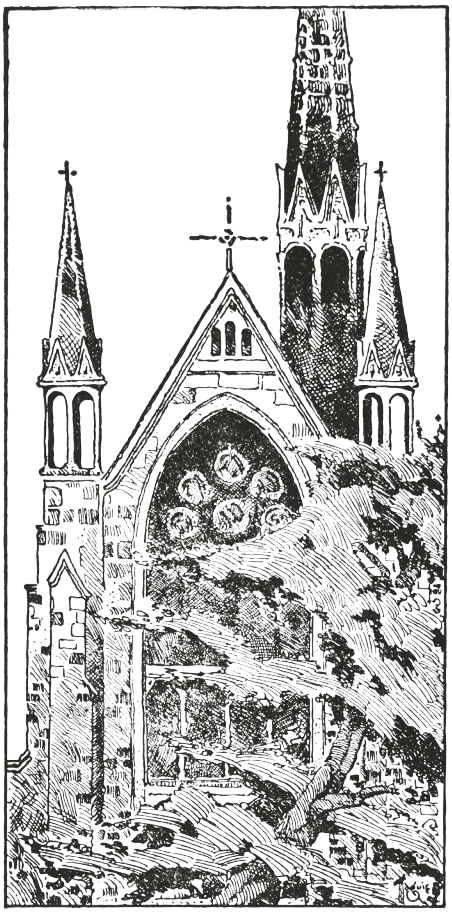
The Evangelical Lutheran Church Of The Holy Trinity

Central Park West at 65th St., New York



The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 8th, 2026

Welcome to Holy Trinity

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 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 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 is being live streamed on our YouTube channel. Your likeness may be captured and shared. 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:

Jan Lindemann, *Worship Assistant*

Gayle & Douglass Seaton, *Altar Guild*

Suzanne Boccio, *Lector*

Robin Samuel & Lee Helms, *Ushers*

Tom Barritt, *Digital Sacristan*

Jim & Suzanne Boccio, *Coffee Hour*

Austin Philemon, *Director of Music*

The Rev'd Timothy Weisman, *Pastor*

Gathering
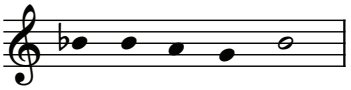
Prelude—Intermezzo Op. 118 no. 2 Johannes Brahms

