

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Buffalo, New York

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Buffalo, New York

Sunday, September 24, 2023 Seventeenth 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

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

#### **PRELUDE**

Joyous from Exaltations

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name." Philippians 2:9

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.

Lord of Light "Abbott's Leigh"



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
Text © Union of Welsh Independents.
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **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.

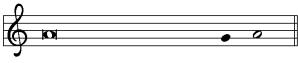
Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

#### **GREETING**

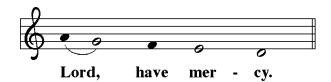
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

# **KYRIE**

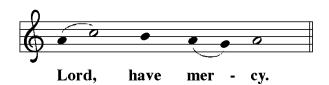


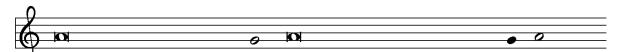
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



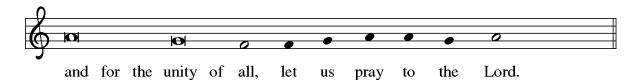


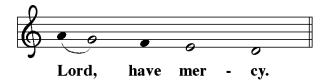
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





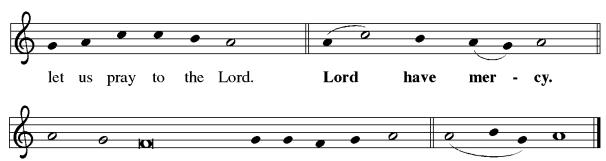
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







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.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity 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: Jonah 3:1---4:11

The first reading for the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Jonah, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Chapters.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(8:30)

#### **CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

## THE ANTHEM

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,

O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

# (10:30) THE ANTHEM

Green Fields

Text: John Newton (1725-1807)

Southern hymn tune arr. Virgil Thomson (1896–1989)

How tedious and tasteless the hours when Jesus no longer I see! Sweet prospects, sweet birds, and sweet flowers have all lost their sweetness to me. The midsummer sun shines but dim; the fields strive in vain to look gay; but when I am happy in Him, December's as pleasant as May.

His Name yields the richest perfume, and sweeter than music His voice; His presence disperses my gloom, and makes all within me rejoice. I should, were He always thus nigh, have nothing to wish or to fear; no mortal so happy as I, my summer would last all the year.

Content with beholding His face, my all to His pleasure resigned; no changes of season or place would make any change in my mind; while blessed with a sense of His love, a palace of joy would appear, and prisons would palaces prove if Jesus would dwell with me there.

Dear Lord, if indeed I am Thine, if Thou art my sun and my song, say, why do I languish and pine, and why are my winters so long? O, drive these dark clouds from my sky; Thy soul-cheering presence restore; or take me unto Thee on high, where winter and clouds are no more.

# **SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30**

The second reading for today is recorded in Philippians, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu -

#### **GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



ia.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

<sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

So they went. 5When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. 6And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' 9When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The gospel of the Lord.



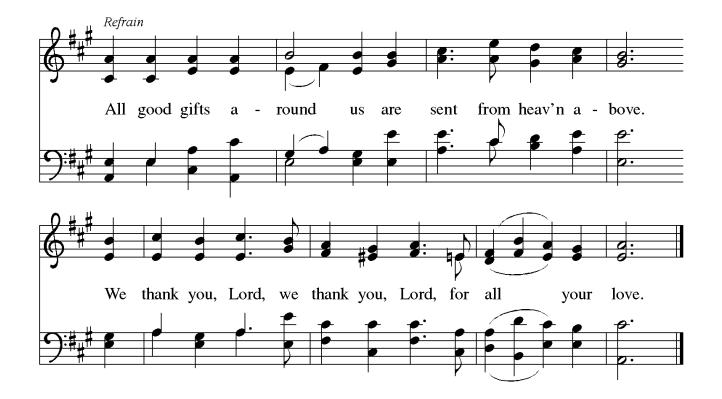
Please be seated.

# THE SERMON

The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.





Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt. Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

#### **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

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, 'tis you, Lord, made them all. In your wisdom and in your love you created us. Rich or poor, wise or simple, powerful or weak, of great influence or hardly noticed, of many colors and languages and faiths, you created us. Keep us ever mindful that we are expressions of your great love, loved by you still, and that you have placed us just here so that we may search for you, and perhaps grope for you, and find you, for you are not far from any one of us. In that same mercy, O God, receive our prayers for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

# A brief silence.

God who is gracious and merciful, teach us to invite and welcome all into the blessing of true community, and keep us grateful for our place in it. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

God who sends the wind and the sun, you know each of your creatures, great or small, by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you, and show us how to care for them as good and faithful stewards. Merciful God,

#### receive our prayer.

God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in your love in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

God who saves, direct those who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children, especially Andrew and Anna, from all that would draw them away from you. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, inspire us to find purpose, gratitude, and abundance in whatever vocation we are called to and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God beyond all times and seasons of life, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. Keep us united with them in spirit, and hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. 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)

#### ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

O Give Thanks

Joseph Corfe (1740-1820) Arr. James Kirkby

O give thanks unto the Lord, the Lord is good; For his steadfast love endures forever more.

(10:30)

#### ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

God, Stir the Soil

Roland Martin (b. 1955)

Text: Prayer from Singapore, anonymous

Anna Mattix, oboe

God, stir the soil, run the plough-share deep, overturn the hard, dry ground. Spare no strength nor toil, even though I weep. In the loose, fresh mangled earth sow new seed. Free of withered vine and weed bring fair flow'rs to birth.

