

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, August 13, 2023 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Celebrating our 145<sup>th</sup> 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 yellow Welcome 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

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

## **PRELUDE**

Variations on 'Nettleton'

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### For CARDIAC EMERGENCIES:

Our Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)
is located in the Sacristy on the wall near the window.
Look for the First Aid and AED sign near the top of the door to the Sacristy.
Exit the Sanctuary next to the Angel Lectern.
The Sacristy will be the first room on the left.
Coming from other areas of our building,
go up the stairs toward the Main Church and turn left.

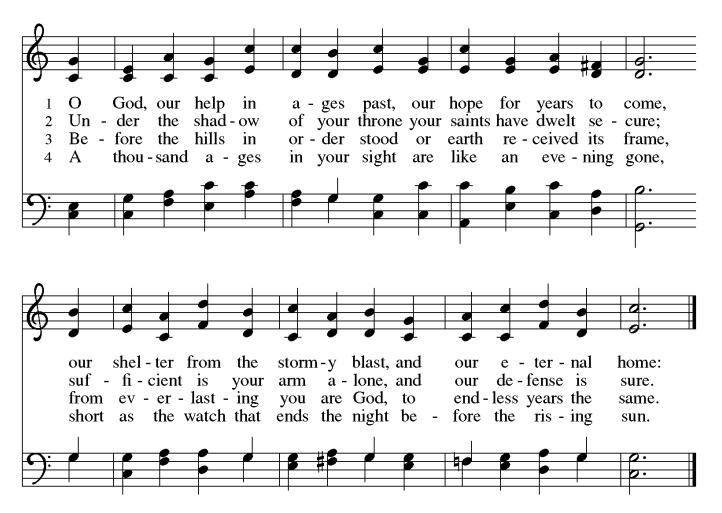
Please stand as you are able.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past "St. Anne"

ELW 632

(vs. 3 women, vs. 4 men)



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: ST. ANNÉ, William Croft, 1678-1727

#### **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.

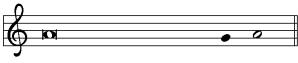
God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

## **GREETING**

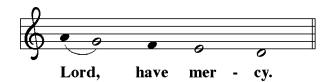
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

# **KYRIE**

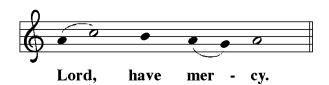


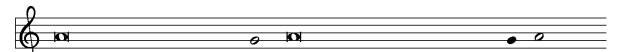
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



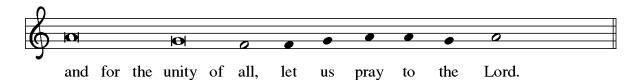


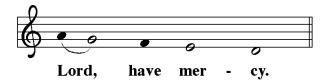
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

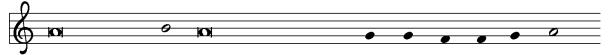




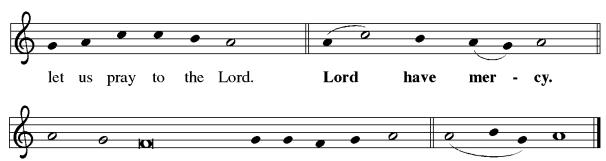
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







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



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

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

#### A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Richard Neal

# FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-12

The first reading for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings, the 19<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>9</sup>At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## THE SOLO

I Am In Doubt

Text: Florence Hynes Willette (1901-1982)

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

Colleen Flynn, soprano

I'll love you until stars fall.

Can it be so sure, so lasting as my heart demands of one whose slightest touch upon my hands is like the wind inside an aspen tree?

I am in doubt of this frail thing
I hold so sworn to constancy
And this is why, why,
Too often I have watched a burnt blue sky
Where slipping stars spilled scarlet and grew cold.

#### **SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-13**

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say?

"The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart"

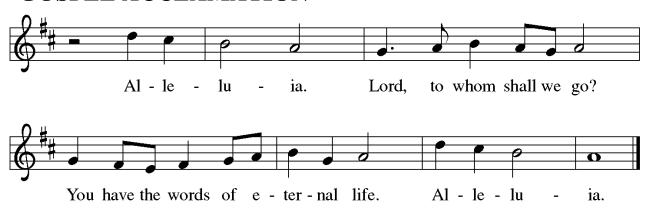
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

# Thanks be to God.

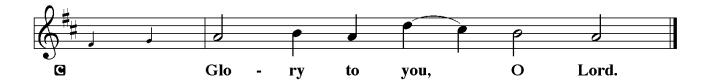
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



## GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

#### THE SERMON

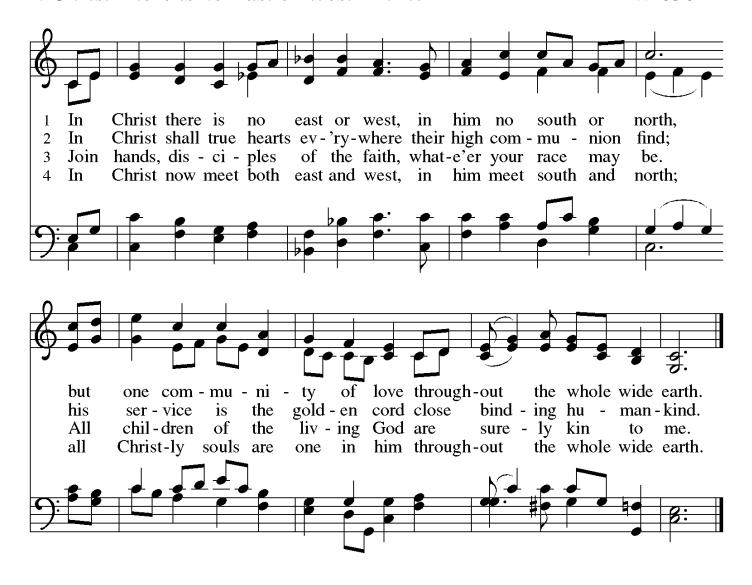
The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

#### **SERMON HYMN**

In Christ There is no East or West "McKee"

**ELW 650** 



Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

## **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

O God, all powerful and all loving, you are with us, and we in you, in every circumstance of life. For your steadfast faithfulness; for the gift of your peace, which comes to us even in times of chaos and fear; for your powerful Word that whispers to us when we are hiding and afraid; and for your powerful arms of mercy, that hold us when we are sinking – for these stunning expressions of love, we give you thanks. Confident that you welcome our joys and concerns, we offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

# A brief silence.

God of grace and faith, whose faithfulness is never-ending, your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, by every means available. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Equip us to bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the wellbeing of all people. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children, especially Lillian and Connor, and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks that their lives of faithful service are examples of following your call. 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

#### **SOLO AT THE OFFERING**

The Storm
Text: Adelaide Ann Procter (1825-1864)

John Hullah (1812 - 1884)

Colleen Flynn, soprano

The tempest rages wild and high,
The waves lift up their voice and cry
Fierce answers to the angry sky.
Miserere, Domine.
Thro' the black night and driving rain,
A ship is struggling, all in vain:
To live upon the stormy main:
Miserere, Domine.

The thunders roar, the lightnings glare, Vain is it now to strive or dare; A cry goes up of great despair.

Miserere, Domine.

The stormy voices of the main,
The moaning wind and pelting rain,
Beat on the nurs'ry window pane;
Miserere, Domine.

Warm curtain'd was the little bed,
Soft pillow'd was the little head.
"The storm will wake the child." they said.
Miserere, Domine.
Cow'ring among his pillows white,
He prays, his blue eyes dim with fright,
"Father, save those at the sea tonight!"
Miserere, Domine.

The morning shone all clear and gay On a ship at anchor in the bay, And on a little child at play: Gloria Tibi Domine. 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

**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.

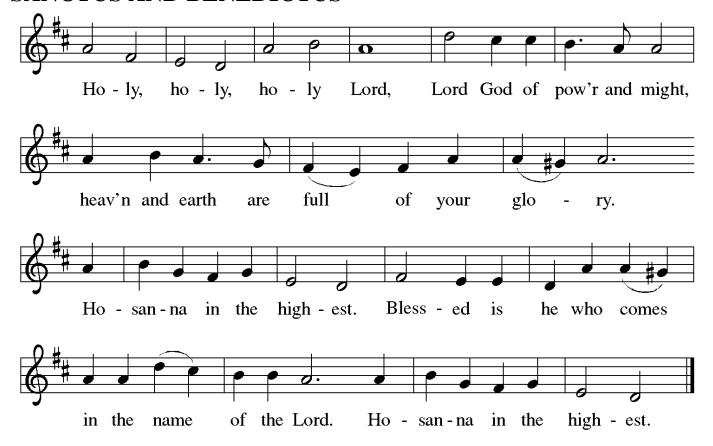
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



#### 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.

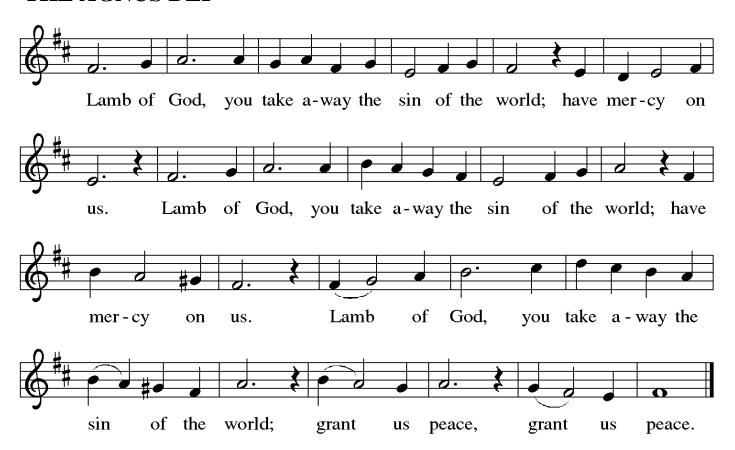
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### 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. 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**