Hymn 441—"Oh happy day when we shall stand" LOBT GOTT
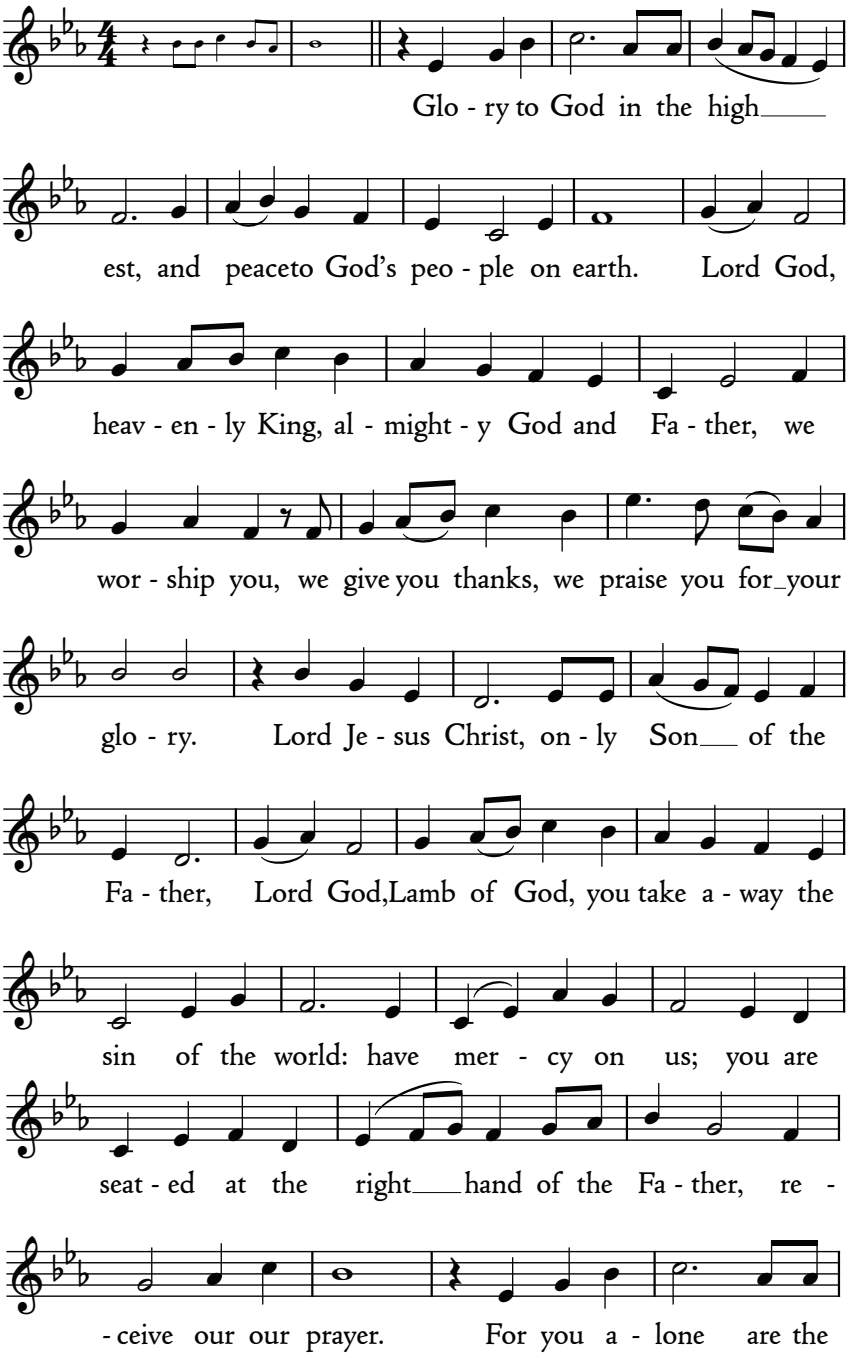
Greeting
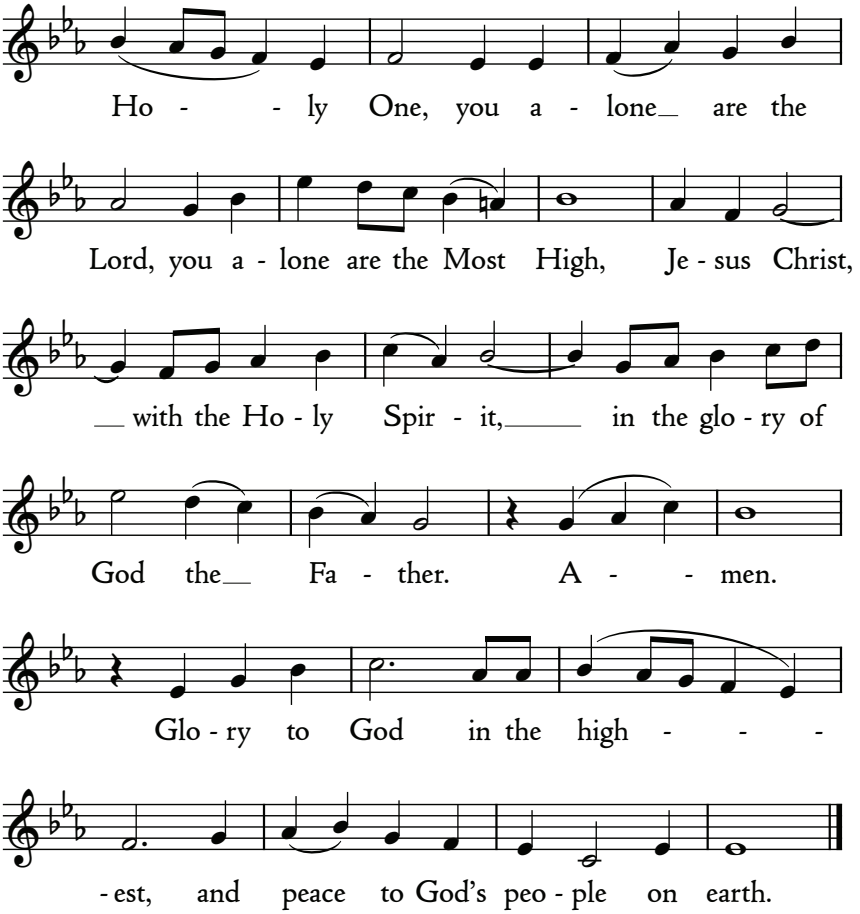
2 Corinthians 13:14

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



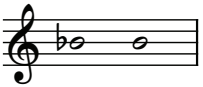
Hymn of Praise





Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.



