



A Child Has Been Born For Us!

*The Festival Service
of
Holy Communion*

Christmas Eve

2024



*Pre-Service Music
at 9:45 p.m.*

Candlelight Service at 10:30 p.m.

ORGAN PRELUDE

O Antiphon Preludes

O Sapientia

O Clavis David

Nico Muhly

(b. 1981)

Jamie Gangemi, *mezzo-soprano*

Kristen Pomietlarz, *organ*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC FROM THE GALLERY

Reges Tharsis

Text: Psalm 71:10

John Sheppard

(1515-1558)

Ryan Lockwood, *baritone*

The kings of Tharsis and the isles shall bring offerings.
The kings of Arabia and Seba shall offer gifts to the Lord God.
And may all kings bow before Him, all nations serve Him.
Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

In the Bleak Midwinter

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Gustav Holst

(1874-1934)

Erin Alexander, *conductor*

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan;
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow: in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day –
breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay: enough for him,
whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there;
Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the air;
but only his mother in her maiden bliss worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

THE PROCESSION OF THE CHOIR

Please stand as you are able.

Divinum Mysterium

c. 13th Century Plainsong

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348 – c.410)

“*Of the Father’s Love Begotten*,” tr. H.W. Baker, J.M. Neale

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega: He the source, the ending he.
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer, First revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word.
Now he shines, the long expected; Let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore. Amen.

Please be seated.

There Will be Rest

Text: Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

Frank Ticheli

(b. 1958)

Erin Alexander, *conductor*

There will be rest, and sure stars shining
Over the roof-tops crowned with snow,
A reign of rest, serene forgetting,
The music of stillness holy and low.

I will make this world of my devising
Out of a dream in my lonely mind,
I shall find the crystal of peace, - above me
Stars I shall find.

O Sing Unto the Lord Op. 29

Text: Psalm 96, 98

William Mathias

(1934-1992)

O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth.
Sing unto the Lord, bless His name; show forth his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.
For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised.
Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength.
Give unto the Lord, the glory due unto his name:
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before Him, all the earth.
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth:
make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.
Sing unto the Lord the harp; and the voice of a psalm.
With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King.
Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together before the Lord;
for He cometh to judge the earth:
with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.
O sing unto the Lord a new song, all the earth.

Totus Tuus Op. 60

Text: Maria Bogusławska (1868-1929)

Henryk Mikołaj Górecki

(1933-2010)

I am completely yours, Mary, Mother of our Redeemer.
Virgin Mother of God, loving virgin, Mother of the Saviour of the world.
I am completely yours, Mary!

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Text: Philippians 4:4-7

Anonymous, 16th Century

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is e'en at hand.
Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication,
let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Serenity (O Magnum Mysterium)

Text: Latin, Matins for Christmas

Ola Gjeilo

(b. 1978)

Josh Corwin, *viola*

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ!
Alleluia!



It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and harp, to the melody of the lyre.
For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy. (*Psalm 92*)

Our congregation has been blessed extraordinarily
with members and friends whose love of music and
exceptional generosity make possible the special
presentation we offer each Christmas Eve.

Holy Trinity Church wishes to acknowledge and give thanks
for gifts given in loving memory of:

Elizabeth Lochhaas,
Jack Grabenstatter
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Eckhert, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. James Marion Geiger,
Helen Geiger, and Ruth H. Geiger

THE SERVICE

Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church!

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

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

THE PROCESSION OF THE CLERGY

ANTIPHON

O Emmanuel from the *Great "O" Antiphons*

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,
the desire of the nations and their salvation:
come and save us, O Lord our God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

The Christmas Proclamation

Today, on the eve of the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and created man and woman in God's own image.

Several thousand years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;

Thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges;

One-thousand years from the anointing of David as king;

In the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

The seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Emperor Octavian Augustus;

The whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, the eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

THE MOTET

Still, Still, Still

Text: Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman

Austrian Carol

Arr. Norman Luboff (1917–1987)

Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow.

For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, holy star its vigil keeping.

Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.

The night is peaceful all around you; close your eyes, let sleep surround you.

Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber.

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

THE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION

A Savior From On High

Text: William Ballet (early 1600's, dates unknown)

Stephen Paulus

(1949-2014)

arr. Justin Pomietlarz

Nicole Brendel, *soprano*

O sweet was the song the Virgin sang when she to Bethlehem from Judah came,
and was delivered of a son, and Jesus was his name.

