

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, September 17, 2023 Sixteenth 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 today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

PRELUDE

Aria (8:30) Awakening from Three Sketches for Organ (10:30)

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.

(10:30) INTROIT Make a JoyFul Noise

John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

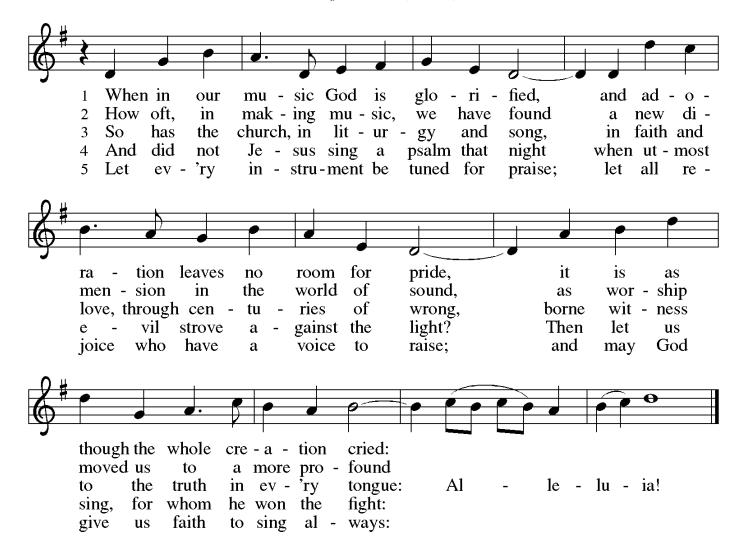
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands; Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing; Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise!

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

When in Our Music God Is Glorified "Engelberg"

ELW 851



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924 Text © 1972 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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.

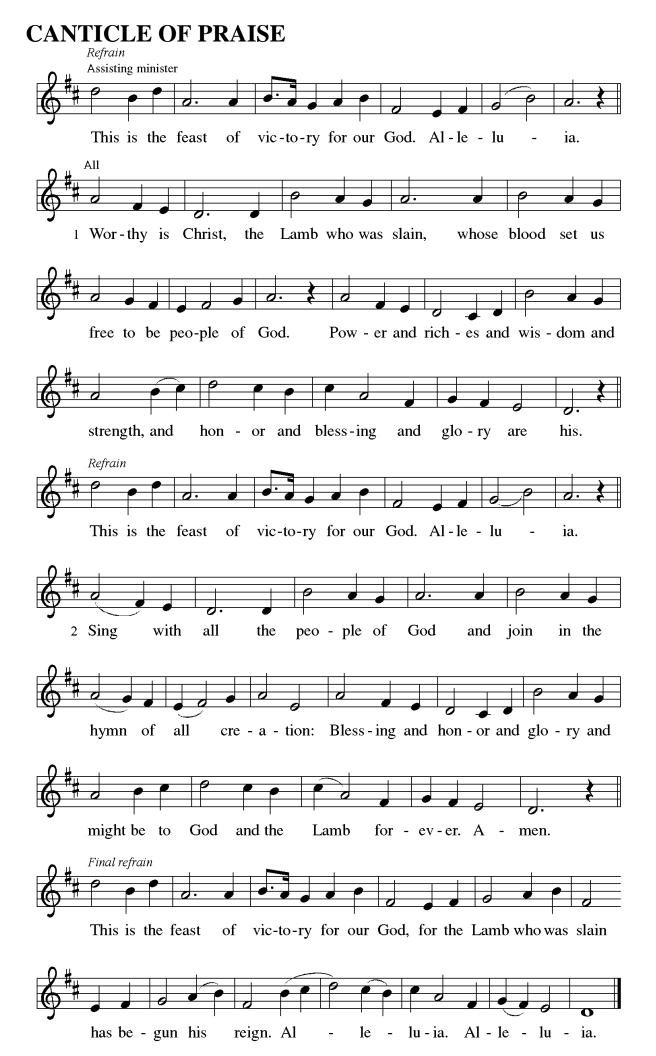
GREETING

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



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN *And a blessing of backpacks*

The Rev. Richard Neal

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

The first reading for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Genesis, the 50th Chapter.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(8:30) THE SOLO

Lord, Thou Art My Refuge and My Shield from Biblical Songs Op. 99, No. 2 Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

Carolyn Lansom, alto

Lord, Thou art my refuge and my shield, and in Thy word put I my trust.

