

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Ash Wednesday- 7:30 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion

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 people; welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We believe that our openness will allow us to grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

*We invite our guests as well as members to fill out the blue sheet,
found inside your bulletin, and place in the offering plate.*

*Using a smartphone? While we ask you to please silence your ringer,
feel free to check-in, post, tweet or instagram
your experience today using the hashtag #PowerofTrinity.*

Friend us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/holytrinitybuffalo

INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. We invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

PRELUDE

Ich Ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ BWV 639 .
from *Orgelbüchlein*

J.S. Bach
(1685 – 1750)

WELCOME

The service begins with the choir procession while the pastors, and congregation read Psalm 51 responsively.

Please stand as the procession enters the assembly.

THE PROCESSIONAL PSALM: Psalm 51:1–17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your
sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in
your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

**¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.**

**¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

**¹⁵O LORD, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

**¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of 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.

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

The first reading for Ash Wednesday is recorded in Joel, the 2nd Chapter.

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion;

sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,

for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

²a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

When I Was Sinkin' Down

Old American Hymn
arr. by Hall Johnson
(1888 – 1970)

When I was sinkin' down, oh my soul, beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul. What wondrous love is this, oh my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of Bliss to send His precious peace to my soul.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

The second reading for today is recorded in Corinthians, the 5th and 6th Chapters.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute.

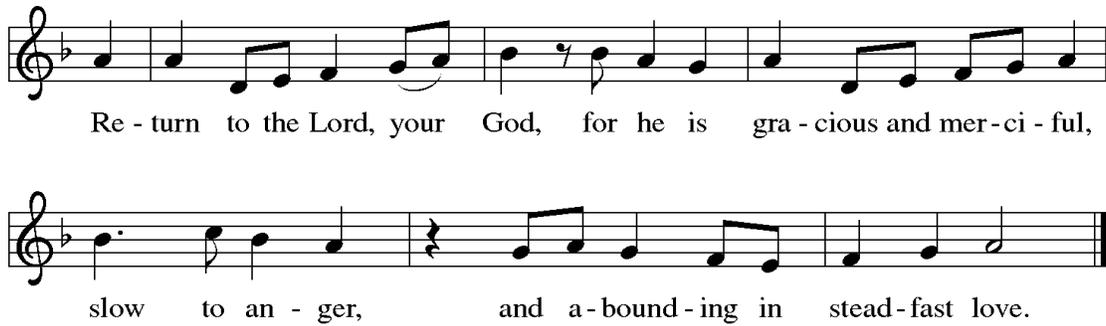
We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

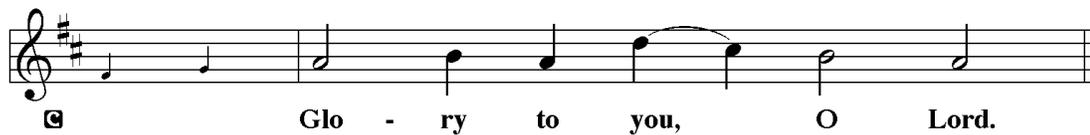
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others.

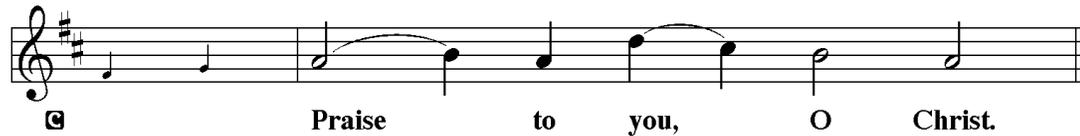
Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷

But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be “Patmos”

ELW 685

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

(Congregation is invited to kneel or sit)

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, 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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.

Ministers mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

MOTET

There Is a Balm in Gilead

William L. Dawson
(1899 – 1990)

Holly Holdaway, *mezzo-soprano*

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all."

After those who desire ashes have received them, all may kneel or sit, and the minister continues

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church. Turn our lives toward you in repentance. Turn our hearts toward our neighbors in love. Turn our actions toward the world in mercy. Renew us in faith, in prayer, and in compassion. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the world. Teach us to treasure the earth as your beloved creation. Provide plentiful and healthy homes for all creatures. Bring new life from decay. Repair what has been damaged from misuse or neglect. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those in need. Protect those who are victimized by crime or injustice. Unburden those who are weighed down by guilt or shame. Assist those who are unemployed. Comfort those who mourn, and heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. Deepen our faith. Empower those who work in our community to provide food, shelter, and health care to those who are in need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember all who have died in faith. Bring us with them to the promise of unending life with you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING

O for a closer walk with God

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800)

Charles Villiers Stanford

(1852-1924)

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame;
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!
Return, O holy Dove, return! Return! Return!
Sweet messenger of rest; I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
that made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast.
So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

