

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Buffalo, New York

### HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, October 1, 2023 Eighteenth 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

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### Variations on 'Jesu, Dulcis Memoria'

Jessica French (b. 1991)

#### Variation I:

Jesus, how sweet the very thought, giving true joy to the heart, But sweeter than honey and all else is His presence.

#### Variation II:

Nothing more melodious is sung, nothing more delightful is heard, nothing sweeter is ever thought, than Jesus, the Son of God.

#### Variation III:

Jesus, hope of the penitents, how kind you are to petitioners! How good you are to those that seek! But what more to those that find you!

#### Variation IV:

No tongue can tell, no written work can express: the one who has experienced you can believe what it might be to love Jesus.

> Tyler Huk, *tenor* Kristen Pomietlarz, *organ*

#### 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.

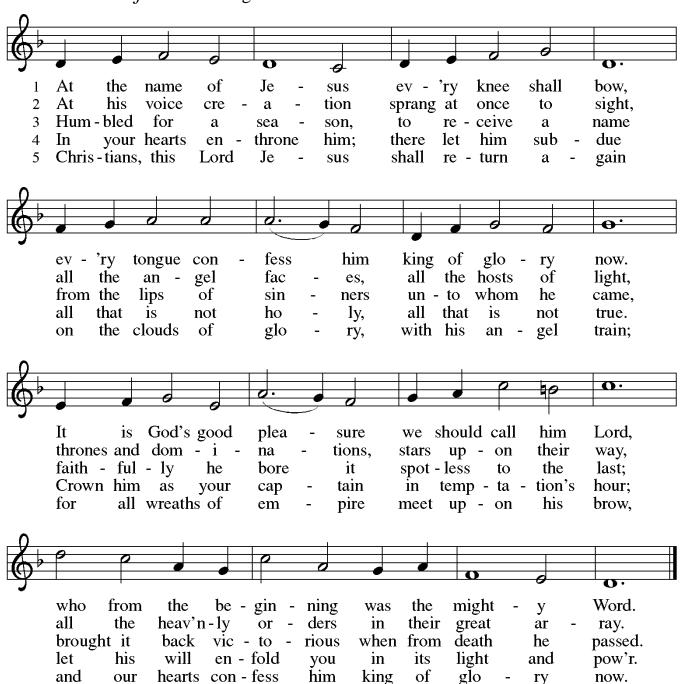
Coming from other areas of our building,
go up the stairs toward the Main Church and turn left.

Please stand as you are able.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

At the Name of Jesus "King's Weston"

ELW 416



Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877 Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Music from Songs of Praise, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. Amen.

Let us humble ourselves before God, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

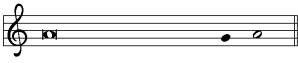
Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

#### **GREETING**

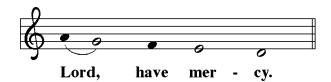
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## **KYRIE**

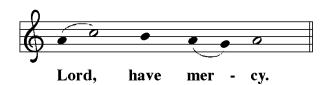


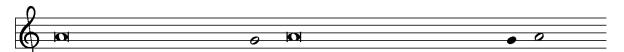
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



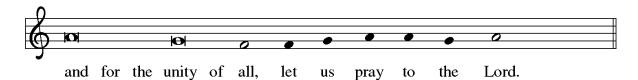


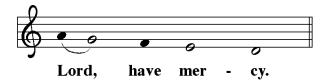
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

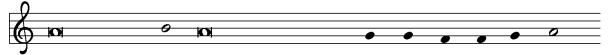




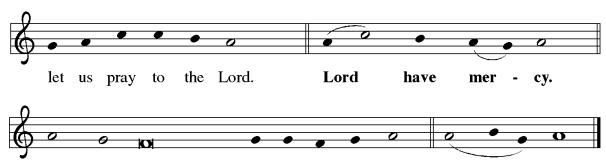
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







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.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

#### A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Richard Neal

#### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The first reading for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Ezekiel, the 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(8:30) THE SOLO

If with All Your Hearts from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

#### Tyler Huk, tenor

Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments for your transgressions: Even as Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols, return to God; For He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil. 'If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find Me.' Thus saith our God, Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before his presence!

