



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, December 30, 2018  
First Sunday of Christmas  
Celebrating our 138<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Holy Communion – 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.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 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](http://www.facebook.com/holytrinitybuffalo)*

## **INTRODUCTION**

*On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.*

## **VOLUNTARY**

*In Dulci Jubilo* (2 settings)

Marcel Dupré and J.S. Bach  
(1886 - 1971)      (1685 – 1750)

## **RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OPENING HYMN**

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory* “Regent Square”

ELW 275

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion, and bears gifts of mercy for all.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God’s promise of forgiveness.

*You are invited to kneel or sit, as you are able (10:30)*

God, wonderful counselor,

**we confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.**

God’s lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God’s mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, God give you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always.

**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

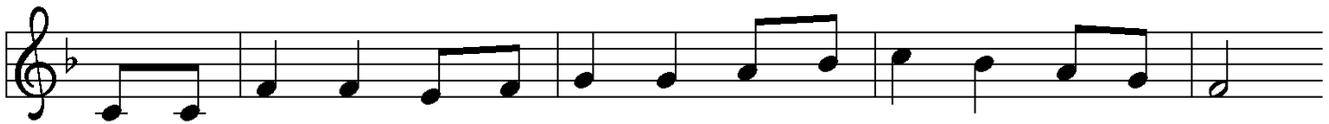
## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

ELW 276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

**Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**(10:30)**

**A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

**FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

The first reading for the First Sunday of Christmas is recorded in Samuel, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter.

<sup>18</sup>Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

<sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17**

The second reading for today is recorded in Colossians, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter.

<sup>12</sup>As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

<sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

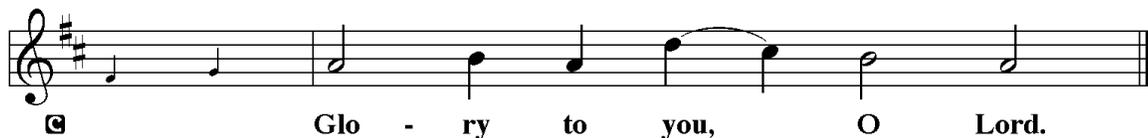
*Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke

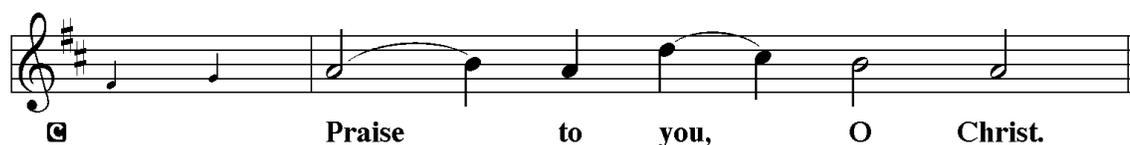


<sup>41</sup>Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

<sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” <sup>49</sup>He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The gospel of the Lord:



*Please be seated.*

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Lee M. Miller, II

*Please stand, if able.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Once in Royal David's City "Irby"*

ELW 269

## **CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

God of wisdom, open our ears to hear your grace through the words and deeds of children, including the children of our community and especially Audrey and August. Inspire the youngest and oldest in our midst to learn from one another with humility and patience. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, praise to you for hills and mountains, fruit trees and forests, animals wild and tame, sea monsters, birds, and reptiles. Spark delight in our hearts for all that you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, call us to peace and bind us together in perfect unity. Make wars to cease. Guide the leaders of the nations in your way of wisdom, compassion, and tolerance. We pray especially for all men and women serving in the armed forces and their families. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, mend the broken hearts of those who suffer this day. Treasure everyone who struggles with addiction, loneliness, hunger, unemployment, mental illness, or sickness. We pray for all those we now name out loud, and those we remember in our hearts... . Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, draw us into the body of Christ and make us grow in faith and hope. Fill us with hearts of thanksgiving made visible in our words and actions for the sake of the whole world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, strengthen all communities of faith, including the Buffalo City Cluster: Grace, North Park, Parkside, Resurrection, and Holy Trinity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of delight, fill us with songs of praise and hope even in the midst of despair and death. Comfort the grieving, especially the Nikischer Family on the death of Donald. Strengthen our faith until the day we will be gathered around your throne singing in eternal praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **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*

*Please be seated.*

## **THE OFFERING**

### **SOLO AT THE OFFERING**

*Silent Night*

Arr. Richard Walters  
(b. 1965)

Jacob Badding, *bass*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

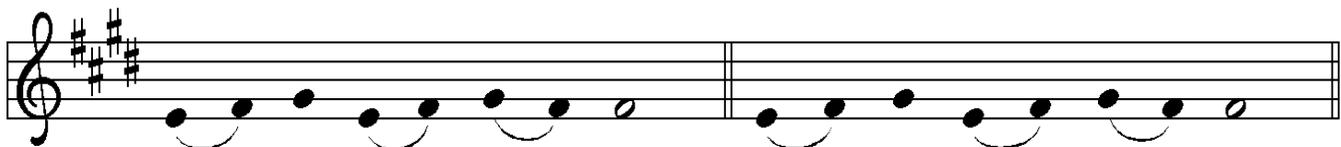
*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

ELW 885

“Old Hundredth”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

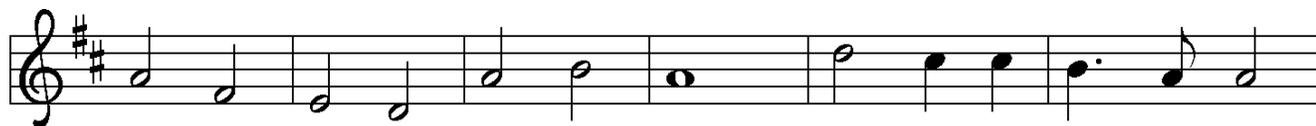


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy 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 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.

