

WELCOME TO
HOLY TRINITY

MASS | THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, August 31st 2025

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the largest progressive Lutheran body in the United States. As Lutherans, we go about Christianity in a Lutheran way, emphasizing that we are reconciled with God (justified) not by anything we do, but through and because of God's love, freely given (grace). We love questions more than quick fixes (paradox), and we read the Bible in a way that honors it as the source and norm of faith, but not as a literal handbook. As Lutherans, we also lift up the gifts and capacity for ministry (vocation) that every person unquestionably holds.

As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation (and the first in the Metropolitan New York Synod), Holy Trinity welcomes all persons, including all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Holy Trinity is also committed to practicing racial equity, learning anti-racism, and modeling radical hospitality and inclusion across age, class, national origin, physical and mental health and ability, family configuration, and language.

With a heart for the city, a passion for justice, and a commitment to the arts, we seek to be a place where all God's people will know they are loved. Welcome. We've been waiting for you. There is a place for you here.

GIVE ONLINE

If you contribute to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity through online giving, please pick up an "I give online" card from an usher to participate in the offering as the offering plates are passed.

LIVE STREAMING
AT HOLY TRINITY

Please be aware that worship this morning is being filmed, photographed, and live streamed on our YouTube channel. Your likeness and/or voice may be captured by our equipment. Please alert an usher at the entrance if you have any concerns. Selections from this live stream may be used on our website and in our public relations materials.

PLEASE NOTE

Weapons, including firearms, knives, scissors; aerosols such as pepper spray and mace; and any hazardous materials are strictly prohibited on church property. All bags are subject to inspection upon entry into the sanctuary.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

ASSISTING MINISTERS	Marlin Kinzey & Damon Gray
ALTAR GUILD	Gayle & Douglass Seaton
LECTOR	Joseph Gedeon
USHERS	Lucy Miller & Anne Kinzey
DIGITAL SACRISTAN	Tom Barritt
COFFEE HOUR	Scott Merrell & Jeff Juliar
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Austin Philemon
PASTOR	The Reverend Timothy Weisman

about this
summer's
organ music

Throughout the summer, we've worked our way through J.S. Bach's complete Orgelbüchlein (Little Organ Book). Consisting of 45 short chorale preludes, this monumental work is one of the cornerstones of the organ repertoire, telling a story of Bach's theological views on the complete church calendar from start (Advent) to finish (Trinity). Today presents the final day of the Orgelbüchlein project, bringing us one step closer to our goal of presenting the complete organ works of Bach (308 pieces of music) on Paul Fritts Op. 16 before the instrument leaves to make way for our new organ, Fritts Op. 54.

GATHERING

At the sound of the bell, we gather quietly.

prelude

BWV 641 "Wenn wir in höchsten Nöthen sein"
BWV 642 "Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten"

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

The assembly stands to sing.

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

All may bow during the response, mirroring the presider.

greeting

(2 corinthians 13:14)

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



And al - so with you.

hymn of praise

("German Gloria")



1. All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2. Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3. To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



-will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



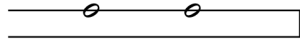
heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry. A - - - men.
-ceive our pray'r; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

prayer of
the day

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.



A - men.

The assembly sits.

WORD

from the
hebrew
scriptures

Proverbs 25:6-7

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
⁷ for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Silence is kept.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A cantor intones the first verse, then the assembly joins to sing.

psalm 112



*Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the Lord
and have great delight in | God's commandments!*

Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.
Light shines in the darkness for the | upright;
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in | lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.
For they will never be | shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting re- | membrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil | rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the Lord.
Their heart is established and | will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor.
The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and | pine away;
the desires of the wicked | will perish.

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Silence is kept.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

gospel
acclamation



The cantor sings: Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart. (Matthew 11:29)

from the
holy gospels

Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The assembly is invited to make a small cross over your forehead, lips, and chest, inviting Jesus the Word into your heart, mind, and speech.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

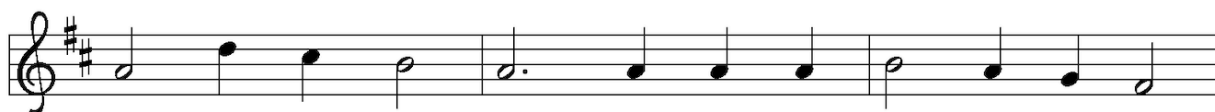
sermon

The Reverend Timothy Weisman

Silence is kept after the sermon. The assembly stands to sing.



