



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent
Celebrating our 146th Anniversary

Holy Communion – 8:30 & 10:30 am

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

INTRODUCTION

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn “Rejoice, Rejoice”

ELW 242

PASTORAL GREETING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

(10:30)

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority
more than we trust you.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through † Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.
Amen.

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.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

While we light the Advent Wreath we sing together:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel “Veni Emmanuel”

ELW 257, vs. 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

(10:30)

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The first reading for the First Sunday of Advent is recorded in Jeremiah, the 33rd Chapter.

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SOLO

Loveliest of Trees from *Six Songs from A Shropshire Lad*

Text: Alfred Edward Housman (1859-1936)

George Butterworth

(1885-1916)

Amie Adams, *soprano*

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough
And stands about the woodland ride
Wearing white for Eastertide

Now, of my threescore years and ten
Twenty will not come again
And take from seventy springs a score
It only leaves me fifty more

And since to look at things in bloom
Fifty springs are little room
About the woodlands I will go
To see the cherry hung with snow

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The second reading for today is recorded in 1st Thessalonians, the 3rd Chapter.

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.

¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



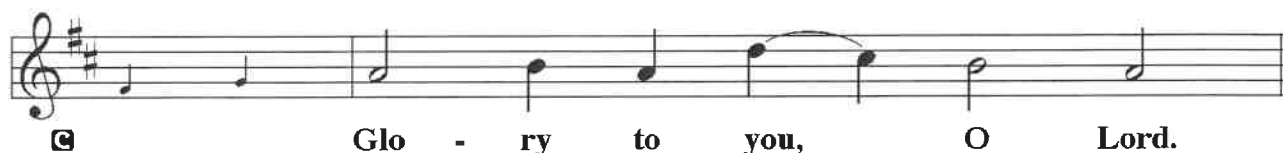
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



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

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke



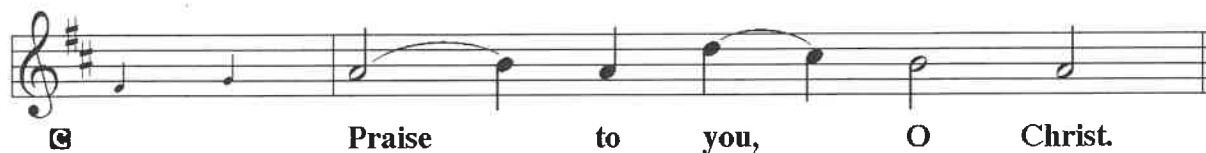
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Now My People “Freu dich sehr”

ELW 256

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

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another and all our children, especially Casen and Devin. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died, especially Sarah and James Bigham, and Cornelia Ball who we remember through today's flower dedication. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

THE SOLO

A Simple Song from *Mass* (1971)

Text: Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948) and Leonard Bernstein

Leonard Bernstein
(1918–1990)

Amie Adams, *soprano*

Sing God a simple song: lauda, laude. Make it up as you go along: lauda, laude.
Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will
sing His praises while I live all of my days. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,
blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, lauda, lauda. And walks in His ways, I
will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice
to the Lord singing lauda, laude.

For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand, and the sun shall not
smite me by day nor the moon by night. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,
lauda, lauda, laude, and walks in His ways.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Creator God,

you made the whole world,

even the farthest stars,

and you feed us with your abiding presence.

We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.

Strengthen us with this food

that we may live in expectation

for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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, 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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

...

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

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.

AGNUS DEI



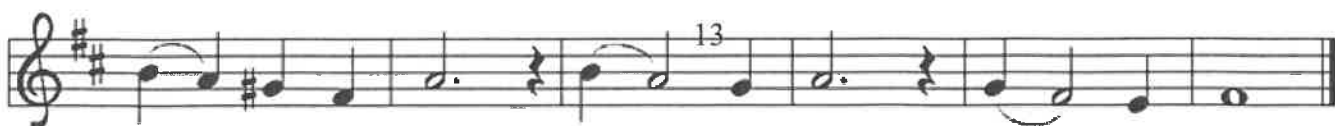
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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. 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.

COMMUNION SOLO

Simple Gifts

Attr.: Elder Joseph Brackett (1797–1882)

Shaker Song
Arr. Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Amie Adams, soprano

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd,
To bow and to bend we will not be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

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.

Generous God,

**we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.**

**We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.**

**We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Let us pray. Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

We invite congregation members to share this holy meal with people who are unable to worship in person. Communion elements and a simple printed liturgy are available on the altar to guide you. Please take a bulletin with you to be able to easily share today's scripture and prayers with the meal.

THE BENEDICTION

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers “Haf trones lampa färdig”

ELW 244

THE DISMISSAL

Be watchful, and stand firm in your faith.

Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Let all we do be done in love.

