

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, July 16, 2023 Seventh 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's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

PRELUDE

Prelude on Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier

Paul Fey (b. 1998)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

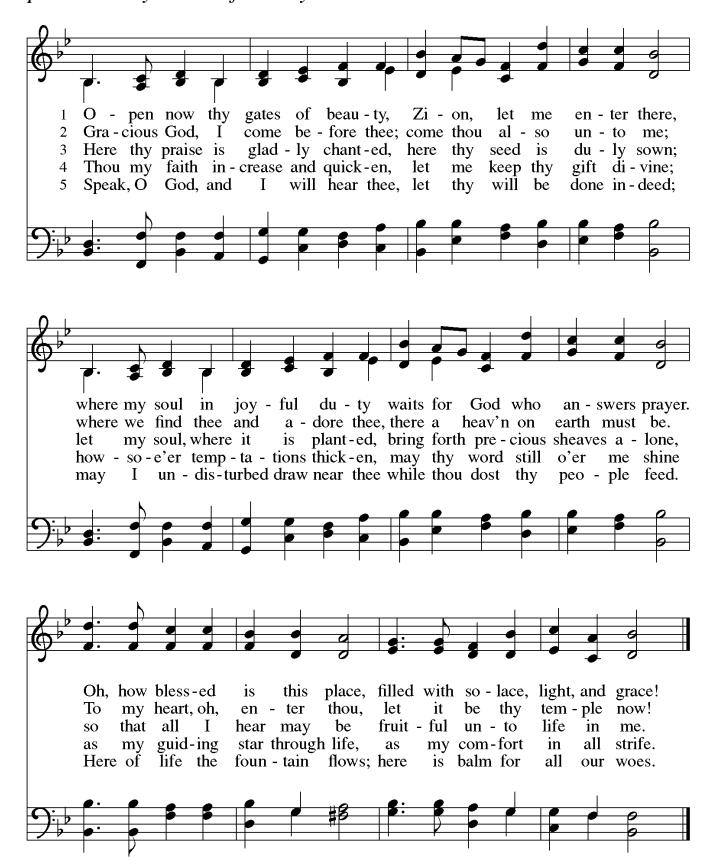
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty "Unser Herrscher"

ELW 533



Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Neil Kattermann

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

The first reading for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Isaiah, the 55th Chapter.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 7th Chapter.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

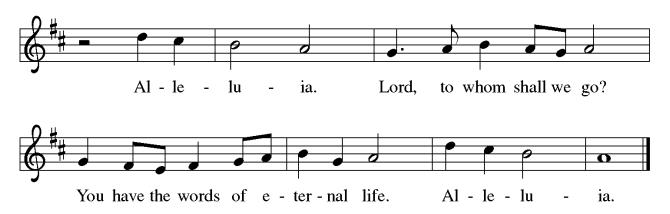
⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

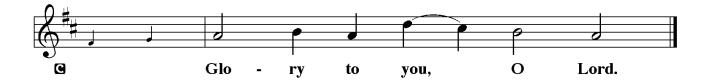
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Neil Kattermann

Please stand as you are able.



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heal those who are sick, O God. Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, and all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect all you children, especially Parker, Cole and Brennan, and those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.

THE OFFERING

OFFERING MEDITATION

Prelude in D

Adam Heron (b. 1998)

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.

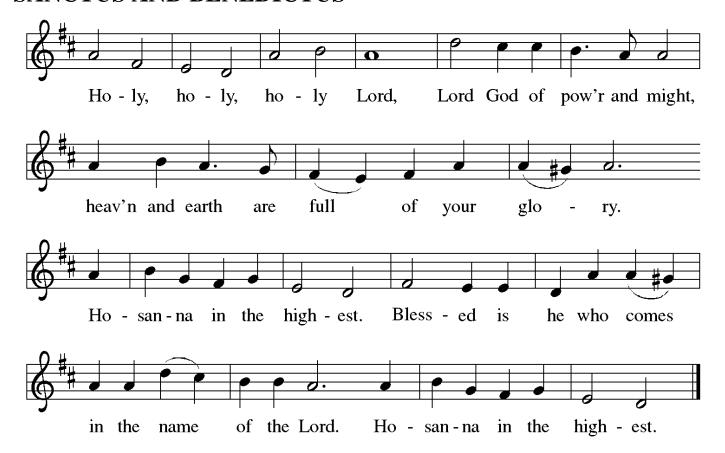
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

ELW 885

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.

