



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, April 7, 2024
Second Sunday of Easter
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

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

PRELUDE

Full Sun

Ronald Perera

(b. 1941)

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

Thine Is the Glory "Judas Maccabaeus"

ELW 376

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

(10:30)

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

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

(10:30)

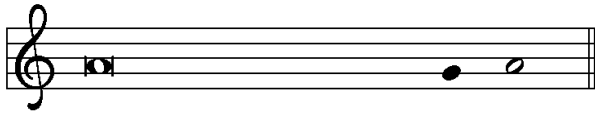
Please stand as you are able.

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.

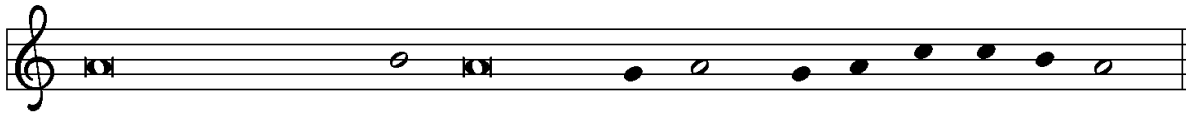
KYRIE



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.



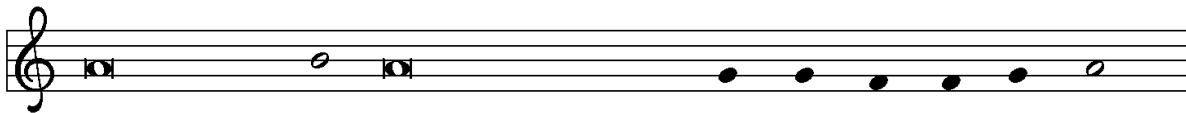
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



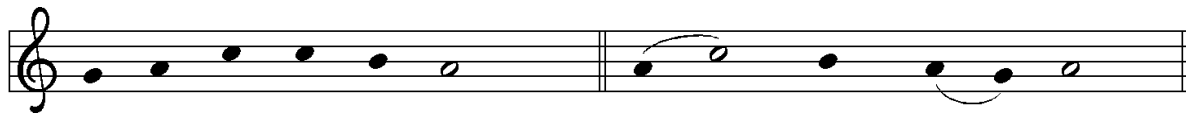
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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

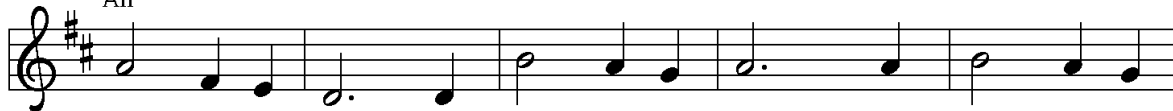
Refrain

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.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

The first reading for the Second Sunday of Easter is recorded in Acts, the 4th Chapter.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness Op. 99 No. 5

Text: Psalm 145:1-7 and 144:9

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

I will sing new songs, I will sing new songs of gladness,
I will sing Jehovah's praises upon a ten-string psaltery.
Ev'ry day will I extol Thee and will bless Thy Holy Name,
I will bless Thy Holy Name.
Great is God and great His mercy.
Who shall tell of all His greatness ?
Who shall His pow'r declare ?
My song shall be of praise and honor, and of Thy glorious acts.
They works are wonderful, past our knowing.
Yeah, men shall tell of Thy great kindness
and of They wond'rous might,
and my voice shall proclaim aloud Thy Glory.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2

The second reading for today is recorded in 1st John, the 1st and 2nd Chapters.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

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

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John

Glo - ry to you, O Lord. 3

doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

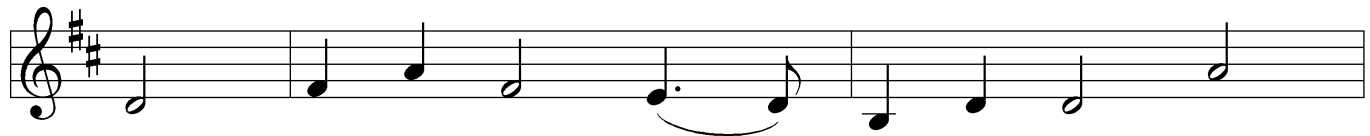
The Rev. Richard Neal

Please stand as you are able.

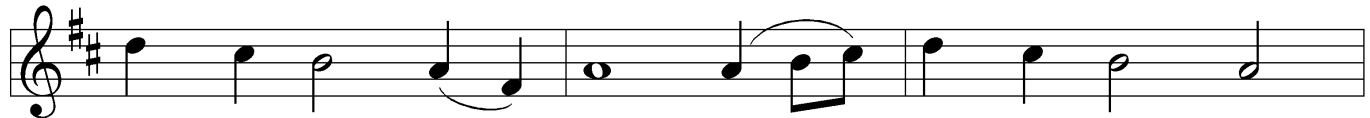
SERMON HYMN

We Walk By Faith and Not by Sight “Dunlap’s Creek”