Word

From the Hebrew Scriptures

JOSHUA 24:1-3A, 14-25

1 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the
elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they present-
ed themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus
says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and
his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served
other gods. 3a Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River
and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

14 "Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in
faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the
River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. 15 Now if you are unwilling to
serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods
your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the
Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord."

16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should
forsake the Lord to serve other gods, 17 for it is the Lord our God who
brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the
house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protect-
ed us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through
whom we passed, 18 and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the
Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord,
for he is our God."

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he
is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgres-
sions or your sins. 20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then
he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you
good." 21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!"
22 Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves
that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are
witnesses." 23 He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among
you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." 24 The peo-
ple said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will

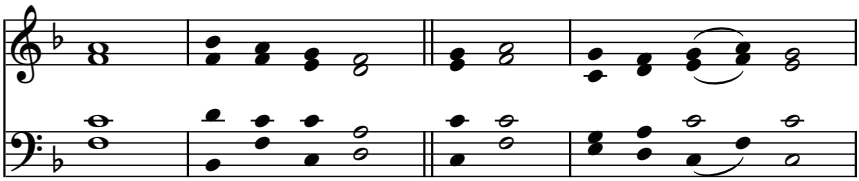
obey." [25] So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Silence is kept.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70 *A cantor intones the first verse, then the assembly joins to sing.*



Be pleased, O God, | to deliver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw | back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me "Aha!" and | gloat over me
turn back be- | cause of their shame.
Let all who seek you rejoice | and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, | "Great is the Lord!"

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me | quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry.
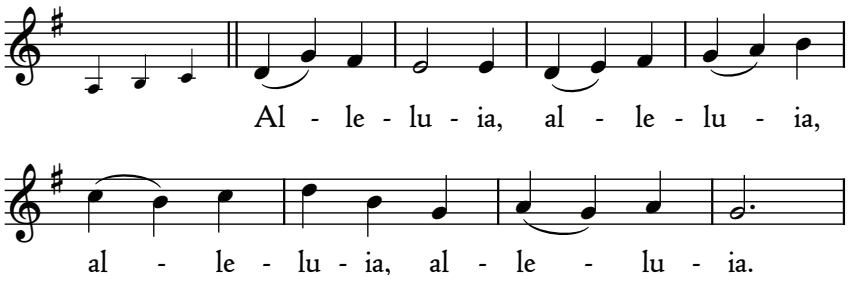
From the Christian Scriptures 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about
those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who
have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have
died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we
who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no
means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with
a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of
God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ
will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught
up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air,
and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one
another with these words.

Silence is kept.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



The choir sings: "Keep awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." (MATT. 24:42,44)