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

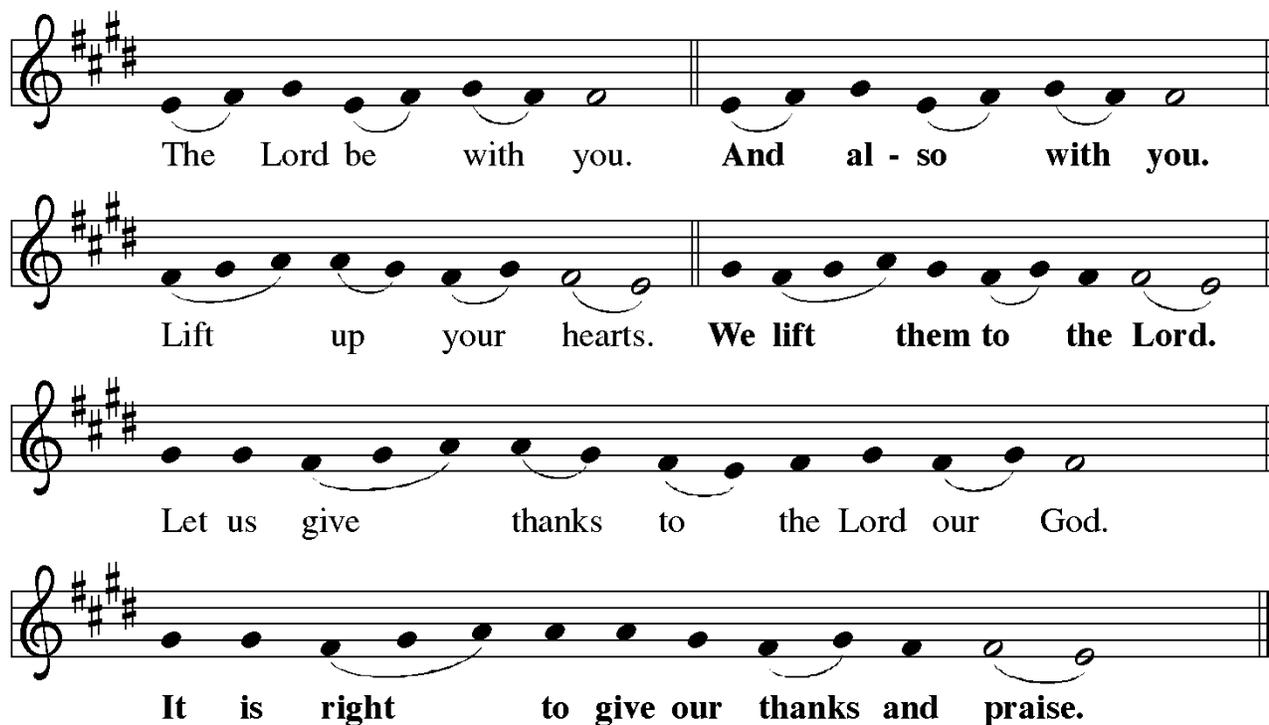


not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of



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

THE DIALOGUE

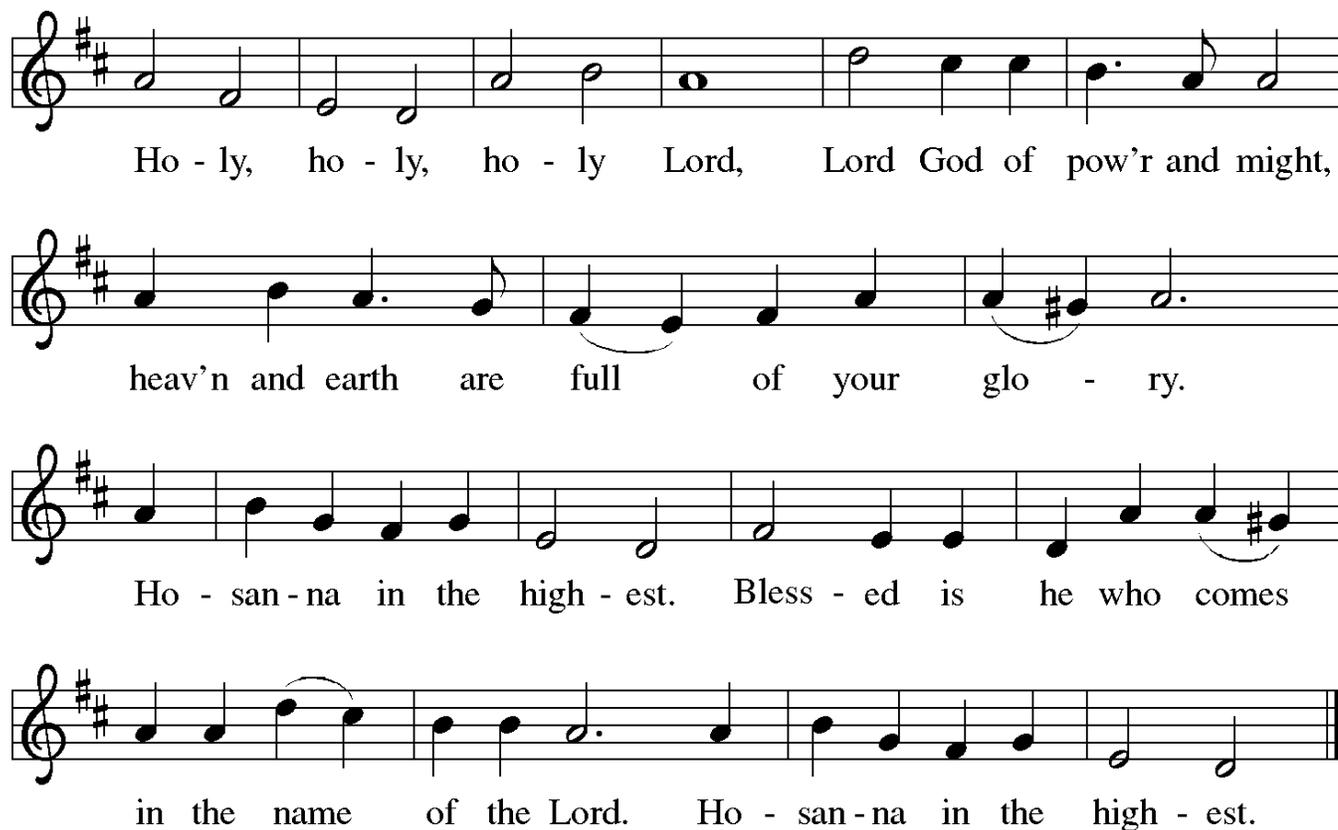


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI



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



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Beginning with those seated closest to the altar, you are invited to come forward to the communion rail (or to the presiding minister if the communion rails are not in place) and kneel or stand at the next available place at the rail. Receiving the wafer in your hand, you are invited to dip or “intinct” the wafer into the chalice. There is wine in the silver chalice and grape juice in the ceramic chalice. For those who prefer, gluten-free wafers are available by simply asking the Pastor as you are served. Adults or children choosing not to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so. All are welcome to the table of our Lord.

COMMUNION MOTETS

Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell
(1905 – 1958)

Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth: christen me wholly, bring me new birth. Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only love maketh glad. Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token love will not fail. Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.

Christe du Lamm Gottes

Text: German Agnus Dei

Martin Luther
(1483 – 1546)

Christ, Lamb of God, You who bear the sin of the world, have mercy on us!
Christ, Lamb of God, You who bear the sin of the world, have mercy on us!
Christ, Lamb of God, You who bear the sin of the world, grant us Your peace.
Amen.

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you turn our emptiness to joy. Send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, filled with abundant grace, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, † bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O Christ, Our Hope “Lobt Gott, Ihr Christen”

ELW 604

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Many thanks to

Reader: Gwen Howard Mann

Communion Assistant: Ron Leiser

Crucifer: Jennifer Carden

Torch Bearers: Robert Mann and Sean Mann

