



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, November 19, 2023  
Twenty-Fifth 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

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

## **PRELUDE**

*Saraband (In Modo Elegiac)*

Herbert Howells  
(1892-1983)

## ***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

*Light Dawns on a Weary World* “Temple of Peace”

ELW 726



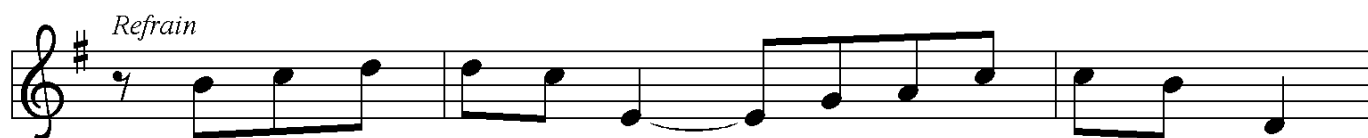
1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

*(10:30)*

*You are invited to kneel or sit, as you are able.*

Let us humble ourselves before God, confessing our sin.

Holy One,  
**we confess that we are not awake for you.**  
**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**  
**We forget the least of our siblings.**  
**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**  
**We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.**  
**Open our hearts to your coming,**  
**open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**  
**open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children,  
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.  
Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome,  
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!  
Let us live in the promises prepared for us  
from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

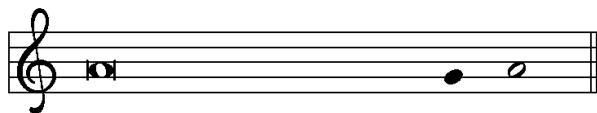
*(10:30)*

*Please stand as you are able.*

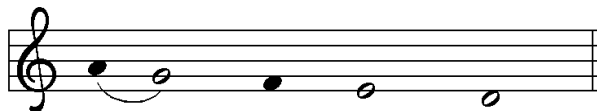
## GREETING

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.**

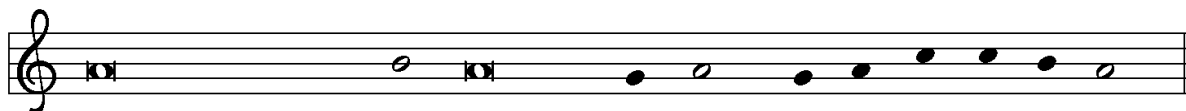
# KYRIE



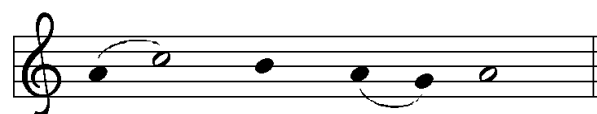
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



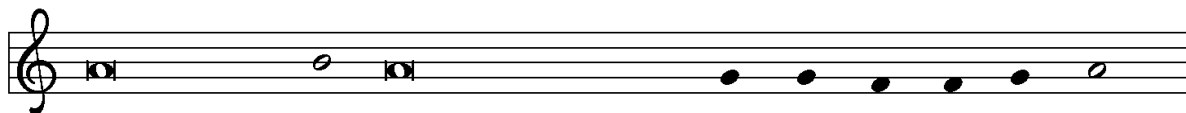
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



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

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.

**Righteous and merciful God, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**(10:30)**

**A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Richard Neal

### **FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

The first reading for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost is recorded in Zephaniah, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
“The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.



<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**(8:30)**

**THE ANTHEM**

*Keep Your Lamps*

African American Spiritual

André J. Thomas (b. 1952)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning the time is drawing nigh.

Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

(10:30)

## THE ANTHEM

*Libera me* from *Requiem* Op. 9, Mvmt. VIII

Maurice Duruflé  
(1902–1986)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

Deliver me, O Lord,  
from eternal death  
on that dreadful day  
when the heavens  
and the earth shall be moved,  
and Thou shalt come  
to judge the world by fire.  
I quake with fear and I tremble  
awaiting the day of account  
and the wrath to come,  
when the heavens  
and the earth shall be moved.  
Day of mourning, day of wrath,  
of calamity, of misery,  
the great day,  
and most bitter.