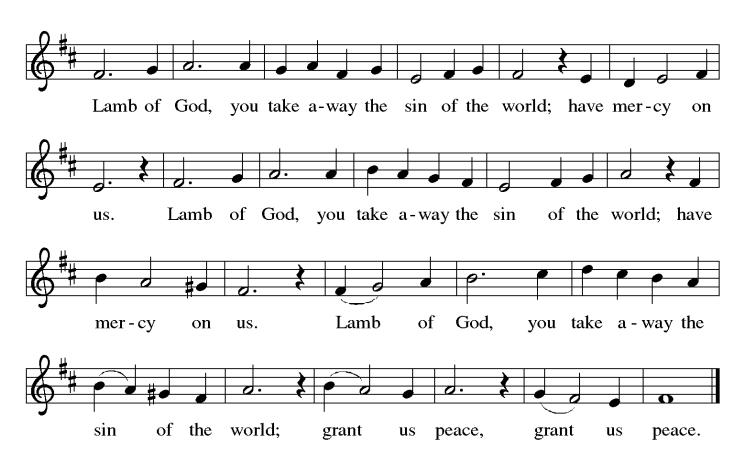
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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



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.

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. 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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing "The Ash Grove"

ELW 547



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

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.



Music Notes

The Welsh have a long tradition of song and singing and many of their folk tunes have found their way into hymnals, and we are singing two of them today. In the communion meditation, we will hear a few more Welsh hymn tunes, featuring 'Hyfrydol', which many know best to 'Love Divine All Loves Excelling', though there are several texts for that tune. Also 'Blaenwern' will be heard, which is the tune in our ELW 647 for 'Glorious Things of You are Spoken', but that is the goto tune for 'Love Divine' in UK congregations. Look up 'Blaenwern Massed Choirs' on YouTube for a spectacular presentation of 'Love Divine' with 1000+ choral voices plus audience singing the hymn-accompanied by the heroic Royal Albert Hall organ – and listen for the middle verse sung in Welsh.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, July 16 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

MONDAY, July 17, 2023

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

TUESDAY, July 18, 2023

7:00 p.m. Executive Meeting (via Zoom)

THURSDAY, July 20, 2023

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

SUNDAY, July 23, 2023 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

 $\begin{array}{lll} CH = Mansperger\ Chapel & CI = Crib\ Room & CR = Conference\ Room \\ FR = Fellowship\ Room & FI = Fireside\ Room/Library & MC = Main\ Church \\ MR = Music\ Room & PS = Pastor's\ Study & RH = Redeemer\ Hall \\ SC = Sacristy & SS = Sunday\ School & YR = Youth\ Room \end{array}$



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

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Linda Horton. Reader is Ron Leiser. Ushers are Ron Leiser, Mike Day, Alan Heiss, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Marty Wright. Acolyte is Tim Yap.

The flowers on the altar are given: In Memory of Loved Ones by Sue Spindler; and

In Honor of our granddaughters Ella Hope and Hannah Grace and our grandson, Walker James by Paul and Karen Bauchle.

Collection counters are Claire Carmer, Tom Johnson and Sue Spindler.

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

Council Secretary, Linda Horton, 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 Parker, Cole and Brennan Parisi.

Many thanks to our guest organist today, Doug Alderdice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR RICH is away on vacation, returning July 22. Pastor Neil Kattermann will be our preacher during this time and will also be available for any pastoral emergencies.

BURRITO PROJECT - CLOTHING DONATIONS REQUESTED: The Burrito Project team made over 100 burritos on the 4th of July. We were able to distribute all of them downtown that evening. Recipients were so pleased to see us on the holiday. We also handed out water, cookies, coffee, t-shirts and socks. Please consider donating items for us to distribute on August 1 or future months. Some of the items we need are: socks (white cotton preferred), t-shirts (all sizes), etc. Donations can be placed in the blue tote outside the chapel. Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: PLEASE NOTE VBS HAS BEEN CANCELLED. Please call the church office with any questions.

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

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 1080 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209 (716) 886-2400 phone/(716) 884-7505 fax e-mail: <u>info@holytrinitybuffalo.org</u>

www.holytrinitybuffalo.org

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