Out of my sight, ye that do evil, for my heart is fixed, I will hold to God's commandments.

Strengthen me, that I may keep Thy law, and that Thy statutes may be my delight.

I am afraid of Thee and of Thy greatness, trembling do I come before Thy judgement seat.

(10:30) CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

THE ANTHEM

The Awakening

I dreamed a dream, A silent dream, Of a land not far away. Where no birds sang, No steeples rang, And teardrops fell like rain. I dreamed a dream, A silent dream Of a land so filled with pride That ev'ry song, Both weak and strong, Withered and died. I dreamed a dream. No alleluia, Not one hosanna, No song of love, No lullaby. And no choir sang to change the world. No pipers played; no dancers twirled. I dreamed a dream, A silent dream. Silent. Silent.... Awake! Awake! Awake! Awake! Soli Deo Gloria! Awake! Awake! Awake! Awake, my soul, and sing! The time for praise has come. The silence of the night has passed; A new day has begun. Let music never die in me! Forever let my spirit sing! Wherever emptiness is found, Let there be joy and glorious sound. Let music never die in me! Forever let my spirit sing! Let all our voices join as one To praise the Giver of the song! Awake! Awake! Let music live!

Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-4, 10-12

The second reading for today is recorded in Romans, the 14th Chapter. ¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

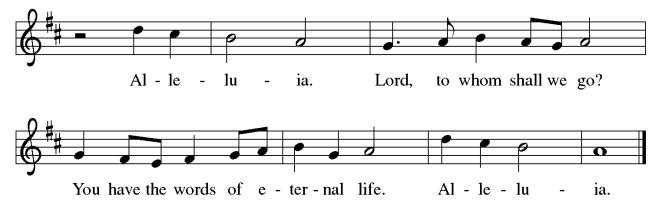
¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

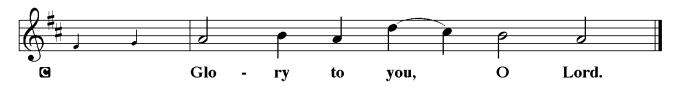
Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.

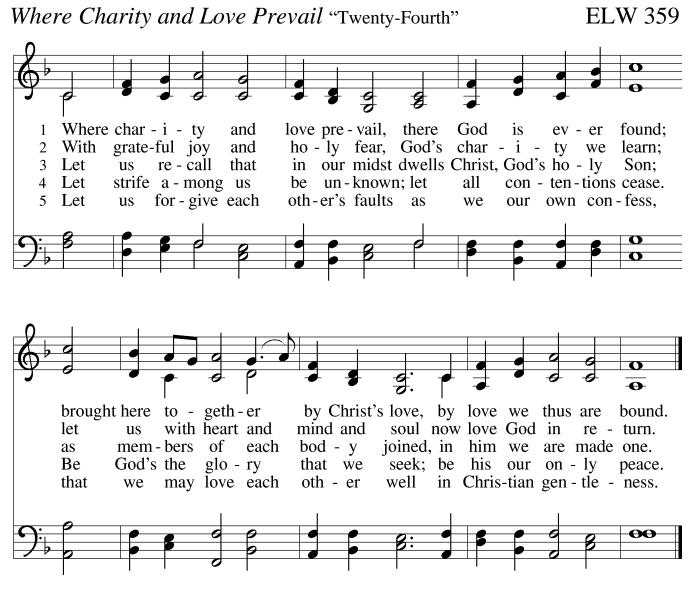


Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN



Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Music: TWENTY–FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842 Text © 1960 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All Rights Reserved.

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(10:30) CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF LIGHT

Adapted from the dedication of the chancel windows, September 12, 1948

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

By the tender mercy of God, the dawn from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Arise, shine; for your light has come,

and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Seventy-five years ago, these chancel windows were blessed and dedicated to the glory of God. Today we celebrate their ministry among us. Let us pray.