From the Holy Gospels

MATTHEW 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
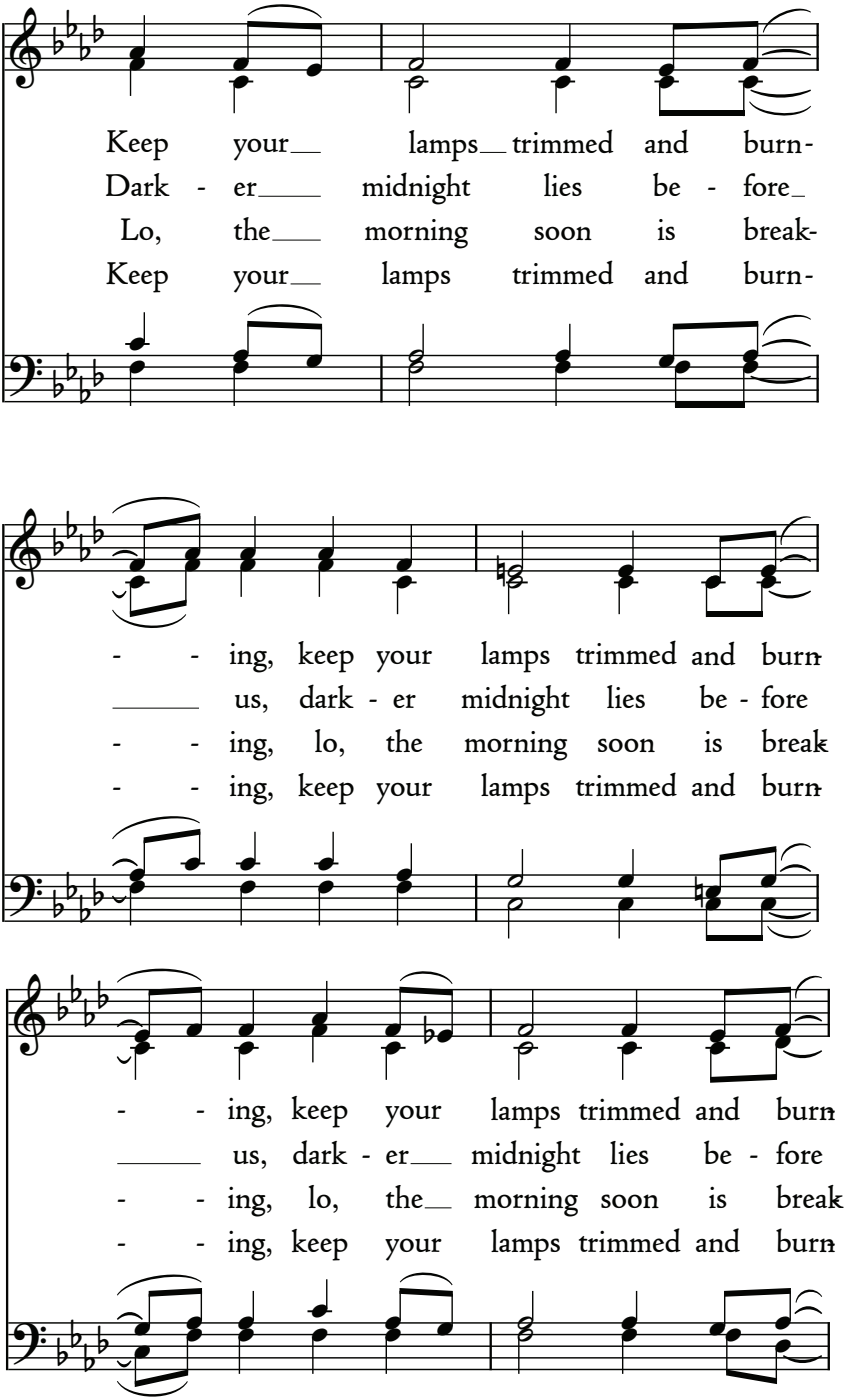
You are invited to make a small cross over your