



I GIVE YOU A NEW
COMMANDMENT, THAT YOU
LOVE ONE ANOTHER

JOHN 13:34

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025 | 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

Holy Trinity recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us.

We proclaim ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation to all of God's creatures welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status.

We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space through the protection against oppression internally, in institutions, interpersonally and structurally.

We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

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 the back page for AED Instructions.

INTRODUCTION

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

THE VOLUNTARY

Le Banquet Celeste

Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

Ringling of the Tower Bells

Please stand as you are able.

AT THE ENTRANCE OF CHOIR AND CLERGY

Adoro Te Devote

13th Century Plainsong, Mode V

Text: St. Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274); tr. James Woodford (1820-1885)

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, thee, who in thy sacrament art pleased to be;
both flesh and spirit in thy presence fail, yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.
O blest memorial of our dying Lord, who living bread to us shall here afford;
oh, may our souls forever feed on thee, and thou, O Christ, forever precious be.
Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God: cleanse us, unclean, with thy most
cleansing blood.

Increase our faith and love, that we may know the hope and peace which from thy
presence flow.

O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see, may what we thirst for soon our portion
be: to gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face, the vision of thy glory, and thy grace.
Amen.

GATHERING AND CONFESSION OF SIN

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Please kneel as you are able.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**
**Forgive us, renew us, and help us live freely,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**
Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved through faith. In the name of Jesus Christ, I remind you that your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Those who wish are invited to come forward to receive the laying on of hands and individual absolution with the words: "In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins."
Each penitent responds: **Amen.**

THE ANTHEM

Drop, Drop Slow Tears

Text: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

Robert Graham

(1912-1992)

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace:
cease not, wet eyes, His mercy to entreat;
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears,
nor let His eye see sin, but through my tears. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, 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.

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

The first reading for Maundy Thursday is recorded in Exodus, the 12th Chapter.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD.

¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

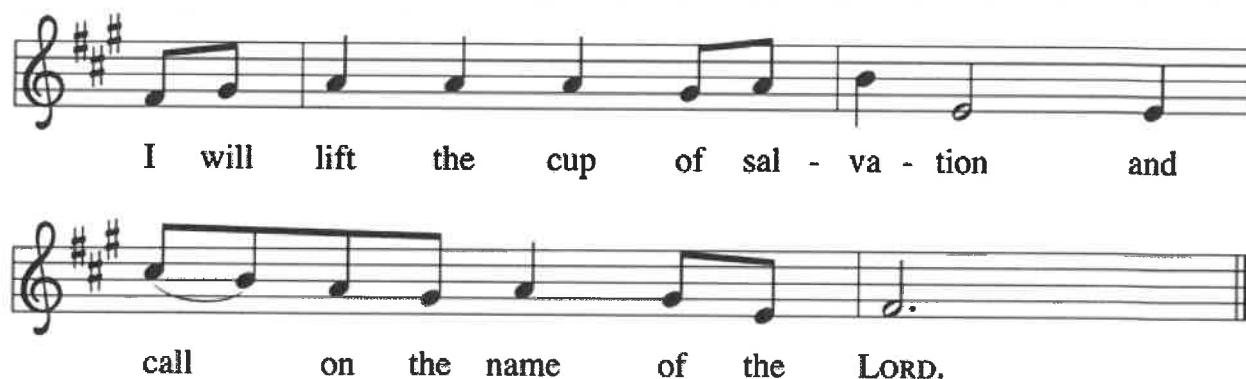
¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

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



Psalm 116:13.

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

²for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.

¹²How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD. **R**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me | from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of | the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem. **R**

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The 2nd Lesson for Maundy Thursday is recorded in 1st Corinthians, the 11th Chapter.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread,

