

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, August 20, 2023 Twelfth 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 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

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

PRELUDE *The Holy Well* from *On Alderley Edge*

Peter Graham (b. 1958)

Jennifer Carden, euphonium

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

For CARDIAC EMERGENCIES:

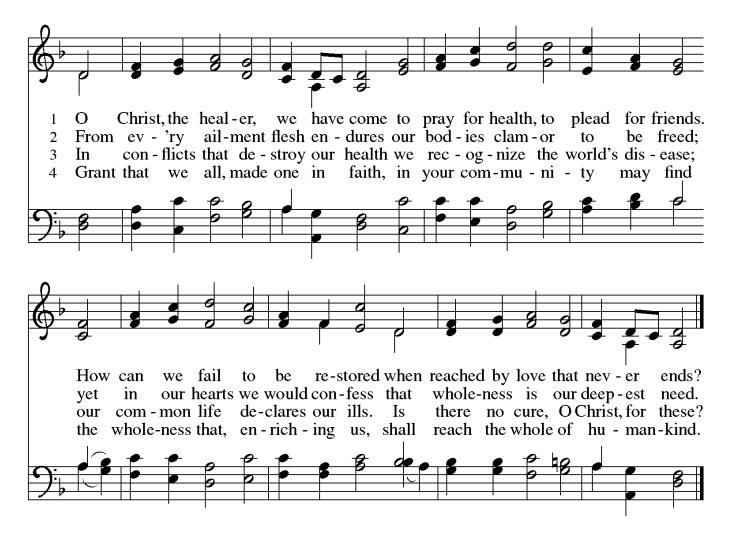
Our Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is located in the Sacristy on the wall near the window. Look for the First Aid and AED sign near the top of the door to the Sacristy. Exit the Sanctuary next to the Angel Lectern. The Sacristy will be the first room on the left. Coming from other areas of our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

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come "Distress"

ELW 610



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835 Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Richard Neal

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The first reading for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Isaiah, the 56th Chapter.

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,

for soon my salvation will come,

and my deliverance be revealed.

- ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants,
- all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,

and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,

and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO *Moonlight Across Water* from *Blue Lake Fantasies*

David Gillingham (b. 1947)

Jennifer Carden, euphonium

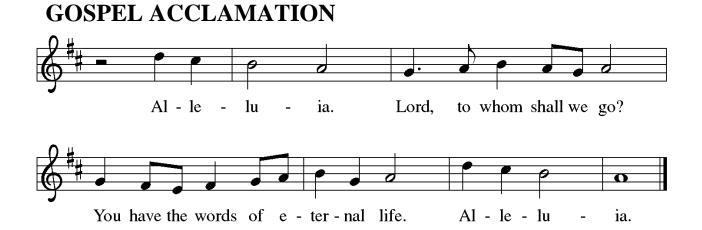
SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 11th Chapter. [Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

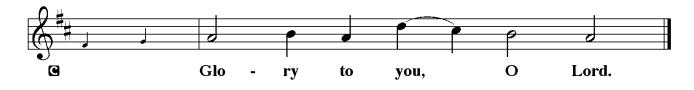
²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.



GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28 The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



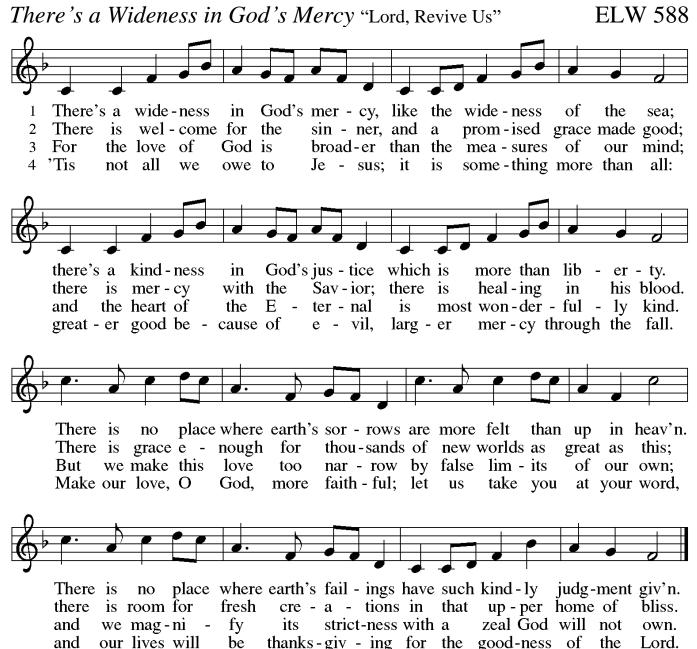
²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