(10:30) THE ANTHEM

Christus Factus Est

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Christ became for us obedient and willing even to die on the cross. In torment, even death by crucifixion. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and given to Him a name which is above all other names. Christ became for us obedient and willing even to die on the cross.

### **SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13**

The second reading for today is recorded in Philippians, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter.

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. to the glory of God the Father.

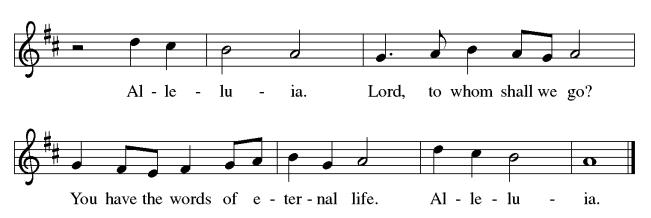
<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

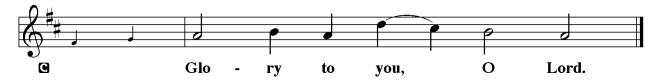
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



#### GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

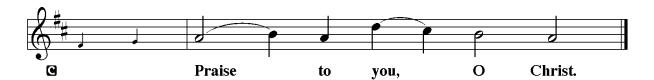
The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

<sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him." The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

#### THE SERMON

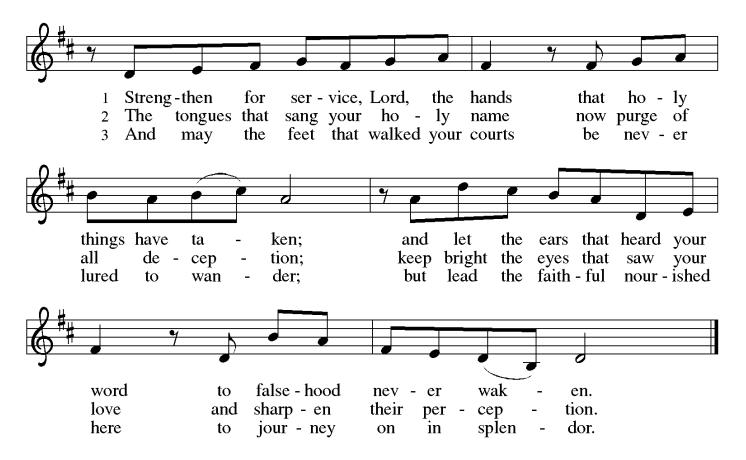
The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

#### **SERMON HYMN**

Strengthen for Service, Lord "Buckhurst Run"

ELW 497



Text: Syriac Liturgy of Malabar; tr. composite Music: BUCKHURST RUN, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### 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

It is your grace, O God, to enter our consciousness not with a show of grandeur but humbly. Help us think of ourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself, setting aside the privileges of your blessing and recalling the joyous burden of its responsibilities. Help us conform our lives to your servant nature, that we may be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Help us remember your call to love others humbly and serve them faithfully as we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

### A brief silence.

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Inspire in them bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that affect the environment. Empower us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,

### receive our prayer.

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, always looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies that we may work for and know the gift of reconciliation. Merciful God,

### receive our prayer.

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Teach us your way as we pray for this congregation, including our children, especially Audrey and August. Open our hearts to your work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the other prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through 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

### (8:30) THE SOLO

*Jesu, dulcis memoria* from *Three Latin Motets* Text: 14th century, Benedictine Abbess

Daniel Pinkham (1923-2006)

Tyler Huk, tenor

Jesus, sweet remembrance, Granting the heart its true joys, But above honey and all things Is His sweet presence.

Nothing more pleasing can be sung, Nothing gladder can be heard Nothing sweeter can be thought Than Jesus, son of God.