²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

"This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

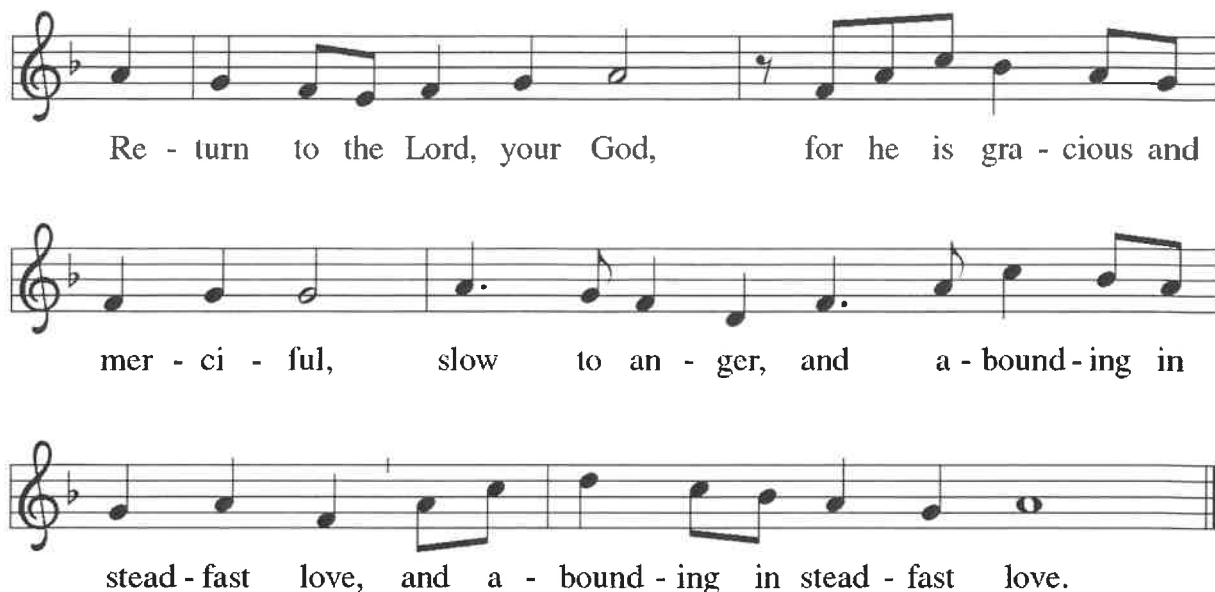
²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b - 35

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"

¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." ¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

^{31b}"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane "Gethsemane"

ELW 347

THE INVITATION TO SERVE

On this night we remember that our Lord set us an example, to love one another as he loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of hands, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

Those who would like to participate in the washing of hands are invited to come to the front of the nave, have your hands washed, and then wash the hands of the person behind you.

THE MOTET

Ubi Caritas

Marco Galvani

(b. 1994)

Where charity and love are, God is there.

Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.

Let us fear, and let us love the living God, and may we love others with a sincere heart.

Where charity and love are, God is there.

As we are gathered into one body, beware, lest we be divided in mind.

Let evil impulses stop, let controversy cease, and may Christ be in our midst.

PRAYERS OF PASTOR AND PEOPLE

Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. God of grace,
hear 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.

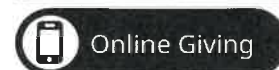
THE PEACE

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

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

An offering plate is available in the narthex if you would like to leave your gifts on your way out of worship.



THE MOTET AT THE OFFERING

Christus factus est

Text: Philippians 2:8-9

Christ became obedient for us unto death,
even to the death, death on the cross.
Therefore God exalted him and gave him a name
which is above all names.

Anton Bruckner
(1824-1896)

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRAYER AT THE OFFERING

Let us pray together.

**Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

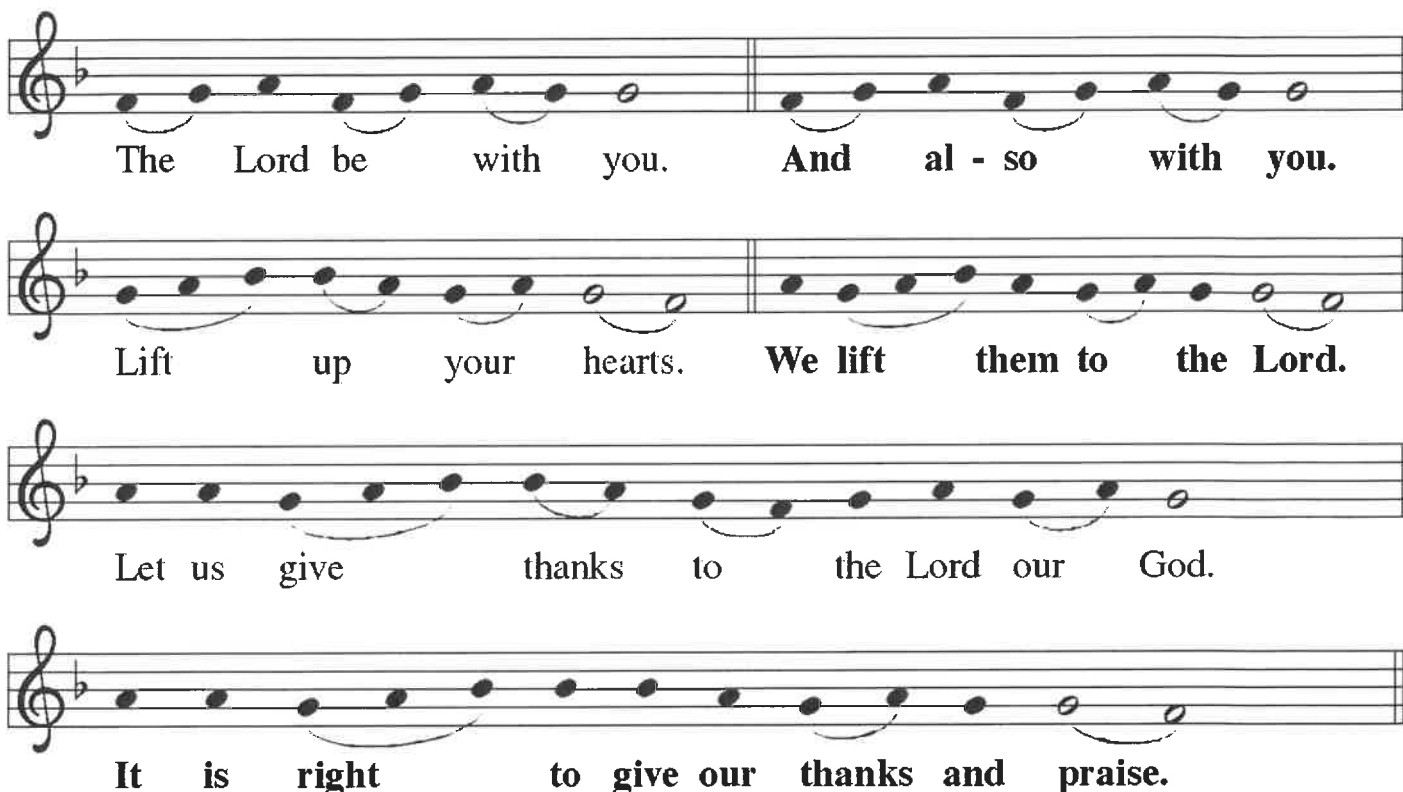
THE OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 186

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

THE DIALOGUE



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.