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The second reading for today is recorded in 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians, the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

<sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

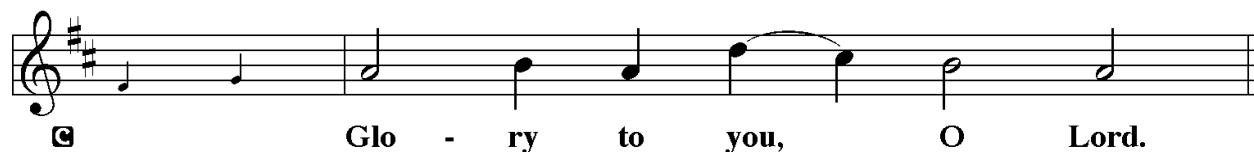
*Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew



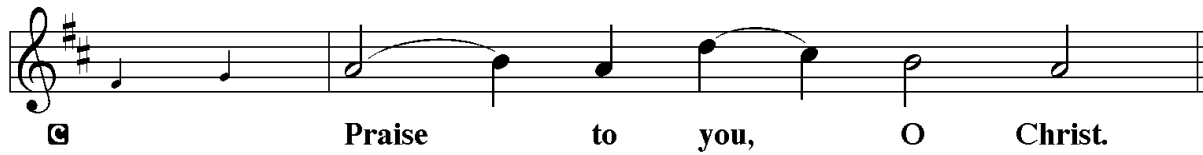
[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.

Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

<sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.'

<sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.



*Please be seated.*

## **THE SERMON**


The Rev. Richard Neal

*Please stand as you are able.*



# SERMON HYMN

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* “Rustington”



ELW 678





1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



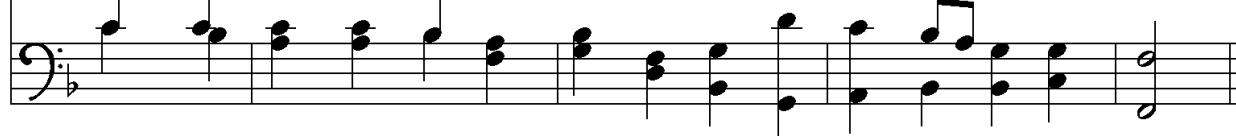
na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.



Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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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**

O Blessed Silence, God beyond words, draw us now into your perfect stillness as we approach you in prayer. By your presence, still our minds and quiet our hearts so we may listen before we speak, and even in our speaking we may hear your word of healing for us and all creation, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve all families of the earth. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. Remember in mercy those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... . Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, especially Ryan and Madelyn, our youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. We remember with gratitude the life, love and faith of John Schleifer. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**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 ANTHEM**

*Spirit Truth, Pure Light of Love*

Text: Carol McClure

Robert J. Powell

(b. 1932)

Spirit Truth, pure Light of Love,  
Guiding Light of God above;  
Make Your beacon ours;  
Inspire us to shine so all may know  
The radiance of the Spirit's own  
Revealing power.

Spirit Wind, sweet Song of Love,  
Stirring Song of God above,  
Make Your music ours;  
Excite us to sing so all may know  
The anthem of the Spirit's own  
Resounding power.

Spirit Fire, fierce Breath of Love,  
Blazing Breath of God above,  
Make Your passion ours;  
Impel us to live so all may know  
The fervor of the Spirit's own  
Resplendent power.

**(10:30)**

### **THE ANTHEM**

*Ecce sacerdos magnus*

Text: Ecclesiastes 44:16-17

Edward Elgar

(1857–1934)

Behold a great priest,  
who in his days pleased God  
and was found righteous.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.**

**Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.  
Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
“Old Hundredth”