Jesus, hope of the penitent, How merciful you are to those who ask, How good to those who seek, But O, what you are to those who find!

Tongue has no power to describe Nor writings to express But only belief can know by experience What it is to love Jesus.

Be our joy, O Jesus, Who will be the prize we win, May all our glory be in you, always And through all ages.

### (10:30)

#### ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

Strengthen for Service

Jessica French (b. 1991)

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that holy things have taken; let ears that now have heard thy songs to clamour never waken.

Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang keep free from all deceiving; the eyes which saw thy love be bright, thy blessed hope perceiving.

The feet that tread thy holy courts from light do thou not banish; the bodies by thy Body fed withy thy new life replenish.

Please stand as you are able.

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

**ELW 885** 

#### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

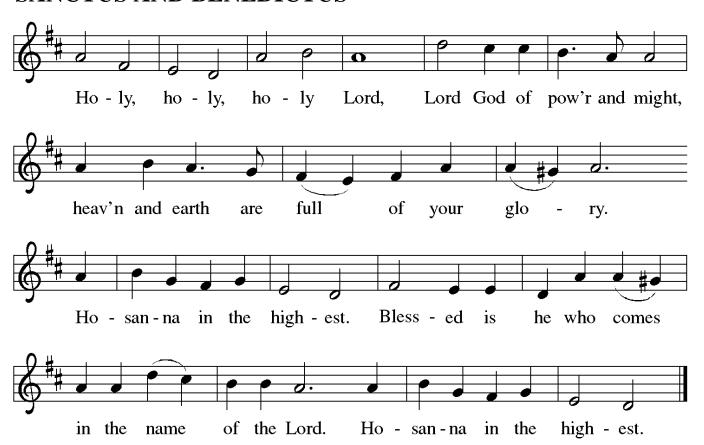
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

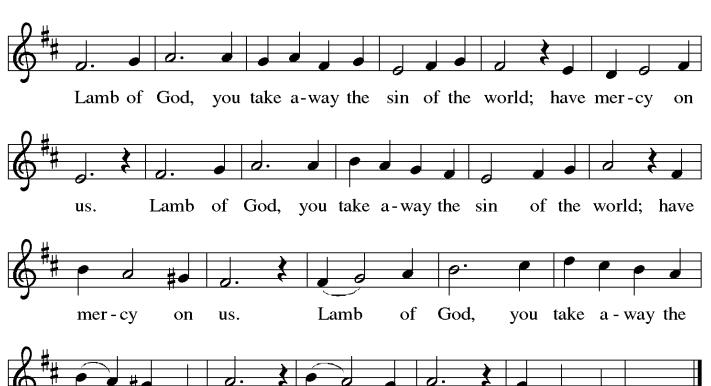
#### THE AGNUS DEI

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grant

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peace,

grant

us

peace.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Beginning with those seated closest to the altar, you are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the presiding minister. Receiving the wafer in your hand, you are invited to dip or "intinct" the wafer into the chalice. There is wine in the silver chalice and grape juice in the ceramic chalice. For those who prefer, gluten-free wafers are available by simply asking the Pastor as you are served. Portable communion cups are also available for those who are not comfortable sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion in-person. Adults or children choosing not to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so.

Come eat and drink; there is a place for you at the table of our Lord.

(10:30) COMMUNION SOLO

*Jesu, dulcis memoria* from *Three Latin Motets* Text: 14th century, Benedictine Abbess

Daniel Pinkham (1923-2006)

Tyler Huk, tenor

Please see text printed in the bulletin at the 8:30 Offering.

### (10:30)

#### **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

King of Glory, King of Peace Text: George Herbert (1593-1633) Roland E. Martin (b. 1955)

King of Glory, King of Peace, I will love Thee:
And that love may never cease, I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me:
Thou didst note my working breast, Thou hast spar'd me.
Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee,
And the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried, Thou didst clear me;
And alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.
Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n, I will praise thee.
In my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise Thee.
Thou grew'st soft and moist with tears, Thou relentedst:
And when Justice call'd for fears, Thou dissentedst.
Small it is, in this poor sort To enroll Thee:
Ev'n eternity is too short to extol Thee.

