



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday in Lent
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

The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

PRELUDE

Wondrous Love

Craig Phillips
(b. 1961)

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

(10:30)

ANTIPHON

Wash me through and through Part II (1980)

Text: Psalms 130 and 51

Peter Hallock
(1924-2014)

For there is forgiveness with you, therefore you shall be feared.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.

Cast me now away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

(Refrain)

Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing “Nettleton”

ELW 807

PASTORAL GREETING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's
abiding love.

(10:30)

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

(10:30)

Please stand or sit 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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)

YOUTH CHOIR ANTHEM

And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears

Text: Revelation 21:4

Eleanor Daley
(b. 1955)

Erin Alexander, *conductor*

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;
and there shall be no more death,
neither sorrow, nor crying,
Neither shall there be any more pain:
for the former things are passed away.

A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Richard Neal

THE FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The first reading for the Fourth Sunday in Lent is recorded in Joshua, the 5th Chapter.

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and roasted grain.

¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM: 32

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain (“R”).



Be glad, you righ-teous, and re - joice in the LORD.

Psalm 32:11

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

² Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile! **R**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers
to you in | time of trouble;

when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them. **R**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

⁸ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will | not stay near you."

¹⁰ Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart. **R**

THE SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The second reading for today is recorded in
2nd Corinthians, the 5th Chapter.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God.

²¹ For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them.

¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living.

¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’ ’

²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ ‘Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

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

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart “Morecambe”

ELW 800

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF PASTOR AND PEOPLE

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithful promise, you make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. Watch over all your children, especially Matthew and Zachary. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion, especially those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... . Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. Inspire our recognition of Helen Wright as she celebrates her 85th birthday, through today's flower dedication. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died, especially loved ones. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
Amen.

PEACE

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

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING



THE ANTHEM

Thou Knowest, Lord

Text: Book of Common Prayer, Order for the Burial of the Dead

Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
Shut not thy merciful ears unto our pray'rs;
But spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.
O holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou most worthy Judge eternal,
Suffer us not at our last hour,
For any pains of death to fall away from Thee.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Gracious Provider,

**you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.**

**As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart "Hillert"

ELW 186



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

...

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever. **Amen.**

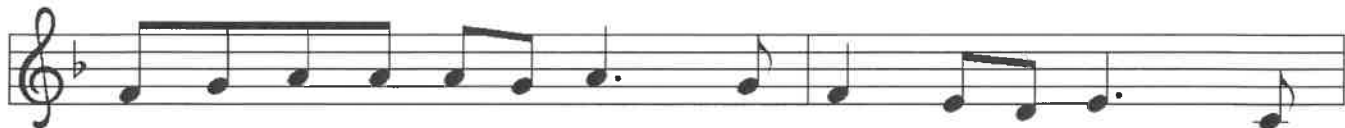
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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.

(10:30)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

If We Believe That Jesus Died

John Goss
(1800–1880)

If we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
ev’n so them also which sleep in Jesus,
will God bring with Him.
Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

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 Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

**Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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 our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Restore in Us, O God "Baylor"

ELW 328

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

*The services conclude with the ringing of the bells
throughout the Lenten season.*



*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

Thank you to our HT Cares team for arranging
the second part of the Life Transitions workshop.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 am Service of Holy Communion w/Chapel Choir (CH)
- 9:30 am Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:40 am Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 am Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 am Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (RH)

MONDAY, March 31, 2025

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

TUESDAY, April 1, 2025

- 12:00 pm Needlers (FR)
- 5:30 pm Burrito Project at HT (RH)

WEDNESDAY, April 2, 2025

- 6:00 pm Vocalis Rehearsal (MC)

THURSDAY, April 3, 2025

- 10:00 am Watercolor Class (RH)
- 6:00 pm Lenten/Choir Supper and Study (FR)
- 6:00 pm Chapel Choir (CH)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (MC)
- 7:00 pm AA/AL-ANON (RH)

FRIDAY, April 4, 2025

- 6:00 pm Recital rehearsal (MC)
- 7:00 pm Buffalo Niagara Choirs rehearsal (CH)

SATURDAY, April 5, 2025

- 7:00 pm Recital (MC)

SUNDAY, April 6, 2025 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 am Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 9:30 am Youth Choir (MR)
- 9:40 am Sunday Roundtable (FR)
- 10:30 am Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 am Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:30 am Confirmation Class at HT (FR)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (RH)

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 Judy Kroll. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Killian Brown.