ELW 885

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.**

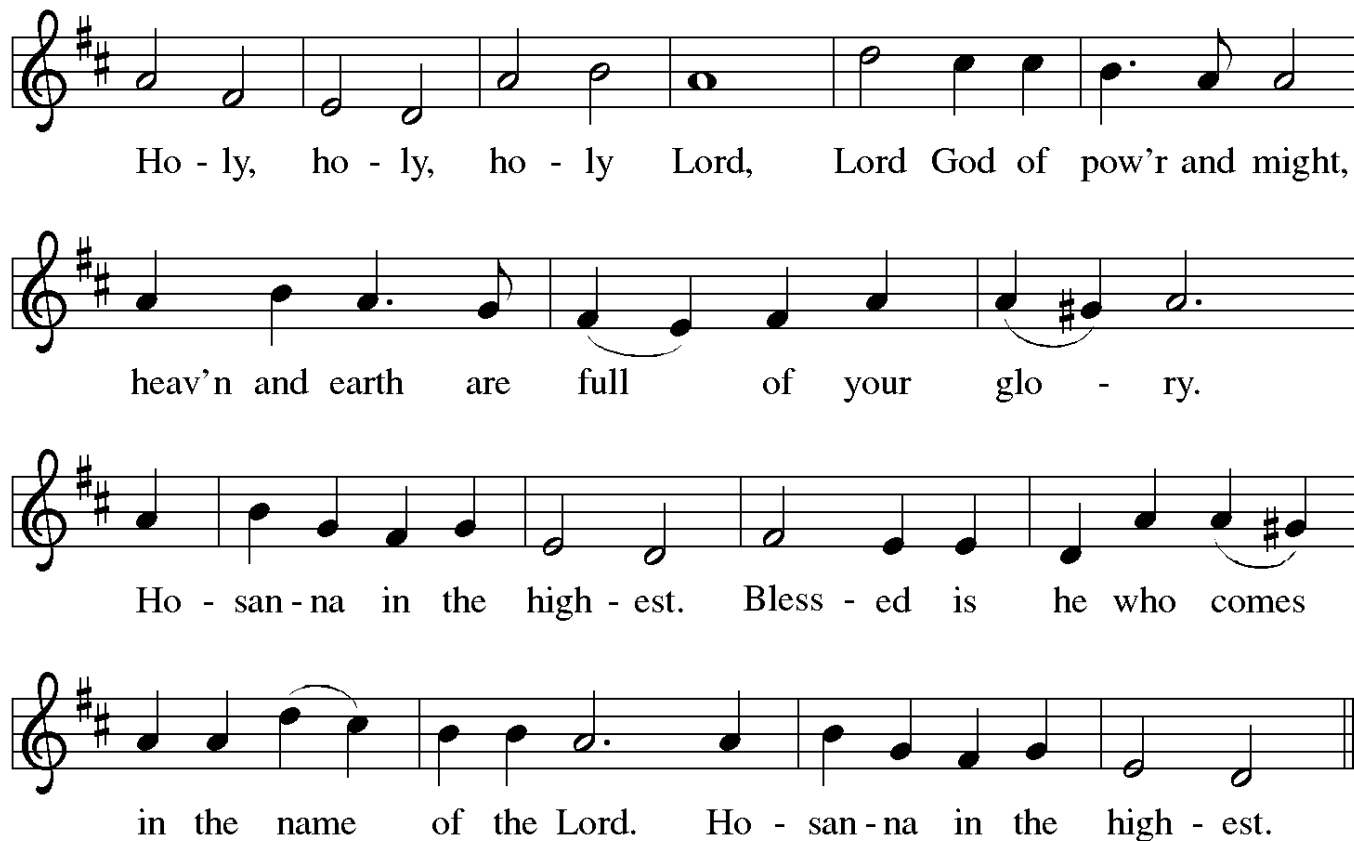
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff contains 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff contains 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff contains 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' and ends with a double bar line. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many whole and half notes.

## 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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*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 ANTHEM

*Just as I Am*

Text: Charlotte Elliot (1789–1871)

Bob Chilcott  
(b. 1955)

Just as I am, without one plea  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bid'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though toss'd about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings within and fears without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine along,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

*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.

**Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.**

**Sustain us on the journey,  
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,  
and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.  
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**

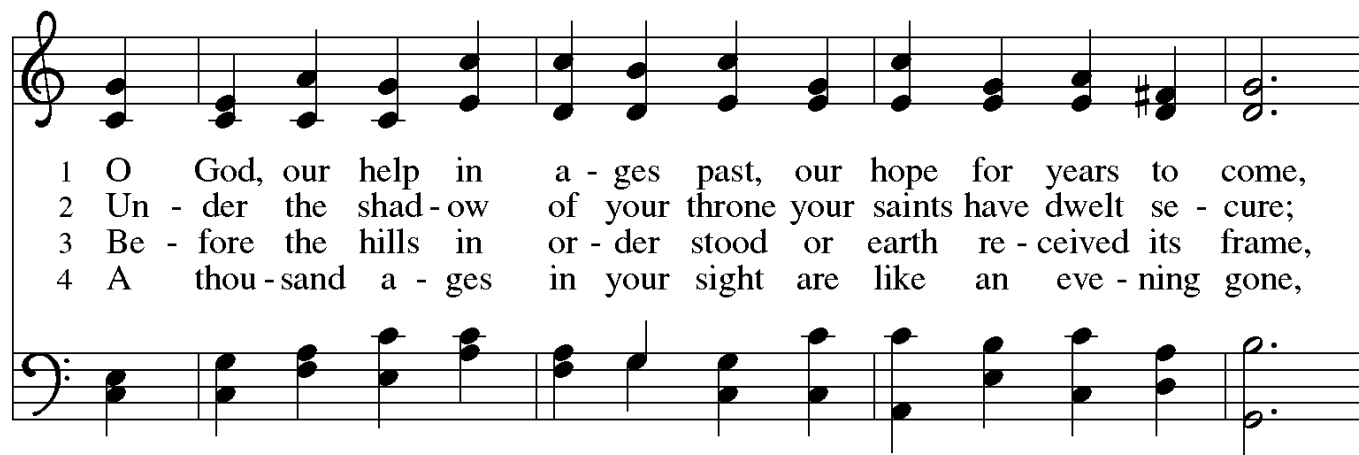
May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always. **Amen.**



## RECESSIONAL HYMN

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past* “St. Anne”

ELW 632



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Beloved of God,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Carillon Toccata*