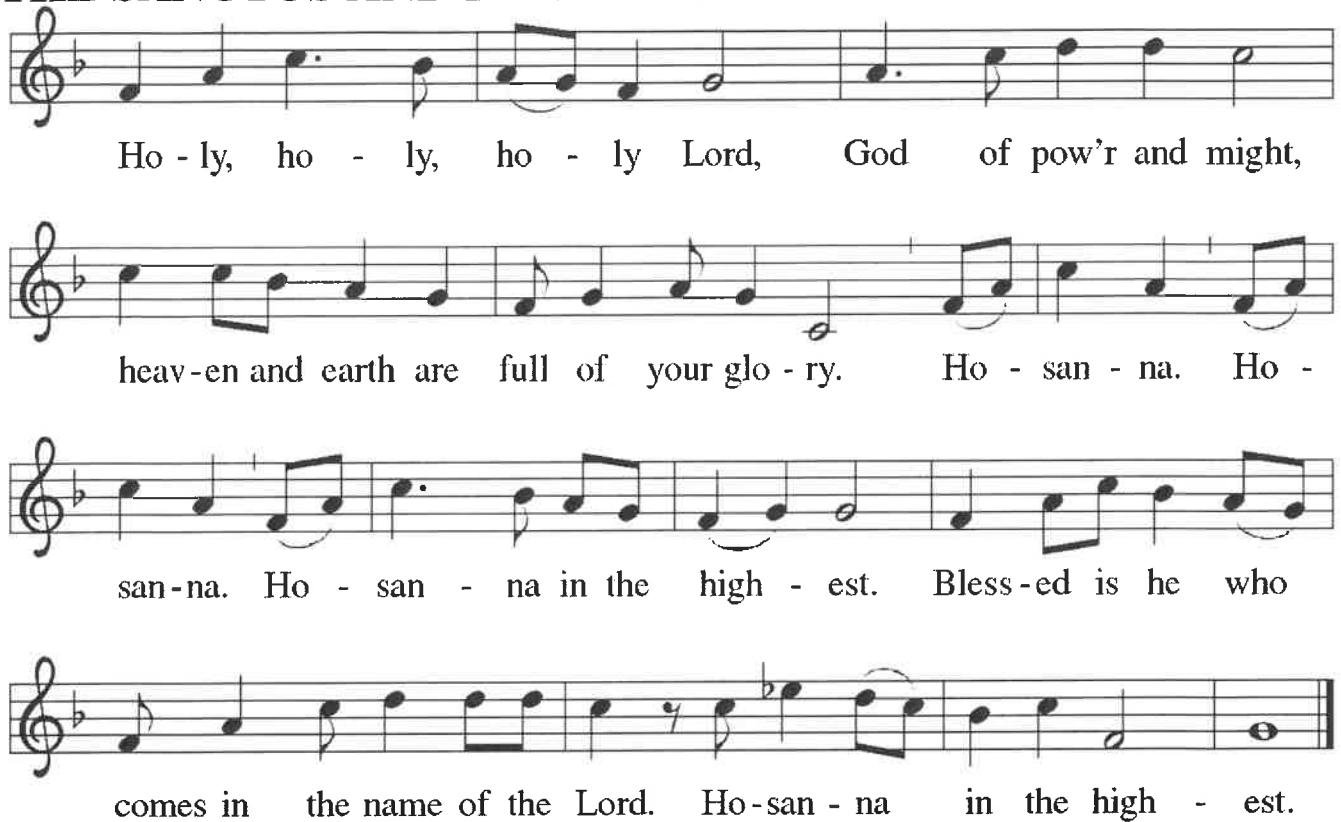
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

It is indeed right ...

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

THE 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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

...

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

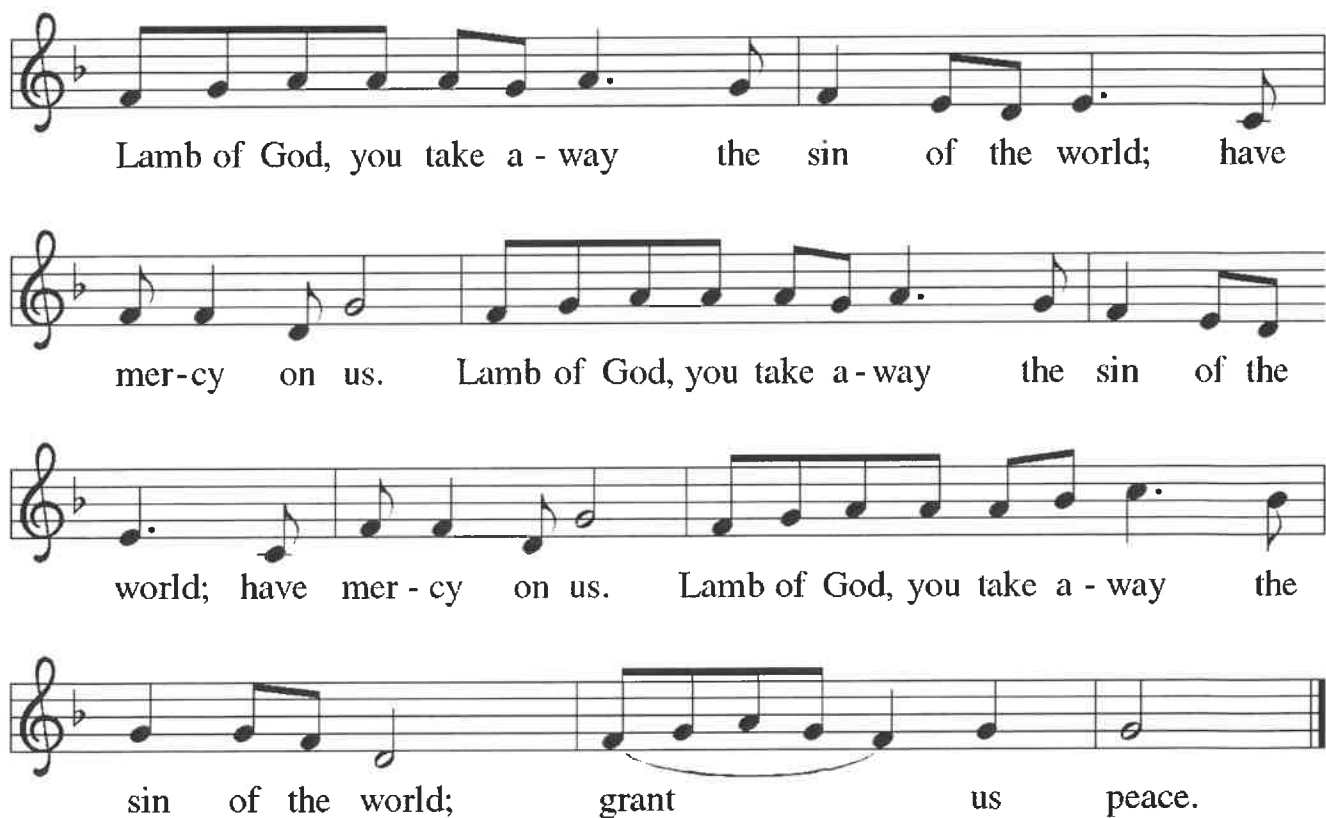
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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 MOTETS