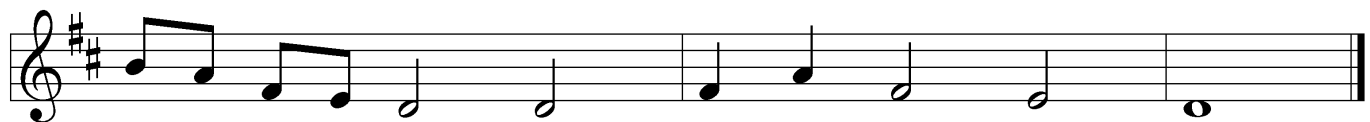
WOV 675



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF PASTOR AND PEOPLE

Even as good news of Resurrection echoes around us, O God of new life, we know that evidence of life beyond the darkness of this life is often scarce in our sight. At times we feel so like Thomas, the disciple of courage, the disciple of faith, who was also the disciple of doubt. Give us such faith that even in the midst of doubt we may remain steadfast and rejoice in the smallest signs of emergent new life. As we rejoice that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, help us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. We ask that you watch over all our children, and especially Joy and Oscar. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts....God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your people cry out, O God, and you listen. We give thanks and honor for Leah Behrens and remember Gerrie Ann and John Schleifer, through today's flower dedications. God of Grace,
hear our prayer.

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of all who now rest in you. Comfort the family and friends of our brother in Haiti, Timizou, and all who were touched by his life and ministry. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living 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

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

The Holy City

Text: F.E. Weatherly (1848-1929)

Stephen Adams

(1844–1913)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

Last night I lay a sleeping, there came a dream so fair; I stood in old Jerusalem beside the temple there. I heard the children singing, and everywhere as they sang, me thought the voice of angles from heaven in answer rang: Jerusalem, Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing: Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your king!

Then me thought my dream was changed the streets no longer rang, hushed were the glad Hosannas the little children sang. The sun grew dark with mystery; the morn was cold and chill, as the shadow of a cross arose upon a lonely hill. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Hark! how the angels sing. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to your king.

And once again the scene was changed, new earth there seemed to be. I saw the holy city beside the tideless sea; the light of God was on its streets, the gates were open wide, and all who would might enter, and no one was denied. No need of moon or stars by night or sun to shine by day. It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass a way. Jerusalem, Jerusalem sing for the night is o'er! Hosanna in the highest, hosanna forever more.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

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



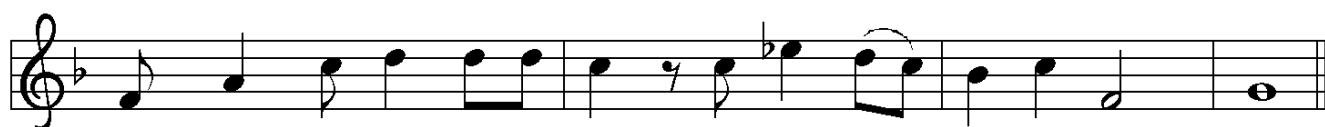
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts,
put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalt those of low degree.
You fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty.
Your own Son came among us as a servant
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.
He humbled himself in obedience to your will
and freely accepted death on a cross.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us . . .
When the supper was over 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, and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by Christ's blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

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.

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.

Shepherding God,

**you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.**

**Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.**

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.

THE BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! "Gelobt Sei Gott" ELW 385

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joyce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joyce and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615

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THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Alleluias

Robert Lau
(b. 1943)



*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.*

*There will be no coffee hour today,
we will continue next Sunday following the 10:30 Service.*

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, April 7, 2024 – Second Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:00 a.m. Family Play Group (RH)
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)
- 12:00 p.m. CGN Service (CH)

MONDAY, April 8, 2024 *Solar Eclipse*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, April 9, 2024

- 12:00 p.m. Women at the Well (FI)
- 6:30 p.m. Vespers Service (CH)

WEDNESDAY, April 10, 2024

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

THURSDAY, April 11, 2024

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

SATURDAY, April 13, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Strategic Planning Session II (RH)

SUNDAY, April 14, 2024 – Third Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:00 a.m. Family Play Group (RH)
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/baptism (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)
- 12:00 p.m. Evangelical Outreach Meeting (FR)

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 Judy Kroll. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Henry Peterson.

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

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of Gerrie Ann and John Schleifer by Lynn and Anthony Glieco; and

In Honor of my daughter Leah Behrens' birthday on April 1 by Thomas Johnson.

Collection counters are Paul and Karen Bauchle and Linda Horton.

Council Member, Matthew Brown, 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 Joy Greenough and Oscar Guzzino.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR JEFF will be away this weekend for his mom's funeral in Houston, TX. Please pray for safe travel and a meaningful celebration of Betsy's life. You can read her obituary at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/houston-tx/elizabeth-barberree-11702727>.

EASTER LILIES: The Easter flowers are available. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a family member or a friend. They will be available following today's service.

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow for the Solar Eclipse.

PLANT SALE - LAST CALL! Forgot your form last week? Get your form to Jen Yap today by the 10:30 service. Many of the hanging basket options have sold out; Jen will contact you if any parts of your order need to be modified. Thanks for your support!