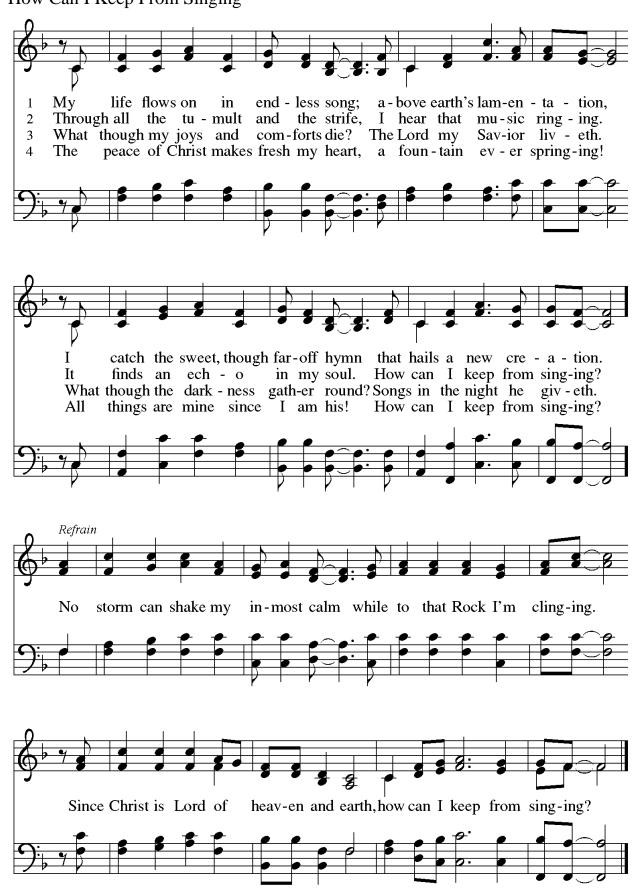
The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song "How Can I Keep From Singing"

**ELW 763** 



# THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# **POSTLUDE**

**Toccatina** 

Carl Simone (1918-2003)

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.



#### THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

## SUNDAY, August 13 – Eleventh 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 (CH)

## MONDAY, August 14, 2023

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

# WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2023

9:00 a.m. Property Meeting (FR)

# THURSDAY, August 17 2023

6:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (MC)

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

## FRIDAY, August 18 2023

1:00 p.m. Plewinski/Graber Wedding (MC)

## SATURDAY, August 19, 2023

1:00 p.m. Golf Outing at Tan Tara

## SUNDAY, August 20, 2023 – Twelfth 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 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 Judy Kroll. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Morgan Leiser.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Elizabeth Vihnanek. Reader is Clyde Terry. Ushers are Ron Leiser, Mike Day, Alan Heiss, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Marty Wright. Acolyte is Avery Best.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of my wife Jean Clare and on the occasion of what would have been our 75<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary by Roy Clare; and

In Loving Memory of Smith and Kathryn Wright, Donald and Myrtle Jones and Detective Michael Smith Phillips by the Martin Wright Family.

Collection counters are Neil Kattermann, Ron Pellnat and Barb Wozniak.

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

Council member, Elizabeth Vihnanek, 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 Lillian Pomietlarz and Connor Quider.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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.

HT WALKS TOGETHER: please join Uli MacDonald for a leisurely walk around Hoyt Lake in Delaware Park on Wednesday, August 30 from 6-7pm. We will meet at the Lincoln Statue next to the Rose Garden around 5:45pm in order to leave on time. Please park along Lincoln Parkway.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: In the midst of all the Buffalo summertime bliss, it may be hard to believe that kids go back to school in just a few weeks. Holy Trinity will be collecting donations of school supplies for the children of PS 17 Early Childhood Center. The school needs the usual back to school basics, as well as backpacks and headphones (Stores like Dollar General and Five Below have great deals on backpacks right now). Please look for the collection bin right outside the chapel where it will remain until Sunday, September 10th. Holy Trinity always outdoes itself, and PS 17 truly appreciates your generosity. Thank you for helping these amazing children start the year right!

BURRITO PROJECT - CLOTHING DONATIONS REQUESTED: The Burrito Project team made over 100 burritos. We were able to distribute all of them downtown. Recipients were so pleased to see us. We also handed out water, cookies, coffee, t-shirts and socks. Please consider donating items for us to distribute for 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!

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* 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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