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

**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.

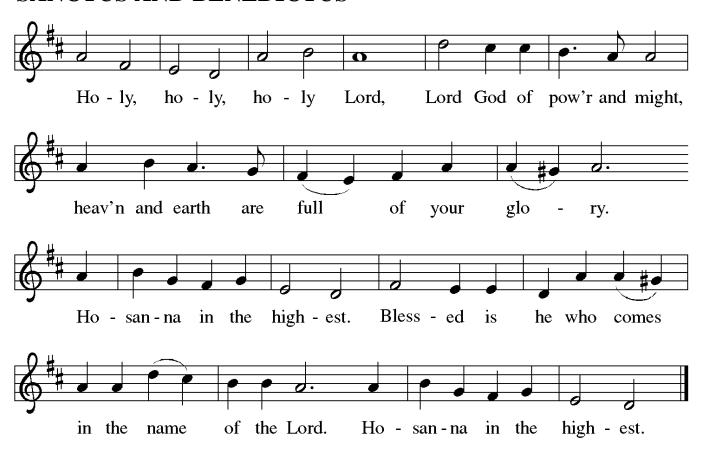
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

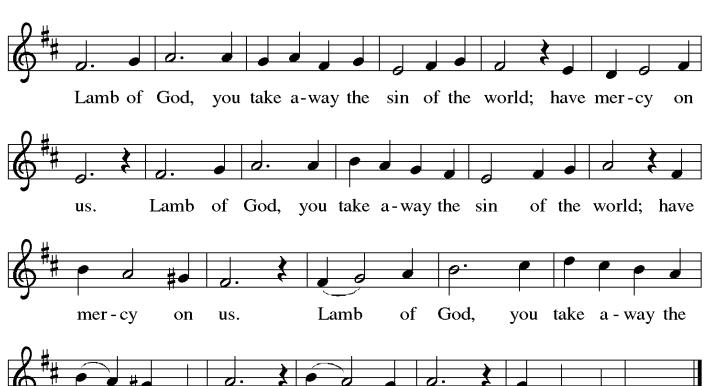
#### THE AGNUS DEI

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grant

us

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.

#### MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Reflective from Exaltations (2001)

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." Matthew 23: 12

(10:30)

#### **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

Christ the Appletree

Text: compiled by Joshua Smith, 1784

Stanford Scriven

(b. 1988)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green; the trees of nature fruitless be, compar'd with Christ the appletree. This beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but ne'er can tell the glory which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the appletree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought; miss'd of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the appletree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the appletree. I'm weary'd with my former toil; here I will sit and rest a while; under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the appletree.

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.

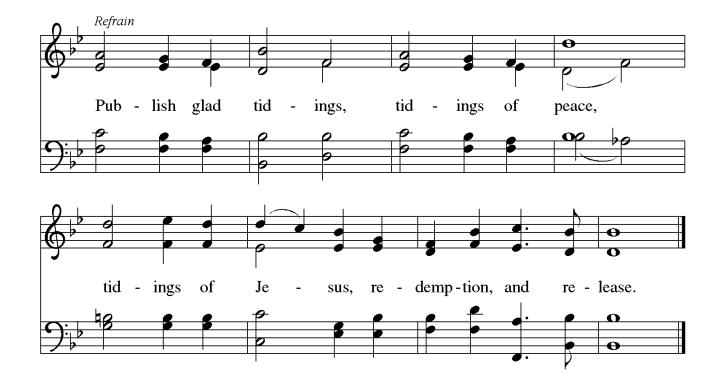
Amen.

# **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

O Zion, Haste "Angelic Songs"

**ELW 668** 





Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923 Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Welch, 1837–1901

#### THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Heralding* from *Exaltations* 

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34:3

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 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)

#### MONDAY, September 25, 2023

9:30 a.m. Bible Study (FR)

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

#### TUESDAY, September 26, 2023

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (RH)

### WEDNESDAY, September 27, 2023

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CR)

#### THURSDAY, September 28, 2023

10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)

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

# FRIDAY, September 29, 2023

7:30 p.m. Voices Concert (MC)

# 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)



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer and reader is Todd Kroening. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Brandon Howard.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Elizabeth Vihnanek. Reader is John Girdlestone. Ushers are Marty Bauer, Matthew Brown, Carole Casterline, Roger Draper, Craig Johnson and Juan Perez. Acolytes are Maddie Brown, Avery Best, Adrianna Wareham and Max Hakansson.

The flowers on the altar are given: In Loving Memory of The Rev. John A. Buerk by the Buerk Family.

Collection counters are Mike Day, Karen Kolb and Sue Spindler.

Council Member, Elizabeth Vihnanek, 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 Andrew and Anna Scinta.

# **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. This week's theme is "Emancipation, Reconstruction, Retreat: 1865-1945." 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. 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. 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 Youth Choir Director Ms. Erin Alexander youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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>.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Each Sunday, the beautiful vases of flowers gracing the chancel are often dedicated by members of our congregation in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Looking ahead, the following date is available - October 15 1-2 vases. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for this or any other specific date during the year. She can be reached at <a href="mailto:msmarylschmidt@gmail.com">msmarylschmidt@gmail.com</a> or 716-835-3325. Vases are currently \$50.00 each.

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.

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

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

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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