O God, may these windows, once dedicated to the enrichment of this your holy house, continue to shed your radiance in this place. As the light which you have created illuminates them, shedding their light here, may the light of the knowledge of your glory in Jesus Christ shine in our hearts, nourishing us in all holy living, and shedding the light of the gospel in the world around us; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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, creator and sustainer of all creation, from one ancestor you made all people to inhabit the whole earth. You gave to each and to all of us the times and places where we dwell, so that we might search for you and find you in the hearts of each person. Open the ears of our hearts to hear your voice in the voice of each of our sisters and brothers, in the heart-songs we each raise in our lives, in the grace liberated in the arts and crafts we practice, and in the love we show toward friend and stranger alike. Give us grace to embody in our lives daily the prayers we offer on this Lord's day for the church, for creation, and for the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of its diverse congregations, that together we may proclaim the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands burdened by drought and healing to oceans and rivers poisoned by pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. Be known to those strained financially and for all who live with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or the burden of fear. Protect all who cry out for mercy and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation and its children, especially our Sunday School students. Open our hearts to practice radical invitation and hospitality. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world. 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) SOLO AT THE OFFERING

An die Musik Op. 88 No. 4 Text: Franz von Schober (1796-1882)

Carolyn Lansom, alto

You lovely art, in how many gray hours, Where I was stricken by life You ignited my heart for warm love, You brought me to a better world, Brought me to a better world!

Often a sigh, that left your harp, A sweet, holy chord from you, Has shown me the existence of a better time You lovely art, I thank you for it, You lovely art, I thank you! Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

(10:30) ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

Light Through Windows (2016) Text by the composer

Hushed, grey, a tall cathedral, washed in faint morning light. Day breaks through mullioned windows, brushing away the night.

Light through windows Light through stained glass windows

Tales cast and retold in shades of scarlet Silver, sky-blue, sea-green, sage Sun-dappled rose, russet and gold Revelation in the nave

Light through windows Light through stained glass windows

On a lectern lie scores of sacred music Neumes, breves, calligraphy Rimmed in red, glistening with gold, Recitation on the page

Gold on parchment Gold on ecru parchment

Light floods the floor as Sunbeams stream in, Cascading 'cross stone walls, Arches, apse and pillars glow *Lux aeterna* O Light through windows Silver, sky-blue, sea-green, sage Light through stained-glass windows

Like a manuscript gilded, the church is resplendent Stories and windows illumined.

Please stand as you are able.

Caroline Mallonée (b.1975)

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.

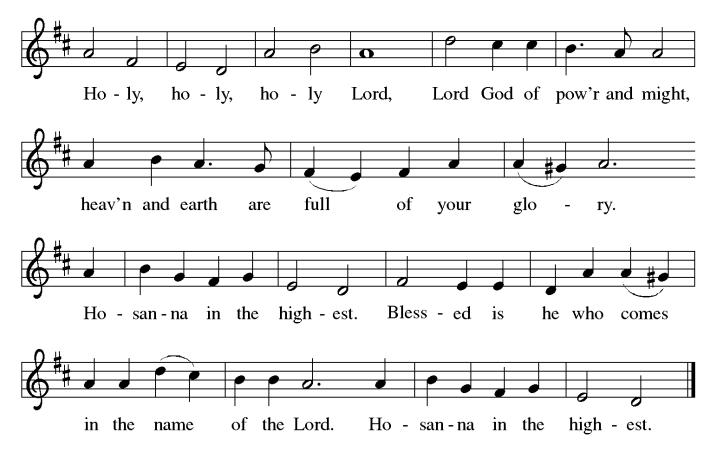
DIALOGUE
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ELW 885

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.