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

Like a solid and sturdy boulder, O God, you are the ground of our being, constantly stabilizing us, so we do not fall away from you. When we are distracted from the life you offer, right us, and help us to walk in the new life you create in Christ our Lord. Now, confident that you are always open to our joys and concerns, help us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, your Spirit gathers the church. Stir those who are newly baptized and newly ordained to proclaim the gospel, breathe life into ecumenical and inter-religious endeavors, and support missionaries throughout the globe. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You created the earth and all its inhabitants and declared it good. Make us more aware of our impact on the environment, and move us to treat your creation with greater respect. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call leaders to bridge differences and practice generosity. Inspire all in authority to protect people in harm's way, deliver those in bondage, support fair elections, provide care for military personnel and veterans, and show mercy to those for whom they have responsibility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You provide for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Embrace people who have been rejected because of differences, heal trauma caused by racism or prejudice, shield any who are persecuted, console the dying, heal the sick and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, you journey with us in all of life's transitions. Guide those preparing for baptism, marriage, and retirement. Guide our church council and committees in their visioning and ministry, and make yourself known to the children of our congregation, especially Daelyn and Derick. Safeguard those who travel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for those who now rest from their labors. Motivate us by their lives of dedication to the gospel, until that day when we join with them in our eternal home. 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.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

The Last Rose of Summer

Arr. Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Jennifer Carden, euphonium

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.

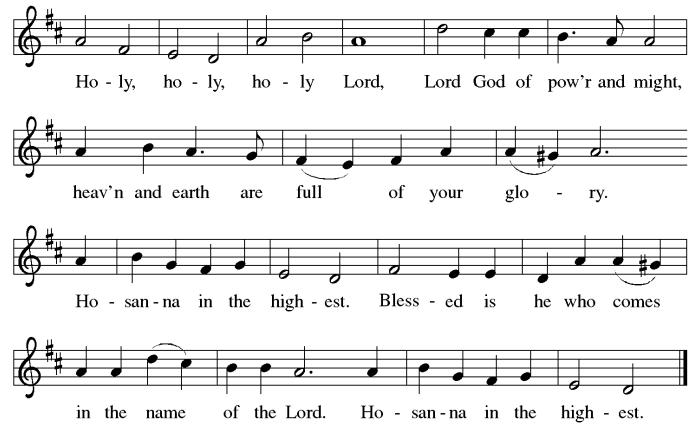
DIALOGUE

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.

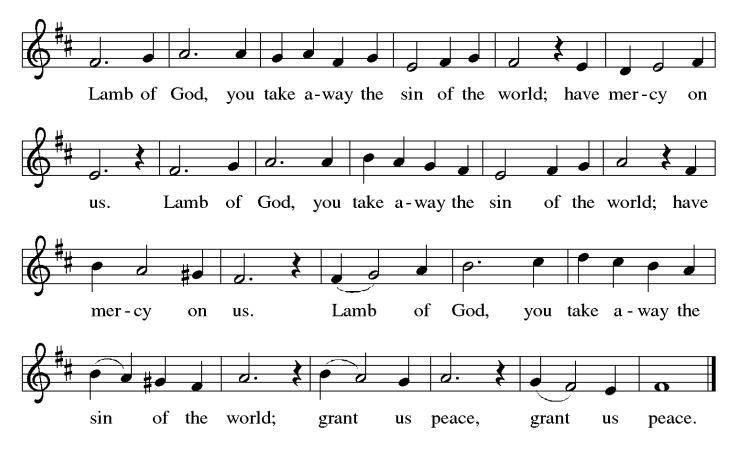
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ for the world, redeemed by Christ's blood. As the grain and grapes, once dispersed in 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



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.