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.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

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**

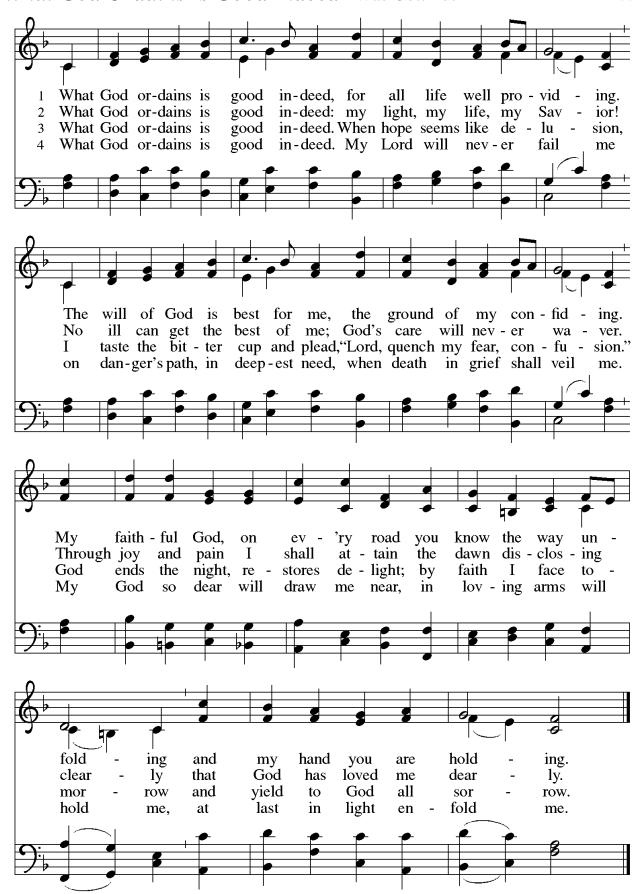
The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

#### What God Ordains Is Good Indeed "Was Gott Tut"

ELW 776



Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951 Music: WAS GOTT TUT, Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682 Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Variations on 'Jesu, Dulcis Memoria'

Jessica French (b. 1991)

Variation V:

May Jesus be our Glory, He who will be our reward: May our glory be in you, throughout all eternity.

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

We invite you to join us downstairs in Redeemer Hall for refreshments and fellowship following the 10:30 Service.

#### THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

#### SUNDAY, October 1, 2023 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

#### MONDAY, October 2, 2023

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

#### TUESDAY, October 3, 2023

- 10:00 a.m. Niagara Conference Ministerium (RH)
- 12:00 p.m. Needlers (FR)
- 5:30 p.m. Burrito Project (RH)

#### THURSDAY, October 5, 2023

- Happy Birthday Kristen Pomietlarz
- 10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

#### SATURDAY, October 7, 2023

11:00 a.m. HT Walks Together at Forest Lawn

#### SUNDAY, October 8, 2023 - Nineteenth 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 (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)

#### Buffalo Girlchoir Recording (MC)

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



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer and reader is Paul Kroll. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Erys Yap.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Paul Bauchle. Reader is Tim Flynn. Ushers are Paul Biesinger, Doug Alderdice, Paul and Karen Bauchle and Karen Kolb. Acolytes are Brandon Howard, Henry Peterson, Max Peterson, Griffin Miller and Tony Lizauckas.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of our son Paul, my wife Susan and Hildegarde Heidt by Paul Biesinger;

and

To the Glory of God from Jim and Norine Dunnigan.

Collection counters are Paul and Karen Bauchle and Uli MacDonald.

Council Member, Paul Bauchle, will be at the Main Street entrance to address any questions or concerns you may have this morning.