At 10:30 am the announcer is Karen Kolb. Reader is Doug Alderdice. Ushers are Jim Dunnigan, Ryon Fleming, Prudence Hollands, Charmaine Kaltrider, Mary Kaufmann and Joe Kryszczuk. Communion Assistant is Sue Cosentino. Chancel Care member is Donna Leiser. Acolytes are Adrianna Wareham, Avery Best, Henry Flynn, Tony Lizauckas and Clayton Best.

Collection Counters are Doug Alderdice, Neil Kattermann and Karen Kolb.

The flowers on the altar are given

In Honor of Helen Wright's 85th birthday from Kristen, Matthew, Avery and Clayton Best, and Karen, Tim, Kyle and Cameron Taylor; and

In Loving Memory of deceased loved ones from the Schopp Family.

Council member Karen Kolb 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 Matthew and Zachary Bousman.



2025 Lenten and Easter Worship

Lenten Supper and Study (Thursdays 4/3, 4/10)

6:00 pm Soup and bread supper and discipleship conversation
“In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” God’s words to Isaiah are God’s words to us. We find wholeness and strength when we ground ourselves in our source of life and live as God created us to live, with authenticity and integrity. During this series, we’ll consider the life we are already living by God’s grace, as individuals and as a congregation, and discuss how we can embody that life more authentically.

Palm Sunday, April 13

8:30 am Service of Holy Communion with Chapel Choir
10:30 am Service of Holy Communion with Chancel Choir

Maundy Thursday, April 17

12:00 pm Holy Communion/stripping of the altar
7:00 pm Holy Communion/stripping of the altar/Chancel Choir

Good Friday, April 18

12:00 pm Tenebrae Service
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service with Chancel Choir

Easter Sunday, April 20

8:30 am Festival Service of Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast by the Fellowship & Hospitality Team
9:45 a.m. Pre-service music
10:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion with
Choir, Brass, Harp and Organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLANT SALE: Order forms for the annual plant sale fundraiser are due today with payment! Copies are available on the tables outside the church and chapel. **Pickup will be Saturday, May 17 (11:30am-12:30pm) and planting of church grounds.** Volunteers of all ages are needed to help with the organization and distribution of the plant orders starting around 9am on May 17. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Jen Yap, Elizabeth Vihnanek or the church office.

EASTER FLOWERS: The Worship Committee has once again arranged for lilies to be placed in the chancel on Easter Sunday. If you would like to place a lily in the chancel, order forms may be found in the newsletter, in the weekly email or on the tables at the entrance ways. The cost is \$12.00 per plant.

BURRITO PROJECT: Our next Burrito Project event is Tuesday, April 1 starting at 5:30. We will assemble and distribute over 100 burritos to anyone who is hungry. A typical evening follows this schedule:

5:30pm: prepare ingredients and assemble burritos

7pm: load burritos and other items into cars

7:30pm: park near the main bus station and distribute burritos and other items

9pm (or earlier): return to church for clean up.

Join us for all activities, or just a portion of the evening as your schedule permits.

BLESSING BAGS COLLECTION: Since many of you have asked to have more of these bags made to share with others, during this Lenten season we are asking Holy Trinity members and friends to contribute items so that Blessing Bags can be made available to those who are in need in our communities. The following items will be collected thru Easter Sunday and can be placed at Kahler's Korner (located near the church office beneath Dr. Kahler's portrait): water bottles, granola type nutrition bars, cheese and cracker packets, toothbrush kits, wet wipes, small tissue packs, lip balms, small hand sanitizers and bandages. If you can, please donate any of these items. We also hope to collect \$5 gift cards from Wendy's, McDonald's or Tim Horton's to place in each bag. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. We will assemble the bags during coffee hour on Sunday, May 4 for you to take and distribute whenever you see a need.