HELP US RESPOND AND PLAN OUR FUTURE IN FAITH: We need your help *and your leadership*. In only six days we'll gather to begin charting HT's path in ministry for the next three to five years. Who are we as a people? Who has a stake in how well we live our vision of the gospel? What do we need (including what kind of relationships and with whom) in order to make our vision real? Join us in Redeemer Hall on Saturday, Apr. 13, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, as we tackle questions about how we will respond to the hunger for abundant life in the world today.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: If you have a child who has not received First Communion, Pastor Jeff is planning a First Communion class on Saturday, May 4, from 9:00am - 12:00pm in Redeemer Hall. They will receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day), at the 10:30am service. We ask that at least one parent, godparent, or grandparent attend. To register or for questions, please contact the church office.

NEW MEMBERS' & INQUIRERS' CLASS: Are you considering becoming a member at Holy Trinity? Pastor Jeff welcomes you to a conversation about Lutheranism, Christianity, and membership on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 12:30pm in the Conference Room in the church office. You are invited to enjoy the coffee hour in Redeemer Hall (beneath the Main Church) before class. Those who would like to join will be received into membership on Sunday, April 28, 2024. If you have questions or would like to attend this engaging class, please contact the church office at info@holytrinitybuffalo.org or 716-886-2400.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Starting Monday, April 15, Dave Ulrich will be presenting a four-week series on "The American Presidency," focusing on the reasoning for creating the office, its original form, how the office has developed over two centuries, and how the selection process for the president has evolved over the past two centuries. Programs start at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. All are welcome (and invite your friends).

THE PRAYER CHAIN is a part of the HT Cares Team Ministry. If you would like to have someone you know be prayed for by a member of the Prayer Chain or be a Pray-er (someone who prays for a group of people) please contact the church office.

STEWARDSHIP – ENVIRONMENT: The Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper's 2024 Spring Sweep, which is part of the annual Great Lakes CleanUP, will take place on Saturday, April 20 from 10am-12pm. Uli MacDonald will be helping at Unity Island but there are many other sites to choose from. If interested, please sign up for a site at bnwaterkeeper.org/cleanups and join thousands of others to help keep our waterways and communities trash free!

EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE BUFFALO is a local organization that brings volunteers from Buffalo and across the country together to offer free home repairs for families in need this summer. An interest meeting will be held on April 18 at 10:00am at Friendship Baptist Church (402 Clinton St, Buffalo, NY 14204).

UPDATE FROM THE HAITI MISSION TEAM: The team met last week, and we continue to look for ways to continue to support the Caribbean Children's Foundation. As the situation in Haiti remains very dangerous, there is no travel planned for the foreseeable future, but we continue to work on this mission from afar. We are an active committee who are always looking for interested individuals to join us. Guy Huber serves as President of the Board of the Foundation and will be attending another board meeting in May. The team made the decision at the last meeting to send \$1,000 to provide a community meal that will feed up to 300 individuals on the island of Ile a Vache. Half of the funds for this came from the Haiti Mission fund and half from the Hospitality fund. We have been involved in this work for almost 10 years. School sponsorships are always needed and if you are interested in sponsoring a student, please reach out to Donna Leiser who can give you more details. Stay tuned for another fundraiser later in the year! A big thank you to the congregation for your ongoing support of this mission.

BURRITO PROJECT: Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our most recent Burrito Project event on April 2. We distributed many of the socks collected during Lent. Barb and Gail purchased burrito supplies, cookies and water. Neil, Pam, Fran, Jerry, Lauren, Ethan, Gail and Jen made over 100 burritos. We distributed all of the food to people near the downtown bus station. Please consider joining us for the next event held at Holy Trinity on June 4.

SOCIAL MEDIA TASK FORCE: The Social Media Task Force will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss next steps. Please contact the church office or Jen Yap if you are interested in joining this team.

SPRING CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY/EMERGENCY RESPONSE BEST PRACTICES: The Niagara Frontier Spring Conference Assembly will take place at St Paul's Amherst Campus on Sunday April 14. It will start with a training session. The training will take a look at the different types of emergency responses, current practices of local law enforcement/EMS, best practices for community spaces and deepen our understanding of how churches can respond more successfully. Throughout Erie County and nationwide, we find much more successful responses and resiliency when communities spend time in pre-incident training and Emergency Action Plan (EAP) preparations. Each congregation is welcomed to bring as many folks as are interested in attending. However, only two members may be considered voting members for conference business. The business portion will not take long. Besides reports our main action item will be accepting nominations for Synod Council and the Church Wide Assembly. If you are interested in attending some or all of the conference meeting, please notify the church office by Tuesday (Apr 9) so we can provide an accurate headcount to Dean Jeremiah.

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

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Linda Lipczynski, *Office Manager*

Carol Littlefield, *Parish Accountant*

Andrew Kraus, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*

Charles Ryniec, *Steward of Buildings and Grounds*

Erin Alexander, *Youth Choir Director*

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

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The Rev. Richard Neal, *Pastor for Parish and Spiritual Development*

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