forehead, lips, and chest, inviting Jesus the Word into your heart, mind, and speech.
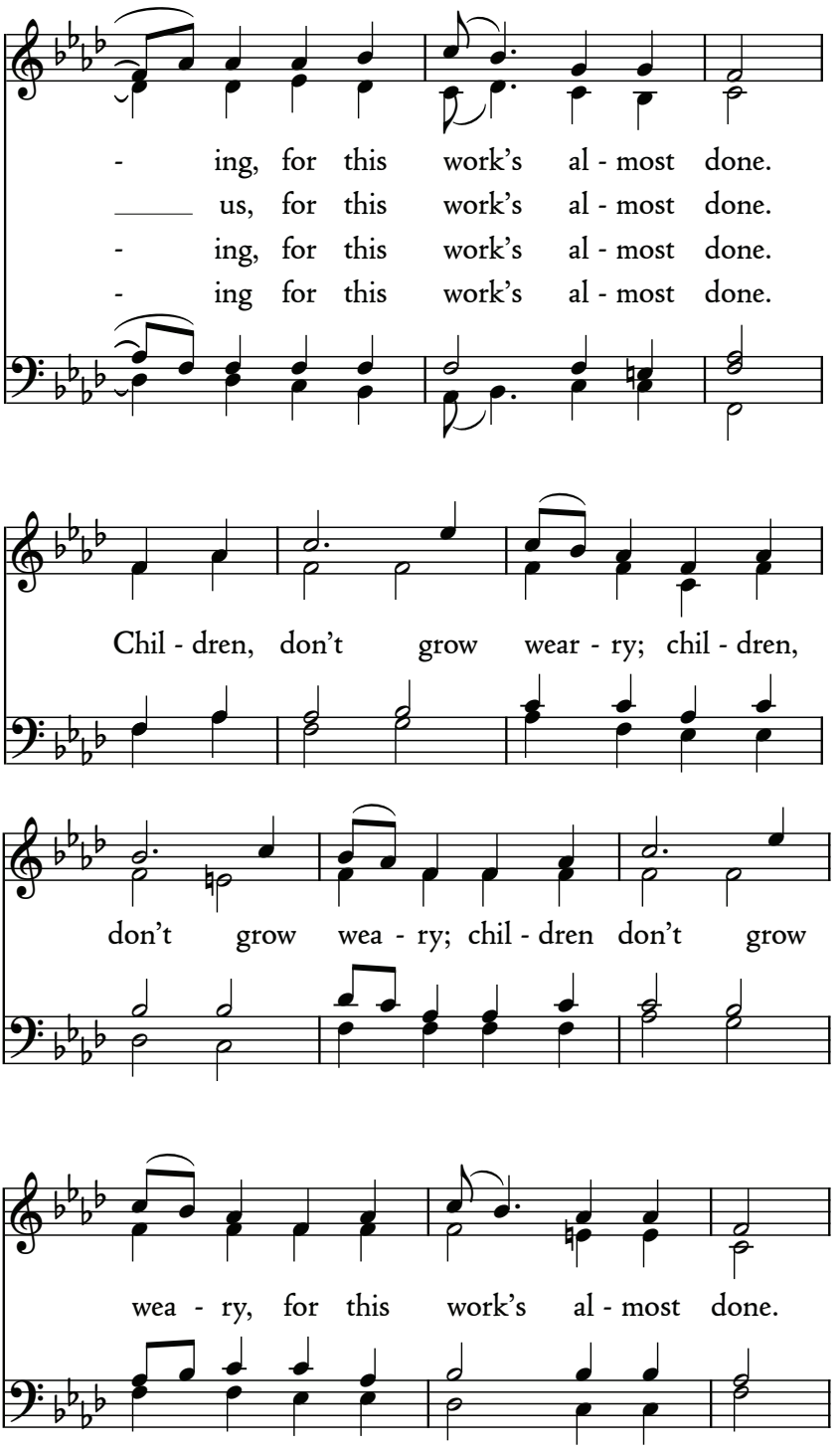
[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