MEMORIAL BRICK Dedications are available. Our fountain terrace is the space on our north lawn alongside Main Street and provides a gathering space for the community all around us. Memorial Bricks may be reserved and dedicated in the memory of, or honor of, a loved one. Order forms for the bricks may be found on the tables at the entrance ways or by calling 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, May 18 at 12:30pm in the Church Office Conference Room. **Those who would like to join will be received into membership on Sunday, June 8 (please note date change).** 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.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: If you have a child who has not received First Communion, Pastor Jeff is planning a First Communion class. We have tentatively scheduled the class for Saturday, May 10, from 9:00am - 12:00pm in Redeemer Hall, and the tentative date for them to receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 18, at the 10:30am service. These dates will be firmed up over the next few weeks. We ask that at least one parent, godparent, or grandparent attend. To register or for questions, please contact the church office at info@holytrinitybuffalo.org or 716-886-2400.

LUTHERAN CHARITIES AWARDS DINNER will be held on Friday, May 2 at 6:00pm at Ripa's Italian Restaurant. Tickets are \$60 per person. Join us for this special event as we congratulate our own Jen Yap who will be receiving The Maji Award. Please register and pay online at www.wnylutherancharities.org.

CGN FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: If you are able, please donate **NON-EXPIRED** cans of tuna fish, chicken, fruits, vegetables, soups, cereal, peanut butter, pastas, rice and sauces. The needs for these items are critical right now. Containers may be found in each Narthex area. Thank you!

CRISIS SERVICES: For anyone feeling down, lonely, or depressed, Crisis Services is available. Their hotline number is 716-834-3131 and is available 24-hours a day. If you are looking for counseling services, we share a partnership with Mr. Pat Greene, LMHC, and he may be reached at 716-361-4615.



The HT Youth Ministry Committee has been working hard to offer a variety of youth events over the past few months. Attendance at these events has varied and we would like to hear from families about how we are/are not meeting the needs of our youth. Your feedback is important and will help guide this ministry forward. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts with us regarding the activities, scheduling, and communication of HT Youth events.

A graphic with a white background and a dark red border with a wavy, scalloped edge. At the top center is a small version of the HT YOUTH logo. Below it, the text "Have youth in your life?" is written in a black, sans-serif font. Underneath that, "We want to hear from you!" is written in a larger, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, "Help shape Holy Trinity's Youth Ministry!" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. To the left of the QR code is an icon consisting of two overlapping speech bubbles; the one in front contains three stars. To the right is a square QR code with the "bitly" logo in the bottom right corner. At the bottom center, the URL "bit.ly/HTYouthSurvey" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

HT
YOUTH

Have youth in your life?
**We want to hear
from you!**

Help shape Holy Trinity's Youth Ministry!

bit.ly/HTYouthSurvey

If you have any questions or would like more information about the survey or youth events, please reach out to Christina Ruggeri (christina.ruggeri@holyltrinitybuffalo.org).

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.

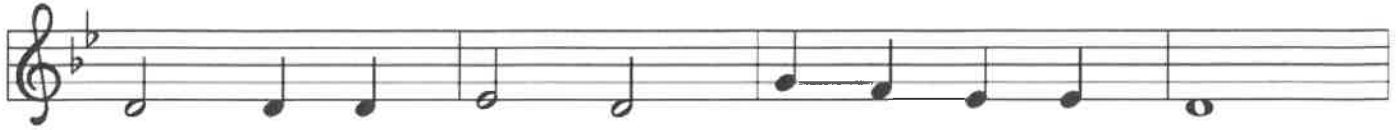
Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

SERMON HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart "Morecambe"

ELW 800



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Text: George Croly, 1780–1860

Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–189

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Restore in Us, O God "Baylor"

ELW 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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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.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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