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. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. 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.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

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

**Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI



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



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



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



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

*Please be seated.*

## THE COMMUNION

### *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.

## **SOLO AT COMMUNION**

*For, Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth  
The People That Walked in Darkness*  
from the *Messiah*

George F. Handel  
(1685 – 1759)

Jacob Badding, *bass*

For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

*Please stand as you are able.*

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.

**God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever. Amen.**

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes, in prisons and in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, † bless you and keep you in hope and peace.

**Amen.**

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* “In Dulci Jubilo”

ELW 288

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*In Dulci Jubilo*

Norman Dello Joio  
(1913 - 2008)



## ***Day “Buy” Day Thanksgivings December 2018***

*December 22      Happy Heavenly 85<sup>th</sup> birthday to my husband,  
Nicholas Campana, on December 22. Lovingly  
miss my “St. Nick”. Forever in my heart, Cris*

Now you can honor special events and special people in your life!  
Send us a Day Buy Day Form with a check made payable to  
Holy Trinity for \$25 for each event you wish to honor.  
Proceeds will go toward the Education Committee and help sponsor the  
Confirmation Camp for youth here at Holy Trinity.



***THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY***

**SUNDAY, December 30, 2018 – First Sunday after Christmas**

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery (SS)

**TUESDAY, January 1, 2019**

*Happy New Year*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**WEDNESDAY, January 2, 2019**

- 7:30 a.m. Brewed Faith at Spot Coffee
- 6:00 p.m. BNYC Rehearsal (MC)
- 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Service (RH)

**THURSDAY, January 3, 2019**

- 7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

**SUNDAY, January 6, 2019 – Epiphany of Our Lord**

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery (SS)
- 11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour/DeGreening of the Church

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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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Tuesday in observance of New Year's Day.

COFFEE HOUR: There will be no coffee hour today.

POINSETTIAS: There are Christmas flowers available. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a family member or a friend. They will be available following today's service.

DE-GREENING of the church will take place next Sunday following the 10:30 a.m. service. All are welcome to stay and help. Lunch will be served to all who help.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, January 13 at the completion of the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services. Immediately following the 10:30 meeting, we will be holding a potluck dinner. Please bring your favorite dish to pass and join us for fun and fellowship.

BIBLE STUDY: The new women's Bible study will meet on January 8 at 5:30 pm. Please see Pastor Brenda with any questions.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Each Sunday, the beautiful vases of flowers gracing the chancel are often dedicated by members of our congregation in memory of or honor of loved ones. The following dates are available through the end of February 2019: January 13; February 3 and 10. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for these or any other specific date during the year. She can be reached at [msmarylschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:msmarylschmidt@gmail.com) or 716-835-3325. Vases are currently \$40.00 each.



At 8:30 a.m. the worship assistant is Sean Mann. Altar guilds are Heidemarie Kunz and Gail Camilleri. Lay reader is Earl Kunz. Communion assistant is Peter Bergenstock. Ushers are Dave and Pat Ulrich.

At 10:30 a.m. announcer is Pastor Lee. Lay reader is Doreen Griebel. Altar guilds are Doreen Griebel and Martha Kutas. Ushers are Ron Leiser (captain), Kristen Best, Penny Brusio, Mike Day, Alan Heiss, Angela Keppel, Elizabeth Vihnanek and Helen and Marty Wright. Greeters are Beth Pellnat and Penny Brusio. Communion Assistants are Barb Wozniak, Delayne Pace and Robert Mann. Worship Assistants are Michael Jordan, Christian Johnson, Aidan Vitka, Delayne Pace, Robert Mann, Sean Mann, Brandon Howard and Madalyn Brown.

The flowers on the altar are given In Honor of our families by Janet and Michael Day.

Council Member Juan Perez will be at the Entrance Way 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 Audrey and August Solberg.

The gospel reading for Sunday, January 6 is Matthew 2:1-12.

Stewardship Thought of the Day

*Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces,  
I would still plant my apple tree.*

*Martin Luther*

## **HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP**

### **Congregational Council**

Kurt Kaufmann, President

Emily Notari, Treasurer

Uli MacDonald, Secretary

Teddy Bradley, Ryon Fleming, Guy Huber

Tom Kutas, Richard Lee, Karen Maricle

Juan Perez, Barb Wozniak

### **Staff Contacts for Programs and Services**

Kristen Pomietlarz, Organist

Justin Pomietlarz, Choirmaster

[kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:kjpomietlarz@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

Linda Lipczynski, Office Manager

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](mailto:pastor.lee.miller@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Brenda Maynor, Pastor

[pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:pastorbrenda@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

### **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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