Ushers: Kurt and Mary Kaufmann



Lenten and Easter Worship

Ash Wednesday, March 6

- 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. Ashes on the Run
12:00 p.m. Holy Communion/Imposition of Ashes in Chapel
12:30 p.m. \$6 Lenten Lunch – Meatless Lasagna
7:30 p.m. Holy Communion/Imposition of Ashes in Church

Wednesday Evening Worship at Holy Trinity

- 6:30 Mid-week Worship in Mansperger Chapel

Thursday Lenten program at Holy Trinity

- 12:10 p.m. Worship in Mansperger Chapel
12:30 p.m. \$6 Lenten Lunch (includes sides, dessert and coffee and tea)
3/14 Corned Beef and Cabbage
3/21 Pork Loin
3/28 Ham
4/4 Crispy Chicken Bake
4/11 Meatloaf

Palm Sunday, April 14

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Chancel Choir

Monday, April 15 – Friday, April 19

- 7:00 a.m. Holy Week Morning Devotions and Breakfast

Monday, April 15

- 6:30 p.m. Passover Seder Dinner

Maundy Thursday, April 18

- 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion/stripping of the altar with Chancel Choir

Good Friday, April 19

- 3:30 p.m. Family Service
7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service with Chancel Choir

Easter Sunday, April 21

- 8:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast by the Fellowship Group
9:45 a.m. Pre-service music
10:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion with Choir/Brass/Organ

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Kurt Kaufmann, President

Uli MacDonald, Vice-President

Emily Notari, Treasurer

Jennifer Yap, Secretary

Teddy Bradley, Ryon Fleming, Guy Huber, Richard Lee,
Juan Perez, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Barb Wozniak

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Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster

kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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Carol Littlefield, Parish Accountant

Judy Reifsteck, Faith Community Nurse (632-3448)

John Busch, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Charles Ryniec, Steward of Buildings and Grounds

The Rev. Lee M. Miller II, Senior Pastor

pastor.lee.miller@holytrinitybuffalo.org

The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor

pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org

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