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I



see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

the apostles'
creed
(4th century)

**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.**

The assembly kneels or sits to pray.

prayers of the
people

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The assembly responds to each petition.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

prayer for
racial justice
(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

O God, we thank you for the lives of great saints and prophets in the past, who have revealed to us that we can stand up amid the problems and difficulties and trials of life and not give in. We thank you for our foreparents, who've given us something in the midst of the darkness of exploitation and oppression to keep going. Grant that we will go on with the proper faith and the proper determination of will, so that we will be able to make a creative contribution to this world. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray, **Amen.**

the peace
(john 20:19)

The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.

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

The assembly is invited to pass the peace in whatever way is most comfortable to them. If you, for any reason, wish to avoid physical contact during the peace, please feel free to cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire for a verbal greeting. Following the peace, the assembly sits.

MEAL

In addition to giving towards the ministry of Holy Trinity as the offering plates are being passed, you can

- *Scan the QR code to the right;*
- *Venmo @holytrinitynyc;*
- *Send a Zelle to office@holytrinity.org;*
- *Give to Holy Trinity through a Donor-advised Fund by searching for our EIN: 13-1685538.*



offertory

God help the outcasts
Brian Rodriguez, tenor

Alan Menken
(b. 1949)

*I don't know if you can hear me or if you're even there.
I don't know if you will listen to a humble prayer.
They tell me I am just an outcast; I shouldn't speak to you.
Still I see your face and wonder; were you once an outcast too?*

*God help the outcasts hungry from birth.
Show them the mercy they don't find on earth.
The lost and forgotten, they look to you still.
God help the outcast or nobody will.*

*I ask for nothing, I can get by.
But I know so many less lucky than I.
God help the outcasts, the poor and downtrod.
I thought we all were the children of God.*

*I don't know if there's a reason why some are blessed, some not.
Why the few you seem to favor, they fear us, flee us, try not to see us.
God help the outcasts, the tattered, the torn,
seeking an answer to why they were born.*

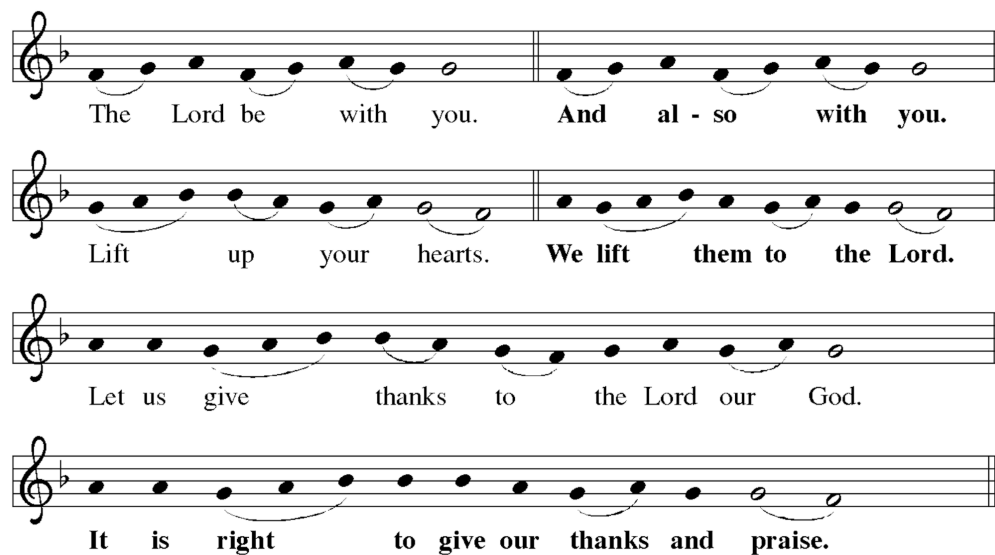
*Winds of misfortune have blown them about.
 You made the outcasts; don't cast them out.
 The poor and unlucky, the weak and the old;
 I thought we all were the children of God.*

offertory
 prayer

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* Almighty God, with joy we bring our thanksgiving, and for all your mercies, we return to you from our abundance. All that we give, we dedicate to your glory. All that we keep, we commit to your care. Bless what we give and what we keep, for all is your creation and we are only stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.