As part of the Cherish All Children ministries, today's prayers of intercession include Audrey and August Solberg.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*\* Call Process Update/Congregational Meeting: Please join us *in person* for a special worship service at 10:30am on Sunday, October 15, followed by a Congregational meeting to vote on the official call. Here are additional details regarding that weekend's events:

**Saturday, October 14:** We will host an Open House from 2-4pm in Redeemer Hall. All are invited to meet the candidate and ask questions about their faith journey and how we can walk together in serving God's Kingdom.

**Sunday, October 15:** There will only be one worship service at 10:30am. The candidate will lead worship and preach. Immediately following the service, we will hold the Congregational meeting to vote on issuing a call. The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee will host a special coffee hour after the meeting.

Note: Since an official call has not yet been issued, details are intentionally limited; candidates do not inform their current congregations that they are leaving until they have the official new call. Accordingly, we will not be posting the candidate's name or more details about them via our website or social media until the call process is complete. This also means that the service on October 15 will *not* be livestreamed. Members are especially encouraged to attend the meeting, as your vote helps determine the direction and future of our ministry together.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY continues tomorrow. Dave Ulrich is presenting a multi-week series on American Racism: Roots & Reality. Sessions begin at 9:30am in the Fellowship Room. All are invited.

CANDLELIGHT VESPERS - New Mid-Week "HT Together" Program: Please join us on Tuesday, October 10, for a new worship and fellowship program to be held on the second Tuesday of each month. We will start at 6:30pm with a brief (~20 minute) candlelight vespers service in the Chapel, followed by a variety of activities to choose from, such as a guided meditation, Bible study, service project, etc. and conclude by 8pm. We expect the activities to evolve based on the interests of participants. Please contact Pastor Rich for more information or to volunteer to lead an activity.

ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, one of the activities following the vespers service will be to compile Blessing Bags to share with those in need. A Thrivent grant has been obtained to purchase items to be placed in the bags. A suggestion to add a \$5.00 gift card from either Tim Horton's or McDonald's was made. If you are able to purchase gift cards, they may be delivered to the church office any time before Sunday, October 1st. Checks payable to Holy Trinity will also be accepted to be used to purchase cards. Please indicate "Blessing Bags" on the check. Barb Wozniak, Donna Leiser and Linda Schmidt will also be happy to collect them from you if you see them at church.

YOUTH CHOIR! Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is welcoming the children of our congregation to join Holy Trinity's Youth Choir! The choir will explore songs of many different genres, styles and origins, to deepen our understanding and love of Christ through choral music. If you seek an enriching and positive experience for your young musician, consider joining us at our rehearsal each Sunday at 9:30am in the Music Room downstairs. Ages 5 and above are welcome, and no prior experience is necessary. Feel free to contact our Youth Choir Director Ms. Erin Alexander at youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

BURRITO PROJECT: Thank you to everyone who donated shirts, socks and other items in recent weeks, as our supply was very low. The group 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:

•Oct 3: meet at HT at 5:30

•Nov 7: meet at Zion at 5:30

•Dec 5: meet at HT at 5:30

HT WALKS TOGETHER: you are invited to join Uli MacDonald for a walk at Forest Lawn Cemetery on Saturday, October 7 from 11am - 12pm. We will meet at 10:55am in the parking lot next to the chapel.

SAVE THE DATE! On Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a paint night fundraiser to benefit Caribbean Children's Foundation. We will gather at 7:00pm for a night of painting, wine and snacks. The paint night will be led by our very own Heather Miller and Paul Biesinger. We promise that it will be an easy and fun watercolor painting and one that everyone can accomplish. Cost for the evening will be \$30.00 and all the money raised will go directly to the mission as Heather and Paul are generously donating their time and Linda and David Schmidt received a Thrivent grant for all supplies (thank you so much to everyone). Please call the church office by phone (886-2400) or email (info@holytrinitybuffalo.org) by October 13th to register for this fun night. The Haiti team greatly appreciates your ongoing support! The deadline for signing up is October 13<sup>th</sup>.

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

#### HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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