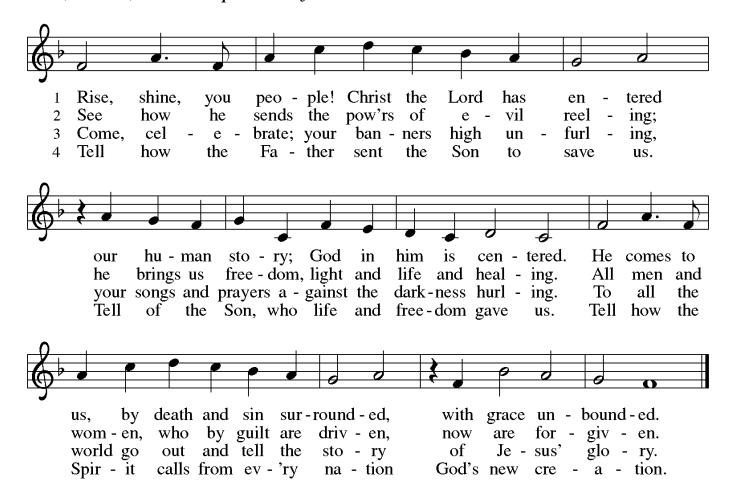
BENEDICTION

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

Rise, Shine, You People! "Wojtkiewiecz"

ELW 665



Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt. Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003 Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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THE DISMISSAL Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Toccata for a Festival

Lani Smith (1934-2015)

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 20 – 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)

MONDAY, August 21, 2023

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

THURSDAY, August 24, 2023

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

SUNDAY, August 27, 2023 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

9:30 a.m. Health Ministry Meeting (CR)

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

CH = Mansperger Chapel CI = Crib Room FR = Fellowship Room MR = Music RoomSC = Sacristy

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 Todd Kroening. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Adrianna Wareham.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Elizabeth Vihnanek. Reader is John Girdlestone. Ushers are Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Prudence Hollands, Charmaine Kaltrider and Joe and Martha Kryszczuk. Acolyte is Rowan Leiser.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of their parents John and Victoria Caffarelli by Donna Leiser and Mary Linda Schmidt and their Families.

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 Daelyn and Derick Pittman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEAD PASTOR CALL PROCESS: As of early August, the Call Committee has recommended a candidate to the Council. We are extremely thankful for the committee's persistent and faithful service. Please keep the Council and candidate in your prayers as they discern the next steps for our congregation.

UPDATE ON PASTOR MIRANDA: Pastor Miranda Hammer has resigned from her role at Holy Trinity effective August 31, 2023. Pastor Miranda will continue to serve in her primary call as Pastor for Good Shepherd and will be working on a prison ministry program under development in Erie County. Please join us in thanking Pastor Miranda for her faithful service to Holy Trinity during her tenure and wishing her all the best as she continues to listen to and follow God's call to serve.

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.

BURRITO PROJECT: Thank you to everyone who donated shirts, socks and other items in recent weeks, as our supply was very low after our August 1 event. Starting in September, we will alternate hosting locations with Zion (Clarence). All are welcome to participate at either location. Please contact Jen Yap, Guy Huber or the church office for more information. The schedule for this fall will be:

- •Sep 5: meet at Zion at 5:30
- •Oct 3: meet at HT at 5:30
- •Nov 7: meet at Zion at 5:30
- •Dec 5: meet at HT at 5:30

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!

THE HEALTH MINISTRY TEAM will be meeting in the Conference Room next Sunday, August 27, between the services.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will begin this Fall on Monday, September 11. Dave Ulrich will be presenting a multi-week series on **American Racism: Roots & Reality.** Sessions begin at 9:30am in the Fellowship Room. All are invited.

FLU CLINIC: The flu clinic will be held on Sunday, September 17 from 9:30am to Noon. Please bring your insurance card and photo ID. You will also need your doctor's name and address. There is no charge. Rite Aid will be running the clinic again this year. Get your flu shot early.

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

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