POSTLUDE

Voluntary on ‘Wachet Auf’

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)



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.*



Stewardship – Here

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our choir members
who selflessly donate their time and talents
to make the beautiful music that touches our souls every week.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, December 1, 2024 – First Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 am Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:00 am Family Play Group (RH)
- 9:40 am Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 am Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 11:30 am Confirmation Class at Parkside
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour/Greening of the Church

MONDAY, December 2, 2024

- 9:30 am Bible Study (FR)
- 6:00 pm Gamblers' Anonymous (RH)
- 7:00 pm Buffalo Niagara Chorus Rehearsal (CH)

TUESDAY, December 3, 2024

- 12:00 pm Needlers at Mary Kaufmann's
- 5:30 pm Burrito Project (RH)
- 7:00 pm Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal (MC)

WEDNESDAY, December 4, 2024

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Vocalis Rehearsal (MC)

THURSDAY, December 5, 2024

- 10:00 am Watercolor Class (RH)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 pm AA/AL-ANON (RH)

FRIDAY, December 6, 2024

- 12:00 pm Blue Christmas service (CH)
- 5:00 pm Christmas tree set up (MC)
- 7:00 pm Blue Christmas service (CH)

SUNDAY, December 8, 2024 – Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 am Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:00 am Family Play Group (RH)
- 9:30 am Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:45 am Budget Presentation (RH)
- 10:30 am Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 am Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (RH)
- 1:00 pm P.S. 45 Recital (MC)
- 7:00 pm Lessons and Carols (MC)

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 am the announcer and reader is Angela Keppel. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Henry Flynn.

At 10:30 am the announcer is Elizabeth Vihnanek. Reader is Timothy Flynn. Ushers are Ron Leiser, Mike Day, Alan Heiss, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Marty Wright. Communion Assistant is Sue Cosentino. Chancel Care member is Vicki Oliver. Acolytes are Griffin Miller, Saniyah Gilchrist, Henry Peterson, Max Peterson, Natalie Leiser, Mer'Liah Gilchrist and Maia Leiser.

The flowers on the altar are given In Loving Memory of Sarah and James Bigham and Cornelia Ball by James Bigham.

Collection counters are Doug Alderdice, Peter Bergenstock and Sue Spindler.

Council member, Elizabeth Vihnanek, will be at the 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 Casen and Devin Thompson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Never look a gift horse in the mouth, it's been said. Yet the gift of the scriptures invites a closer look if we are to glean their richest treasures. Join the Monday Morning Bible Study group and Pastor Rich Dec. 2 as we continue our series on biblical interpretation, connecting the scriptures to our own experience and background. We will meet in the Fellowship Room from 9:30 to 11:00. As always everyone is welcome.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES: It is that time of year when we send college care packages to all of our students who are currently in college. If you have a student who would like to receive a care package from the church, please call the church office and let Linda know the name and address of the student. We are planning to get these mailed out by the beginning of December. The youth group will be helping with this project this year. If you would like to help by donating snacks for the packages, please contact Kathy Biesinger – kc1008@aol.com.

BURRITO PROJECT - FLEECE NAVIDAD!: Our next Burrito Project date is Tuesday, December 3 starting at 5:30. While donations are welcome throughout the year, in the winter months, we typically see an increase in requests for blankets, gloves, hats, socks, etc. Dark, solid colors are preferred. Donations can be sent to the church office or placed in the tote near the chancel entrance.

2025 SPENDING PLAN/BUDGET PRESENTATION: A review of our finances, with a focus on the 2025 Budget/Spending Plan, will be held on December 8 at 9:45 in Redeemer Hall. Topics will include: members attendance and contributions, investments performances and balances, capital improvement priorities for 2025-2026, and the 2025 Budget/Spending plan.

SUNDAY ROUND TABLE FOR DECEMBER 8: We will not meet so that all might attend the 2025 Spending Plan/Budget Presentation.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Save the date! The next annual congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, January 26, 2025. The backup date (e.g. in the event of a blizzard) will be Sunday, February 2, 2025. Please join us as we vote on our annual spending plan/budget, elect members of council, and discuss plans for 2025.

ANNUAL HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS CARD: Once again, the Annual HT Christmas Card will be available for all to sign and send a greeting to our family and friends at Holy Trinity. It will be located near the stairs leading to the main sanctuary's angel lectern door. There is a secure donation box on the wall. This tradition came about as a way to share the monies we might spend on postage and card costs to those we love and see each Sunday. Funds raised this year will be given to the Caribbean Children's Foundation for continued support and will be collected through Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS: The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee will be collecting non-perishable food items until December 18 for our Christmas baskets. Cans with tabs are preferred and please no expired food. Last year we were able to give each recipient a \$100 gift card. Your monetary donations would help get us the funds we need. Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity with a Christmas basket notation.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: The chancel is so beautiful on Christmas Eve with the striking red of poinsettias. If you would like to purchase poinsettias in memory or honor of someone or simply "to the glory of God," they may be purchased for \$12 each. Order forms can be found at the entrance ways, in the newsletter or in the weekly email.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER AND PLAY: Dinner will be held Friday, December 13 at 6:00 pm in Redeemer Hall. Cost is \$15 for adults/\$45 for family. Reservation forms can be found on the tables in the entrance ways, in the newsletter or in the weekly email.