Sermon—The Rev'd Timothy Weisman

Hymn—"Keep your lamps trimmed and burning"




- ing, for this work's al - most done.
_____ us, for this work's al - most done.
- ing, for this work's al - most done.
- ing for this work's al - most done.
Chil - dren, don't grow wear - ry; chil - dren,
don't grow wea - ry; chil - dren don't grow
wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

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.

Prayers of the People *The assembly remains standing to pray.*

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

YOLANDA PIERCE

O God, let us not rush to the language of healing before understanding the fullness of the injury. Let us not rush to offer a bandaid when the wound requires surgery. Let us not offer false equivalencies which diminish the pain being felt in a particular circumstance

in a particular historical moment. Let us not speak of reconciliation without speaking of reparations. Let us not be afraid to sit with the ugliness, the messiness, and the pain that is life in community. Let us not offer clichés to the grieving, whose hearts are being torn asunder. God, in your mercy, show us our own complicity in injustice. Convict us for our indifference. Forgive us when we have remained silent. Equip us with a zeal for righteousness, in the name of Jesus **Amen.**

Peace *The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.* JOHN 20:19

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 toward 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@holytrinitynyc.org;*
- *Give to Holy Trinity through a Donor-advised Fund by searching for our EIN: 13-1685538.*

Offertory—And I saw a new heaven Edgar Bainton

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

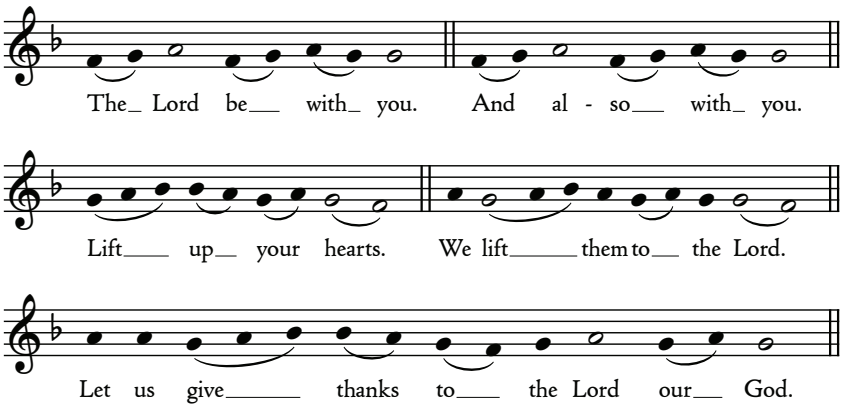
And I heard a great voice out of Heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

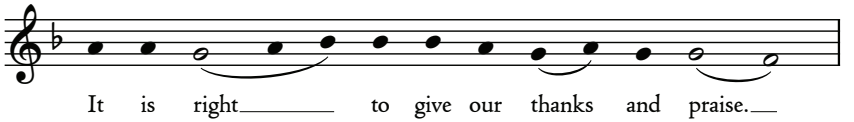
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away..

Offertory prayer

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving *The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.*
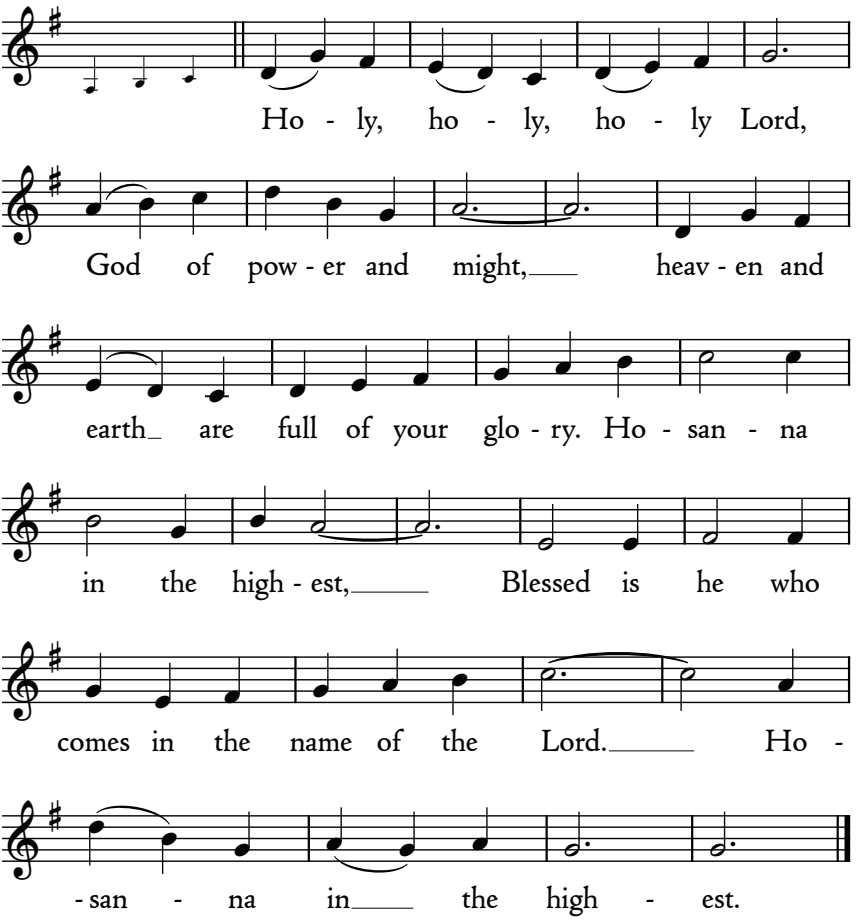




Proper Preface *The presider continues:*

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



Eucharistic prayer

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth and created us in your likeness. You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care.