Lullee, lully, lullo, lullaby. And Jesus was his name.

"O sweet babe," sang she, "my son." And so a Savior, a Savior is born,
who was given from on high to visit us that were forlorn.

Lullee, lully, lullo, lullaby. And Jesus was his name.

And sweet was the song she sang.

Lullee, lully, lullo, lullaby.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

**PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS
FESTIVAL PROCESSION**

O Come, All Ye Faithful “Adeste Fidelis”

ELW 283

Setting by James Biery, adapted by Kristen and Justin Pomietlarz

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
Refrain: O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.
2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! (*Refrain*)
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: (*Refrain*)
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the father, now in flesh appearing: (*Refrain*)

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

THE HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing “Mendelssohn”

ELW 270

Setting by James Biery

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! (*Refrain*)
- 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. (*Refrain*)

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

THE 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.

THE 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.

THE OFFERING

As part of our outreach into our neighborhood, city and region, Holy Trinity has supported a variety of social ministry agencies throughout the years. This year, we have shared gifts with:

Caribbean Children's Foundation, Lutheran Charities, The Network of Religious Communities, School 17, Niagara Lutheran Health System, LuMin, Voice Buffalo, LCLC, Reconciling Works, Journey's End, Buffalo Adult & Teen Challenge, Church Mission of Help Counseling, Friends of the Night People, Big Big Table Community Café, WNY Heroes and Lutheran World Relief.

Your generosity at Christmastime helps to support these valuable ministries. Thank you!

THE ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

Gloria (composed 2015)

Bob Chilcott

I. *Gloria in excelsis Deo*

(b. 1955)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You.
We give You thanks for Your great glory.

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERING

Let us pray together.

**God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

15

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE 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 One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he gave himself for us, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Be known among us anew. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people and fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, 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.

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 DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

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.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Pastorale

from “*Christmas*” *Concerto Grosso* Opus 6, No. 8

Arcangelo Corelli

(1653-1713)

Arr. Debbie Vinick

Beth Anne Breneman, *harp*

Gloria (composed 2015)
(continued, from the Offering)

Bob Chilcott

(b. 1955)

Holy Trinity Brass and Percussion

II. *Domine Deus*

Lord God, heavenly King, O God Almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only-Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

III. *Qui tollis peccata mundi*

You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

IV. *Quoniam tu solus sanctus*

For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in the Glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

THE POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

You may be seated as worship leaders light candles beginning at the aisle.

As you light the next candle down the row, please lean the unlit candle to the flame.

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

(1802–1856)

Arr. Dudley Buck

(1839–1909)

Holly Holdaway, *mezzo-soprano*

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining; it is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, 'till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night divine; O night, O night divine.

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the wise men from the Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger – in all our trials born to be our friend. He knows our need! He guardeth us from danger. Behold your King! Before the lowly bend! Behold your King; your King, before him bend!

Please stand as you are able.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness,

send us forth to announce your peace,

comfort the afflicted,

and share the good news of great joy.

Amen.

THE CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Silent Night “*Stille nacht*”

ELW 281

1. Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright;
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia.
Christ, the Saviour, is born!”
3. Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love’s pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light!

God is with us!
Emmanuel!

May the light of Christ, rising in glory
dispel the shadows in our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

THE BENEDICTION

The God of love,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace,
illumine your path,
and increase your joy,
today and always.

Amen.

Please extinguish your candles.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World “Antioch”

ELW 267

Setting by Robert A. Hobby

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Mendelssohn”

Sir David Willcocks
(1919-2015)



Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, *Preacher*

The Rev. Richard Neal, *Celebrant*

Reader

Angela Keppel

Worship Assistants

Avery Best, *Crucifer*

Henry Flynn and Clayton Best, *Torch Bearers*

Tim Yap, *Missal Bearer*

Ushers

Doug Alderdice, Paul and Karen Bauchle,

Paul Biesinger and Karen Kolb

Instrumentalists

Mark Filsinger, Jamie Francisco, Richard Riederer, *trumpets*

John Georger, *French horn*

Gerald Bacon, Diana Bley, Pim Liebmann, *trombones*

Andy Ziemba, *percussion*

Beth Ann Breneman, *harp*

Kristen Pomietlarz, *organ*



Holy Trinity Chancel Choir
Christmas Eve 2024

Justin T. Pomietlarz, *conductor* 2003

Amie Adams, <i>soprano</i> 2022	David Asch, <i>bass</i> 2024
Erin Alexander, <i>alto</i> 2022	Jon Barber, <i>tenor</i> 2023
Nicole Brendel, <i>soprano</i> 2022	Cris Campana, <i>soprano</i> 1997
Jennifer Carden, <i>soprano</i> 2019	Daniel Culross, <i>tenor</i> 2005
Christopher Dow, <i>baritone</i> 2024	Colleen Flynn, <i>soprano</i> 2004
Timothy Flynn, <i>bass</i> 2002	Jamie Gangemi, <i>alto</i> 2023
John Georger, <i>bass</i> 2008	Sarah Haykel, <i>alto</i> 2023
Miley Heisler, <i>alto</i> 2023	Holly Holdaway, <i>soprano</i> 2005
Tyler Huk, <i>tenor</i> 2022	Brian Ibsen, <i>bass</i> 2022
Carolyn Lansom, <i>alto</i> 2008	Stefanie Lizauckas, <i>soprano</i> 2005
Ryan Lockwood, <i>baritone</i> 2019	Riley Nahlik, <i>tenor</i> 2023
Kristen Pomietlarz, <i>alto</i> 2017	Anne Schneider, <i>alto</i> 1987
Heidi Schneider, <i>soprano</i> 2017	Michael Teti, <i>tenor</i> 2024
Jennifer Yap, <i>soprano</i> 1998	Erys Yap, <i>alto</i> 2023

Each singer in the Chancel Choir makes a devoted personal commitment of time and musicianship to sing in this beloved ensemble. We honor them by recognizing the year in which they first came - sharing their voice, heart and spirit - to sing at Holy Trinity.

Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants who minister in Thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The organs of the church are gifts to the glory of God
in loving memory of
Margaret L. Wendt.

The pianos in the church are gifts to the glory of God
given in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Kuhn
*(given by the late Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. York
and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Kuhn);*
Virginia and Dorothy Mayer *(by the Mayer Estate);*
Mildred R. Wales *(by the Wales Family);*
Gerrie Schleifer *(by her family);*
by S. Dwane Thomas, M.D.;
and by Paul and Judy Kroll.

The harpsichord in the church is a gift to the glory of God
given by the late Jeanette and Roy Kuck
and by Mary Kaufmann.

The timpani in the church are gifts given to the
glory of God in loving memory of Ruth H. Geiger.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The flowers on the altar are given:

In Loving Memory of Dr. Robert Schopp by the Schopp Family

Gifts for Christmas poinsettias decorating the church were received from:

In loving memory of:

My beloved, Mary Kaufmann

James and Elizabeth Manzella and Carl and Frances Kaufmann by Mary Kaufmann

Our parents and grandparents by Pat and Dave Ulrich

Parents Carolyn and Henry Hughes, brothers Robert and Carlton, and nephew David by Karen Saona

Parents Margarita and Raúl Saona and sister Alicia Violeta by Raúl Saona

Grandparents Hugh and Anne Alderdice by Doug Alderdice

Grandparents Frederick and Elizabeth Maas by Doug Alderdice

Ed and June Erler by The Erler Family

Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Palmer by Prudence Palmer Hollands

Mr. and Mrs. John Hollands by Prudence Palmer Hollands

Jacqueline R. Holcombe by Sheri Scavone

John F. Schleifer, Jr. by Karen Schleifer

Mary Lou Clark by David and Sally Pellnat

Marie Ashley by David and Sally Pellnat

All of my ancestors by Claire Carmer

Randy Goulet by Dona McMaster and Matthew Goulet

Our parents and grandparents, Richard W. Bauchle, William and Emma

Bauchle, Uncle Albert Bauchle, Robert Klas, Shirley Klas and brother,

Robert R. Klas by Paul and Karen Bauchle

Bill Emms by Gary Volante

Francis and Suzanne Volante by Gary Volante

Our parents: John and Victoria Caffarelli and Layton and Viola Leiser by Ron and Donna Leiser

Theresa "Grammy" Pomietlarz by Justin, Kristen and Lillian Pomietlarz

The Bonnell Family by Janet Bonnell

Randall F. and Marie Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

Randall E. Smith by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

W. Dana and Elizabeth Jones by Kevin, Helen, Ann Marie and Randi Jones

Susan and Paul, Jr. by Paul Biesinger

In loving memory of:

William and Mabel Johnson by Thomas Johnson, Sr.
Sandra Walker by Thomas Johnson, Sr.
Charles A. Miller by Merriejann Miller
Walter and Doris Stroman, Marion Trier by Louise Ricchiazzi
My beautiful husband Raul and grandson Thomas by Carol Griesman
Earl J. Kunz, Jr. by Heidemarie B. Kunz
Donald and Irene Rice by Charles and Anna Marie Rice
John and Anna Mae Jones by Charles and Anna Marie Rice
My brother Chuck Thomas by Gary Thomas
My parents Robert and Ruth Thomas by Gary Thomas
My grandmother Ruth Simmons by Gary Thomas
Dave Grabenstatter by his wife Nanc and son Eric
William, Eleanor, Carol and Nancy Wolf by The Patricola Family
Dakota Jacob Lee by Richard J. Lee
Ken James by Ruth James
John Camilleri, Jr. by Ruth James
John Camilleri, Jr, Josh Sweers, Daniel Shedd and Daniel Schlosser by John Sr.
and Gail Camilleri
Ken James by John Sr. and Gail Camilleri
Melissa, Elaine and William by The Thomasula Family
Louis, Vera and Robert Hoebel by Paul Hoebel
Elaine Fuhlbruck by Paul Hoebel
Joan and Arthur Pellnat by Jim, Beth, Sara, Marissa and Madison
Parents, Clifford and June Hehr by David Hehr
Grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Staffel and Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Hehr by
David Hehr
Darwin C. Staffel by nephew, David Hehr
Arlene Derkovitz by Sheryl Neal
All of our Loved Ones by Pastor Richard and Sheryl Neal
Ken and Edna Kemp by Daniel Culross and Holly Holdaway
Don and Dorothea Holdaway by Daniel Culross and Holly Holdaway

In honor of:

Helen and Martin Wright by Kristen, Matthew, Avery and Clayton Best
The blessings of my children and grandchildren by Claire Carmer
Our grandchildren Ella Hope, Hannah Grace and Walker James by Paul and
Karen Bauchle
Our sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren by Ron and Donna Leiser
Holy Trinity's Magnificent Choir family by Justin, Kristen and Lillian
Pomietlarz
Our wonderful pastors and staff by Jen Yap & Family
Our dedicated Council by Jen Yap & Family
Margaret R. Kunz and Sarah E. Kunz by Heidemarie B. Kunz
Caleb, Ted, Gabriel, Samuel and Ana Sophia Lee by Richard J. Lee
Steven, Ana and Andy by The Thomasula Family

To the Glory of God:

by Jim and Norine Dunnigan

In Thanksgiving to God for:

for the blessings of Alexander and Emily by Mary Kaufmann
for the love and lives of Dan and Betsy Barberree by Pastor Jeff Wilson

In memory of loved ones by: Carol Alderdice, Rev. Neil and Pam Kattermann,
Joe and Martha Kryszczuk, Dave and Mary Linda Schmidt, Sue Spindler,
Elizabeth Vihnanek

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR CHRISTMAS DAY service will be held at 10:30 am in the Chapel.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, December 25 and 26.

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.

POINSETTIAS: The Christmas flowers are available following the service. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a family member or a friend.

THE HT CARES TEAM is hosting a Life Transition Part 2 Workshop on March 29, 2025. This workshop will include information needed after death and dealing with emotional responses to a death. Plan ahead and get a jump on your new year's resolutions of planning and preparing. Join us for this important workshop led by community experts. Additional information will be coming in the January church paper.

Regular Sunday Service of Holy Communion

8:30 a.m. Chapel

10:30 a.m. Main Church

We would like to wish everyone a blessed Christmas!

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

Linda Lipczynski, *Office Manager*
info@holytrinitybuffalo.org

Carol Littlefield, *Parish Accountant*

Andrew Kraus, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*

Charles Ryniec, *Steward of Buildings and Grounds*

Johnetta Kenner, *Security*

Kristen Pomietlarz, *Organist* | Justin Pomietlarz, *Choirmaster*
kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org

Erin Alexander, *Assistant Conductor, Youth Choir Director*
youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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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