



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Thanksgiving Service
November 27, 2024
Celebrating our 146th Anniversary

Holy Communion – 12:00 & 7:00 pm

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.

Connection Card

The Connection Card insert gives you a direct connection to the leaders and ministry at Holy Trinity. Ask questions, share prayer requests, and find out more about the ministry here. Please return the top portion in the offering plate or to an usher.



Please see back page for AED Instructions

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier"

Paul Fey
(b. 1998)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing "Nettleton"

ELW 807

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.

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all God's gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea:
we thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of all people, revealing the image of Christ:
we thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends:
we thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve:
we thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work and leisure to rest and play:
we thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful
in adversity:
we thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice:
we thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places:
we thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises
given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord,
**to him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.**
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new
every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your
goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing
obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew

[Jesus said,] ²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”³

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God “Nun Danket Alle Gott”

ELW 840

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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

We praise you, O Lord, for you alone are God. Give to your church a holy curiosity to ask questions and build bridges across difference. Sustain ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, help us to engage in respectful and faithful dialogue with Indigenous neighbors who find this day difficult. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We praise you for green pastures and abundant harvests. Feed us with the fruit of the earth, the work of human hands. Bless those who labor in fields and factories for the food that nourishes and strengthens us. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We praise you for leaders who seek justice and equity for all. For all elected officials, we pray. Guide them to prioritize the common good over narrow individualism. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We praise you for your tender care. Be present with those who weep this day. Lead them through their sorrow and tears into shouts of joy. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We praise you for our community of faith. You have brought us this far by faith. In times of worry and uncertainty, renew our trust in your abundance. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We praise you for your saints who now feast at your eternal banquet. Sustain us by their faithful lives of gratitude until that day when we join them at your table. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,
you offered yourself in love for the world,
and in this meal you nourish us with your life.**

**Fill us with your abundance,
that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,
trusting in your name.**

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Come eat and drink; there is a place for you at the table of our Lord. Communion is received by "intinction" - you will be offered the wafer (gluten-free is available) and you dip the wafer into either the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (ceramic chalice).

Pre-filled communion cups are also available for those who prefer less physical contact. People who do not receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. Please advise an usher if you would like the pastors to bring communion to you in your pew.

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.

Faithful God,

**you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink
in the body and blood of your Son.**

**Now send us out to labor with you,
in service to the world you have made,
and among the people you have made your home,
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

The Ancient One, enthroned,
the Crucified One, now risen,
the Indwelling One, poured out,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

We Praise You, O God “Kremser”

ELW 870


THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

God is Our Strength and Refuge

Eric Coates (1886-1957)
Arr. J. Barnard (b. 1948)



A Blessed Thanksgiving to All!

Thank you to our guest organist, Doug Alderdice.

2024 HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



BLUE CHRISTMAS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
12:00 pm Service (Chapel)
7:00 pm Service (Chapel)

7TH ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 | 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24
4:00 pm Family Service
9:45 pm Preservice music
10:30 pm Festival candlelight service of Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
10:30 am Christmas service (Chapel)

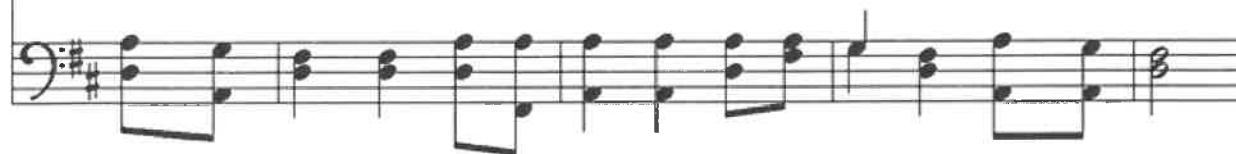
PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing "Nettleton"

ELW 807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



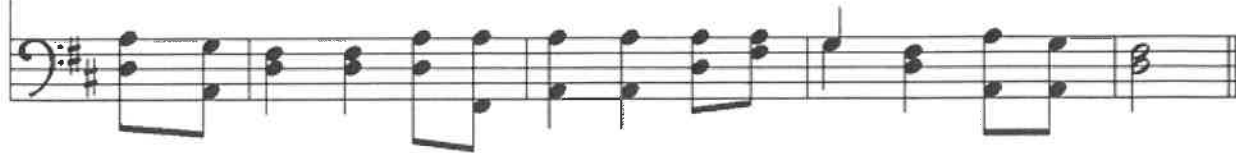
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



SERMON HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God "Nun Danket Alle Gott"

ELW 840

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

We Praise You, O God "Kremser"

ELW 870

1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Jennifer Yap, *President*

Kathy Biesinger, *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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Carol Littlefield, *Parish Accountant*

Andrew Kraus, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*

Charles Ryniec, *Steward of Buildings and Grounds*

Erin Alexander, *Youth Choir Director*

youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

Johnetta Kenner, *Security*

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

pastorwilson@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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

pastor.rich@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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