the great
 thanksgiving



the proper
 preface

The presider continues: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you. . . and so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn. . .

sanctus

I - sai - ah, in a vi - sion, hath been shown
the Lord in spir - it sit - ting on the throne.
There were two ser - apha stand - ing next to him,
Six wings he saw a - dorned on each of them,
they spread their wings and took off fly - ing free
one to a - noth - er cal - ling might - i - ly:
Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sa - ba - oth!
His glo - - - ry fill - eth all the earth.

eucharistic prayer

O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust repeat the ancient song: heaven and earth are full of your glory.

You took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.

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. *The assembly may bow.*

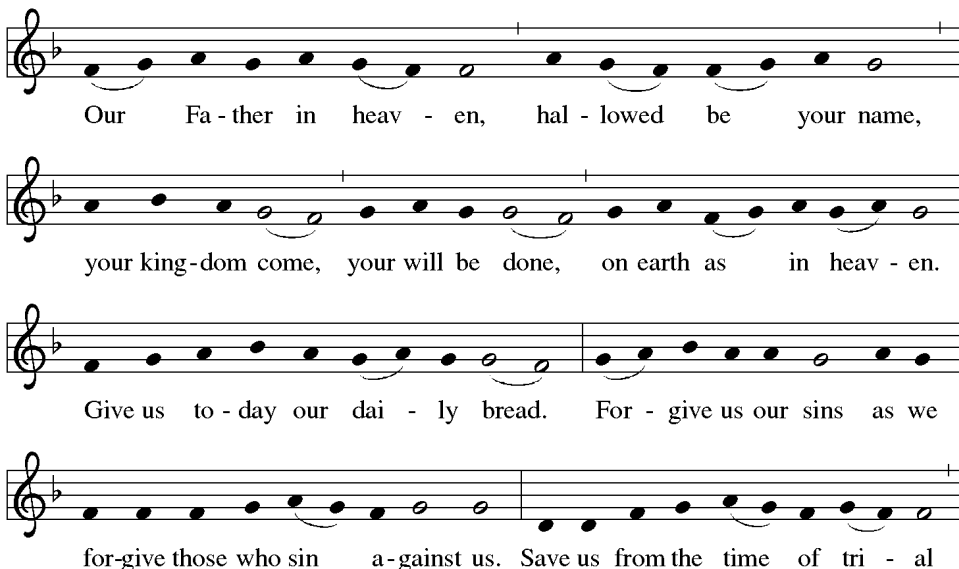
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me. *The assembly may bow.*

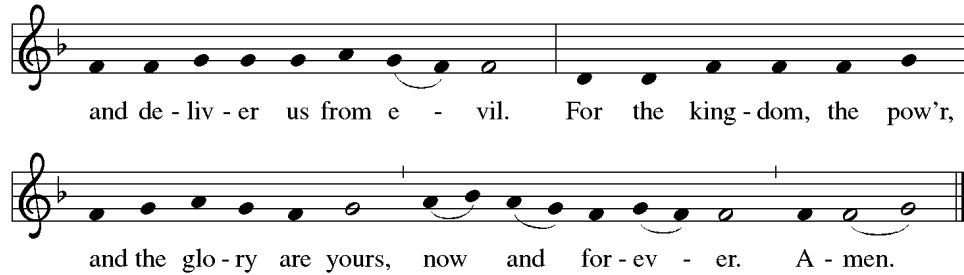
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again.

Let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the body and blood of Christ. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple.

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 blessed and triune God; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. And let the church say, **Amen!**

the lord's prayer
 (Matthew 6:9-13)





the invitation
(psalm 34:8)

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God!**

The assembly sits until invited forward by an usher.