O Living Bread, Who Once Didst Die

Percy W. Whitlock

Text: Bishop Walsham How (1823-1897)

(1903–1946)

O living bread who once didst die, and lay thee down in rocky tomb;
within my heart forever lie, and shed thy brightness o’er its gloom.

O precious blood!

So freely shed, sweet pledge of pardon from above:

speak to my heart so cold and dead, and wake it into life and love.

O sacred food! O cleansing tide!

Fill all my soul with love divine:

thou who didst my life redeem: come to my heart and make me thine.

Amen.

Verily, Verily I Say Unto You

Thomas Tallis

Text: John 6:53-56

(1505–1585)

Verily, verily, I say unto you:

except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

Who so eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood hath eternal life;

and I will raise him up at the last day.

For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

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 His grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection.

May this sacrament of your body and blood
so work in us that the fruits of your redemption
will show forth in the way we live,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR *(kneel or sit)*

Stripping the altar has both practical and symbolic value for the church's worship. Practically, it sets the stark stage for the Good Friday liturgy. Symbolically, it represents the indignities Jesus suffered at the hands of the Roman soldiers, specifically the stripping of his garments and the humiliation of his crucifixion. We remove the altar's ornaments and linens in remembrance of that violent deed.

PSALM 22

Sung antiphonally as the altar is stripped and the cross enters the sanctuary.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me...

Tim Flynn, *bass*
Holly Holdaway, *mezzo-soprano*
Tyler Huk, *tenor*
Colleen Flynn, *soprano*



*Once the choir and clergy have departed the chancel,
we ask that the congregation leave in silence
until you depart the sanctuary.*



Worship Assistants

Reader, Uli MacDonald

Crucifer, Morgan Leiser

Torch Bearers, Rowan Leiser and Natalie Leiser

Acolyte, Maia Leiser

*Cross Bearers, Morgan Leiser, Avery Best, Henry Peterson,
Max Peterson, Rowan Leiser, Natalie Leiser, Henry Flynn,
Tony Lizauckas, Maia Leiser, and Clayton Best*

*Ushers, Paul Biesinger (Captain), Doug Alderdice,
Paul and Karen Bauchle and Karen Kolb,*



GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER SCHEDULE

Good Friday

12:00 p.m. Worship Service in the Mansperger Chapel

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

Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Easter breakfast in Redeemer Hall

9:45 a.m. Preservice music with choir and instruments

10:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion with Choir/Brass/
Organ

SERMON HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane "Gethsemane"

ELW 347



- 1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
- 2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
- 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
- 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin-ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Linda Horton, *President*

Kathy Crissey-Biesinger, *Vice-President*

Karen Maricle, *Treasurer*

Christopher Huber, *Secretary*

Paul Bauchle, Matthew Brown,
Gail Camilleri, Karen Kolb, Todd Kroening,
Martha Kryszczuk, Sally Pellnat and Raúl Saona

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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