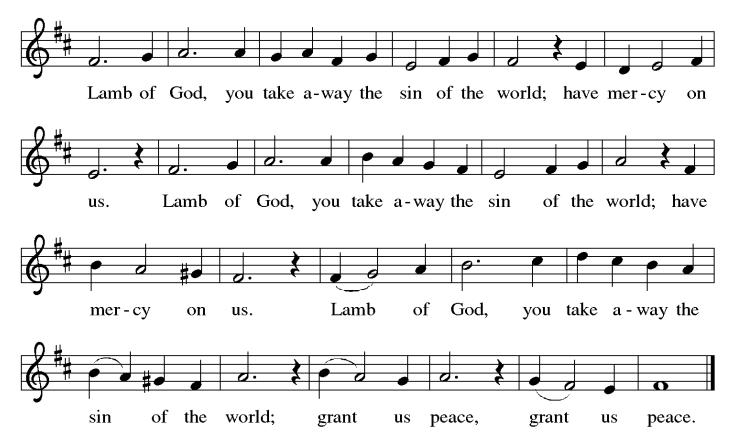
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

(10:30) COMMUNION SOLO

An die Musik Op. 88 No. 4 Text: Franz von Schober (1796-1882)

Carolyn Lansom, alto

Please see text printed on pg. 16 at the 8:30 Offering Solo.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

The Old Church, from *Prairie Songs* Text: Della B. Vik (1889-1986)

Stephen Paulus

Franz Schubert

(1797 - 1828)

(1949-2014)

The old church leans nearby a well-worn road. Upon a hill that has no grass or tree, the winds from off the prairie now unload.

The dust they bring around it fitfully.

The path that leads up to the open door is worn and grayed by many toiling feet of us who listen to the Bible lore and once again the old time hymns repeat. And ev'ry Sabbath morning we are still returning to the altar waiting there. A hush, a pray'r, a pause, and voices fill the Master's House with a triumphant air. The old church leans a wry and looks quite odd, but it is beautiful to us and God.

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. 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 of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.** **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee "Hymn to Joy"



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt. **THE DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Live in love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Toccata on 'Great Day'*

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

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, September 17, 2023 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:30 a.m. Flu Clinic (RH)
- 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, September 18, 2023

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

TUESDAY, September 19, 2023

7:00 p.m. Executive Meeting (FR/Zoom)

THURSDAY, September 21, 2023

- 10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)
- 6:00 p.m. Chapel Choir (CH)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

SUNDAY, September 24, 2023 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (w/Chapel Choir) (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)

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



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

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Kathy Crissey. Reader is Daniel Culross. Ushers are Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Prudence Hollands, Charmaine Kaltrider and Joe and Martha Kryszczuk. Acolytes are Tim Yap, Erys Yap, Morgan Leiser, Rowan Leiser and Henry Flynn.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of Robert Hughes by Karen, his sister, and Raúl Saona; and

In Celebration of Holy Trinity's magnificent singers that make up our Choir Family. Welcome back, and thank you for the beauty you create in all of our lives from Justin and Kristen Pomietlarz.

Collection counters are Claire Carmer, Linda Horton and Ron Pellnat.

Council Vice President, Kathy Crissey, 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 our Sunday School students.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

FLU CLINIC: Join us today for the flu clinic from 9:30am to Noon. If you are 65 or older, a specially formulated flu vaccine will be available at the clinic. Get your flu shot early.

*** 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. 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 first rehearsal on Sunday, September 17th at 9:30am in the Music Room downstairs. Ages 5 and above are welcome, and no prior experience is necessary. Feel free to Choir Director Ms. Youth Erin Alexander our contact at youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

CANDLELIGHT VESPERS - New Mid-Week "HT Together" Program: Please join us on Tuesday, October 10 for a new worship and fellowship program. Our goal is to hold this program 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.

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

•Oct 3: meet at HT at 5:30

•Nov 7: meet at Zion at 5:30

•Dec 5: meet at HT at 5:30

WATERCOLOR CLASS with our own Paul Biesinger continues every Thursday from 10am to Noon in Redeemer Hall. Classes are free but you will need to bring your own supplies. All are welcome.

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.



UPCOMING CONCERT

The Eastman-Rochester based choir, VOICES presents "Six Centuries of Psalms" William Weinert, conductor Sponsored by: Black Rock Controls LLC Friday, September 29 at 7:30 pm Free admission with a goodwill offering to benefit the Buffalo Community Music School

"Six Centuries of Psalms" will feature psalm and related musical settings ranging from the Renaissance to the 20th-century. The Motet *Singet dem Herrn* of J. S. Bach will be featured, as well as music of Lassus, Schütz, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Distler, and Georg Schumann.

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 <u>kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org</u> 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

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