All are welcome at this table. This is not a Lutheran, Episcopal, or a Roman Catholic table; it is God's table and all are invited to receive. The small cups contain either white wine or red grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available, just ask. After receiving, you may leave your empty cup on the table near the side aisle. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing, and you may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest. You may also remain in your seat during distribution, knowing that this table is open when you are ready.

communion
music

O, divine redeemer!
Brian Rodriguez, tenor

Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)

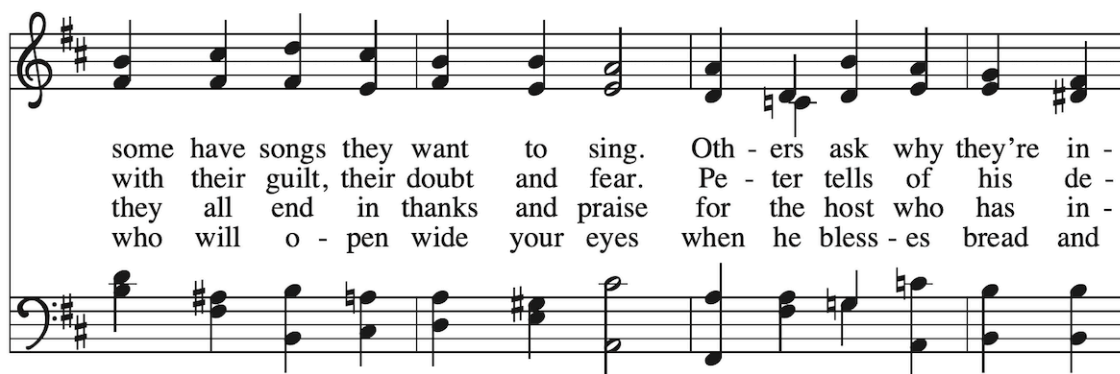
*Ah! Turn me not away, receive me though unworthy,
hear thou my cry, behold, Lord, my distress!
Answer me from thy throne, haste thee, Lord, to mine aid,
thy pity show in my deep anguish! Let not the sword of vengeance smite me,
though righteous thine anger, o Lord! Shield me in danger, o regard me!
On thee, Lord, alone will I call.
O, divine redeemer! I pray thee, grant me pardon and remember not my sins!
Forgive me, o, divine redeemer!
I pray thee, grant me pardon and remember not my sins!
Night gathers round my soul; fearful, I cry to thee;
come to mine aid, o Lord! Haste thee, Lord, haste to help me!
Hear my cry! Save me, Lord, in thy mercy; hear my cry!
Come and save me, o Lord! O divine redeemer! I pray thee, grant me pardon
and remember not, o Lord, my sins! Save me, in the day of retribution, from Death,
shield thou me, O my god! O divine redeemer, have mercy! Help me, savior!*



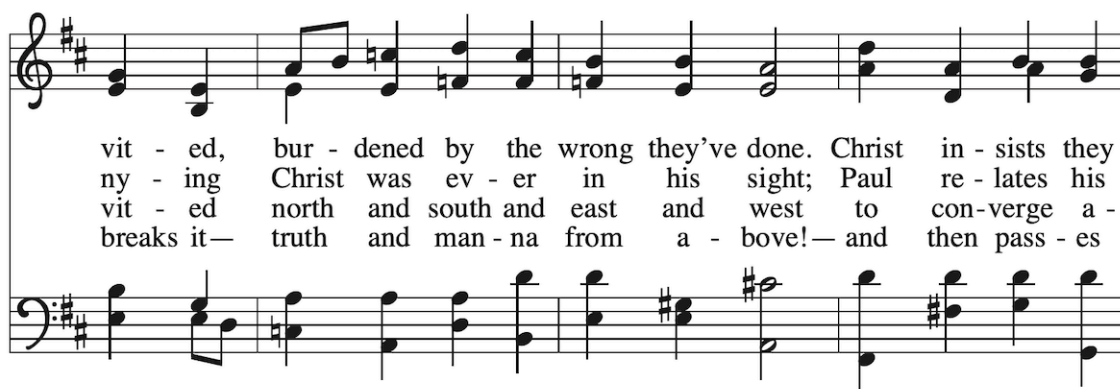
1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