ANGEL/MITTEN TREE: Annually the members of HT generously provide gifts, warm accessories, and holiday cheer to students attending our local school, PS17. This year the Angel and Mitten trees will be ready on Sunday, December 1st. Please find them in the area outside the church office and chapel, and choose a child to cheer this year. Look for sibling groups, hanging by a red ribbon, if you're interested in more than one name. Gifts need to be wrapped, or bagged, and securely tagged with the students name and room number. Please be sure to place your gifts under the Angel Tree at church by Sunday December 15th. Thank you for participating in this fulfilling ministry!

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 6 at noon and 7:00 pm in the chapel.

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- December 15th. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for this or any other specific date during the year. She can be reached at msmarylschmidt@gmail.com or on her cell 716-472-4194. Vases are currently \$50.00 each.

LUTHERAN YOUTH WNY EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT: Why choose to walk on water when you could instead choose to swim in it when it's near freezing temperature? LY is partaking in the **Polar Plunge!** The Polar Plunge is an annual event where people dive into Lake Erie in December to raise awareness, support, and money for athletes across the state to participate in the Special Olympics! After we dry off from the plunge we will transport over to First Lutheran Church (66 Arthur Ave, Blasdell, NY 14219) to carb load on pasta, warm up, and play games.

Polar Plunge Schedule - Friday, December 6th:

2:00-3:30 pm: Registration, Music, and Gathering with other teams @ Woodlawn Beach State Park

4:00 pm: Plunge

Post Plunge: Dry off and group transportation to First Lutheran Church

5:15 pm: Dinner for all

6:00 pm: Games

7:45 pm: Devotions

8:30 pm: Pick up at First Lutheran

For more information and registration details, please visit the following link: www.lutheranyouthwny.org/events.

WINTER CRAFT NIGHT (GRADES K-6): Tuesday, December 10, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Fellowship Room. Calling all youth in grades K-6! You're invited to a cozy evening filled with fun crafts, cookie decorating, and hot cocoa on Tuesday, December 10 from 5:30pm- 7:30pm in the Fellowship Room. Come make memories and kick off the winter season with friends! Please RSVP using the link or QR code. <https://bit.ly/WinterK-6>



COOKIES FOR HAITI: Our Global Mission team is sponsoring a cookie sale to support the Caribbean Children's Foundation. One box of a dozen assorted homemade cookies will be \$15.00. That donation will provide the daily school day meal for 2 months! Place your order for the number of boxes you would like, using the form below, and placing it in the offering plate or sending to the church office. Pick up day is December 15 downstairs in the Fireside room after each service. Payment by cash or check only. Questions? Contact Donna Leiser 716-868-3862.



**Cookies for Haiti
Order Form**

Name _____ Phone _____

TOTAL Number of boxes ordered _____

\$15.00 /box TOTAL AMT _____ cash or check only

Pay at time of pick up on Sunday December 15

2024 HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

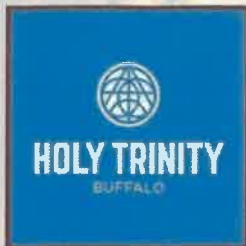


**BLUE CHRISTMAS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
12:00 pm Service (Chapel)
7:00 pm Service (Chapel)**

**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)**



**Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church**

presents

7th Annual

*Evening of
Nine Lessons and Carols*

Featuring

**The University at Buffalo Choir
and Chamber Singers**

Claudia Brown, conductor

Associate Teaching Professor of Voice and Choral Music,
University at Buffalo

Michael Serio, piano

Adjunct Instructor of Piano, University at Buffalo

Kristen Pomietlarz, organ

Organist, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Readings by the Congregation of Holy Trinity

The UB Choir and Chamber Singers perform under the direction of Claudia Brown, featuring choral masterpieces by Susan LaBarr, Claude Debussy, Claudio Monteverdi, Elaine Hagenberg and celebrated local composers Carrie Magin and Caroline Mallonee. Each musical offering is interspersed with Christmas hymns and readings. Kristen Pomietlarz features the music of Nico Muhly and Sir David Willcocks.

Sunday, December 8, 2024

7:00 PM

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1080 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14209

(716) 886-2400

www.holytrinitybuffalo.org



PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn "Rejoice, Rejoice"

ELW 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing,
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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SERMON HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Now My People "Freu Dich Sehr"

ELW 256



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers “Haf Trones Lampa Fardig”

ELW 244



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring's bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG. Swedish folk tune

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

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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.

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