Douglas E. Wagner  
(b. 1952)

*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, November 19, 2023 – 25<sup>th</sup> 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 (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, November 20, 2023**

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

### **WEDNESDAY, November 22, 2023**

- 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Service (CH)

### **THURSDAY, November 23, 2023** *Happy Thanksgiving*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### **FRIDAY, November 24, 2023**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### **SATURDAY, November 25, 2023**

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

### **SUNDAY, November 26, 2023 – Christ the King Sunday**

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Greening of the Church
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)

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CH = Mansperger Chapel

FR = Fellowship Room

MR = Music Room

SC = Sacristy

CI = Crib Room

FI = Fireside Room/Library

PS = Pastor's Study

SS = Sunday School

CR = Conference Room

MC = Main Church

RH = Redeemer Hall

YR = Youth Room



At 8:30 a.m. the announcer and reader is Dave Ulrich. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Max Hakansson.

At 10:30 a.m. the announcer is Linda Horton. Reader is Tim Flynn. Ushers are Marty Bauer, Matthew Brown, Carole Casterline, Roger Draper, Craig Johnson and Dave Pellnat. Acolytes are Tim Yap, Erys Yap, Morgan Leiser, Rowan Leiser and Henry Flynn.

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Thanksgiving for the blessing of our grandchildren, Andrew and Abigail, who celebrate their birthdays this month by Barb and Larry Wozniak;

and

In Loving Memory of Kenneth James on what would have been his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday by John and Gail Camilleri;

and

In Loving Memory of my sister, Elizabeth Morton Schaal by Marty Kutas.

Collection counters are Paul and Karen Bauchle and Neil Kattermann.

Council Secretary, Linda Horton, 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 Ryan and Madelyn Wolf.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP:** For many, Christmas is a joyous season with family and friends, parties and laughter. But for many others, Christmas is not these things. Grief, loss, loneliness ... these are especially poignant during this season. This year as Advent begins, we are reminded that we are not alone. It's ok to feel these things and bring them with us to church as we experience the light of Christ that shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it (John 1:5). Please share this invitation with people who you know may be experiencing these things. Join us on Friday, December 1 @ 7:00pm in the chapel.

**HOLIDAY BASKETS:** The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee will be collecting food and cash donations for our holiday baskets through December 15. All non-perishable food items will be used for the baskets. Cash donations to help provide gift certificates can be sent to the church office and designated "holiday baskets". Thank you for your donations.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER** will be held Friday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in Redeemer Hall. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$40 for family. Reservation forms can be found on the tables in the entrance ways, in the newsletter or in the weekly email.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** Once again the congregation is being asked to contribute toward the purchase of poinsettias which will be placed in the chancel for Christmas. Flowers are \$12 each and may be given in memory or honor of someone. Order forms can be found at the entrance ways, in the newsletter or in the weekly email.

**HT WALKS TOGETHER:** All are invited to join Uli MacDonald for a 'gratitude' walk at Forest Lawn Cemetery on Saturday, November 25 at 11 am, rain or shine. We will meet at the chapel in the Cemetery at 10:55am.

**MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** With Christmas decorations beginning to pop up around town, it's not too early to consider: How we might prepare for Advent to make it a richer and more rewarding season leading to the celebration of a more authentic Christmas? That's the question Pastor Rich is helping us consider during the Monday Morning Bible Study series, "Preparing for Advent". Join us in the Fellowship Room from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. to enjoy some refreshments, join in some stimulating conversation with old and new friends, and experience a renewing encounter with the scriptures. Everyone is welcome to participate (and to bring a friend).

**TUTORS NEEDED:** The Somali Bantu Afterschool Program, located at 695 Elmwood Avenue, is looking for volunteer tutors to help children from pre-K through grade 6 with their homework. They meet Monday through Thursday from 3:30–5:00. If anyone would be interested in tutoring, even one day a week, please contact Donna Leiser at [dleiser@roadrunner.com](mailto:dleiser@roadrunner.com).



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and plan to attend our beautiful  
**6th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols,**  
Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 7:00 pm  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main Street  
featuring Congregational Readers and the  
UB Choir and Chamber Singers  
Claudia Brown, *conductor*  
Kristen Pomietlarz, *organ*

## **2023 HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**



**THANKSGIVING SERVICE  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22  
6:30 p.m. Worship Service**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service**

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24  
4:00 p.m. Family Service  
9:45 p.m. Preservice music  
10:30 p.m. Festival candlelight service with Holy Communion**

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25  
10:30 a.m. Christmas service (Chapel)**

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, *Lead Pastor*

[pastorwilson@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:pastorwilson@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Richard Neal, *Intentional Interim Pastor*

[richneal@together.net](mailto:richneal@together.net)

### **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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