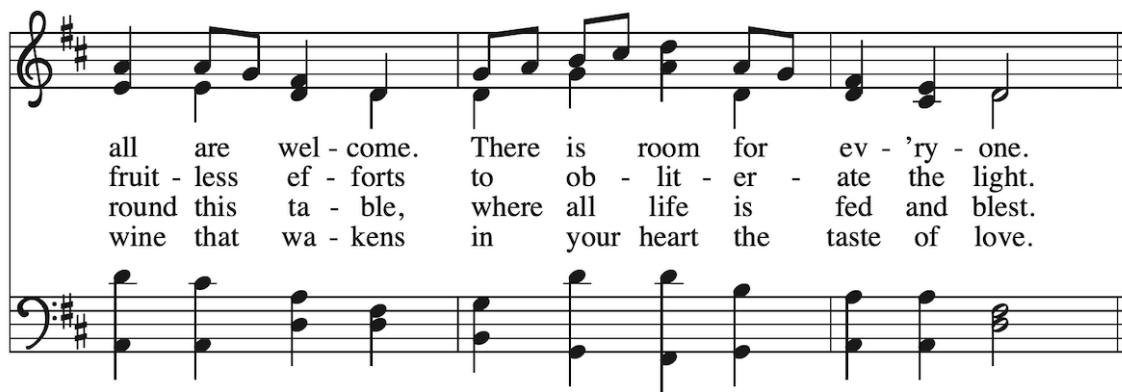
that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
 breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



The assembly stands.

prayer after
communion

Let us pray. **God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

final blessing
(1 Thessalonians 5)

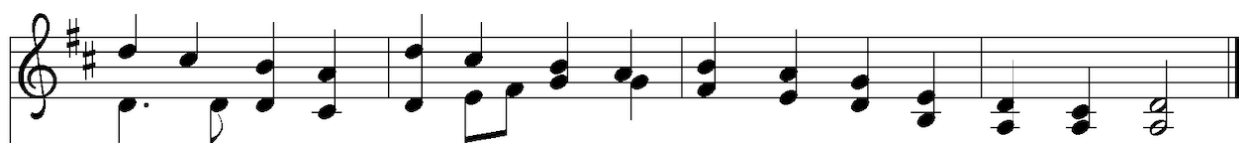
Go out into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold onto what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help the suffering. Honor everyone. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And may the blessing of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!



dismissal

The Mass is ended.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly sits for the postlude.

postlude

BWV 643 “Alle Menschen müssen sterben”

J.S. Bach

BWV 644 “Ach wie nichtig, ach wie flüchtig”

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PLEASE
REMEMBER IN
YOUR PRAYERS

Dorothy Barritt
Dolores Fernandez

John Senig
Stephen Shea
Marie Mutz
Bonnie Minger
John and Joe K.
Tim Seboldt
Dick Baumann
Rachel Boccio
Raphael Ruiz
Dean Weisman
Mike Rodriguez
Thorvald Slater

Rob Landry
Barbara Taylor
Helena Meyers
Lorraine Sorensen
Carol Harnett
Kathy VanBlarcum
Angel Luis
Paul Schmidt
Ruth Farrell
Louise Printz
Christine Cosmillo
Jan Lindemann

If you would like to give altar flowers in memory of a loved one or in commemoration of an event, email office@holytrinitynyc.org

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY

If you are new to Holy Trinity, we are glad you're here. Whether you've worshiped at Holy Trinity a thousand times or are here today for the first time, there will always be a place for you here.

Restrooms are located on the lower level.

Please follow safe church practices during worship and other activities at Holy Trinity. Parents and guardians, please do not allow children to go anywhere in the building unattended. Thank you for your help in keeping Holy Trinity a safe place for all people.

During the passing of the peace, you may greet those around you in whatever way is most comfortable to you. If you, for any reason, wish to avoid physical contact during the peace, you may cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire for a verbal greeting.

After Mass, **please join us for Coffee Hour** in the Community Room located on the lower level.

Find all our news and announcements in our e-newsletter:



Sign up for our weekly newsletter at tinyurl.com/signupHT. **And reach out to Pastor Tim** and let him know you're here today. His email is pastortim@holytrinitynyc.org.

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