying on of hands and signation, and welcome into the congregation. Today we welcome into the Lord's family and into our fellowship in the gospel: Kilian Jeremy, son of Eric and Courtney O'Brien.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, June 25 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH) 9:40 a.m. Sunday Roundtable (with Pastor Rich) (FR) 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/baptism (CH) **MONDAY, June 26, 2023** 6:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (RH) WEDNESDAY, June 28, 2023 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CR) 12:00 p.m. Staff Luncheon (FR) THURSDAY, June 22, 2023 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH) SUNDAY, July 2, 2023 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH) 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion CH) CH = Mansperger Chapel CI = Crib Room CR = Conference Room FI = Fireside Room/Library FR = Fellowship Room MC = Main ChurchMR = Music RoomPS = Pastor's StudyRH = Redeemer Hall SC = SacristySS = Sunday SchoolYR = Youth Room



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer and reader is Pat Ulrich. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Jen Yap. Reader is Clyde Terry. Ushers are Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Prudence Hollands, Charmaine Kaltrider and Joe and Martha Kryszczuk. Acolyte is Henry Peterson.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Celebration of our Wedding Anniversary by Jeff and Jen Yap.

The flag flying on our flagpole is dedicated in Honor of Larry Wozniak for his service in Vietnam by Barb Wozniak.

Council President Jen Yap will be at the entrance way 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 Finnley and Killian O'Brien.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: *Journey Together: An Intergenerational Summer Event* will take place at Holy Trinity Wednesdays, August 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 5:30 to 7:30. You are welcome to join whenever your schedule permits. The evening begins with a meal followed by different themed activities. Sign up sheets may be found at the entrance ways or by calling the church office.

GOLF OUTING: All are welcome to join us for the Annual Holy Trinity Golf Outing on **Saturday, August 19 at 1:00pm** at Pendleton Creek Golf Club. Cost for the day is **\$60** and includes cart, nine holes of golf and a BBQ Dinner. Checks may be made payable to "Holy Trinity Lutheran Church" and mailed/given to the church office. Please list the players/riders included in your group. Please see Guy Huber, Craig Johnson or call the church office to make your reservation.

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.

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

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 Erin Alexander, Youth Choir Director youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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

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