All through our weary years and our silent tears, you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love. When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us. When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us. When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us. Through your holy prophets you called us to return to your graciousness, to your mercy, and to your steadfast love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin. Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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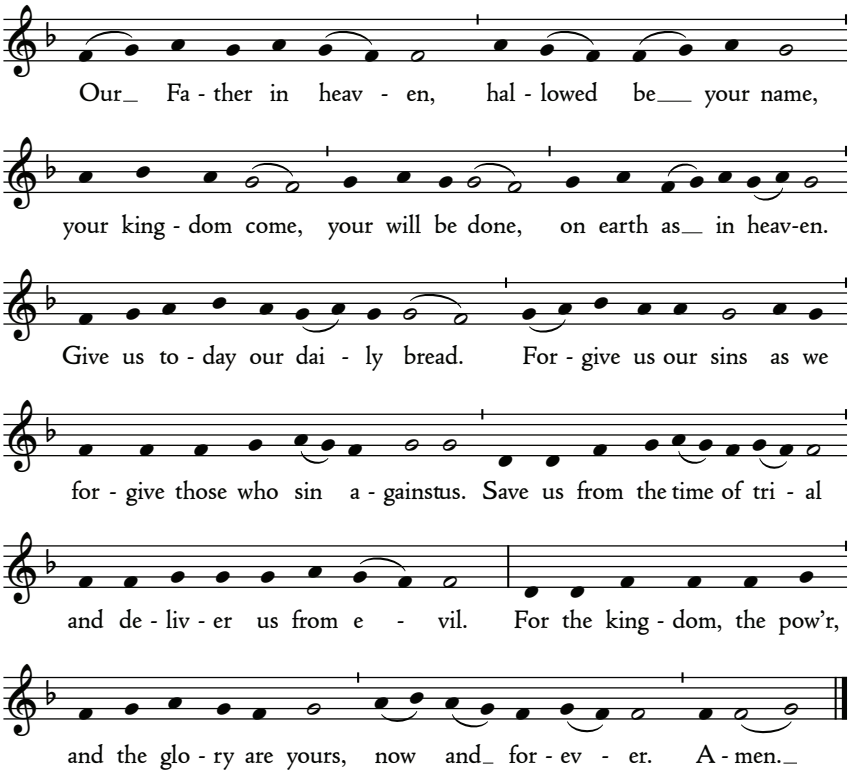
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me. *The assembly may bow.*

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

With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us; his eating with outcasts and sinners, his healing of the sick, his care for the poor. Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who share this meal may become a holy communion, the body of Christ in the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. And let the church say. **Amen.**

Lord's prayer



Invitation

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 small 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—Selig sind die Toten G.P. Telemann

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, from now on.
Therefore, I shall gladly and willingly lay down this life—for it belongs to my God—and I am not saddened by it;
for in the wounds of my Jesus, I have already found redemption,
and my comfort in the throes of death is the very death of my Mediator.
Yes, the Spirit says that they shall rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them; and so, I depart to Jesus Christ.
With outstretched arms, I hasten toward Him who is above, trusting in His mercy. He, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has already opened the gates of heaven to me, for eternal joy.

Hymn 785—"It is well with my soul" VILLE DU HAVRE

The assembly stands.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray. **Most merciful God, you come into our ordinary lives and set a holy table among us, filling us with the bread of life and our cups with salvation. Now send us out into the world with the promise of your redeeming love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.**

Hymn 638—"Blessed assurance" ASSURANCE

Dismissal

The Mass is ended.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly sits for the postlude.

Prelude—Rondo in D major, K.485 W.A. MOZART

TRINITY TIDINGS

Prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

Dorothy Barritt
Stephen Shea
Bonnie Minger
John and Joe K.
Dick Baumann
Raphael Ruiz
Dean Weisman
Thorvald Slater
Mike Rodriguez
Barbara Taylor
Carol Harnett
Kathy VanBlarcum
Paul Schmidt
Ruth Farrell
Louise Printz
Marilyn Johnson
Nick Cosmillo
Amy Clare Whitaker
Alice SanGermano
Marta Okland
Rev. Juanita Hillsenbeck
The Rev. Paul Schmiege
Howard Nelson
Joe Chappel
Jeffrey Richards
Maicah DelCID
Kristin Sands
Ann Brennan

If you would like to give altar flowers in memory or celebration of a loved one, email robby@holytrinitynyc.org

Welcome

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 while visiting 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.

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

Find news and announcements in our e-newsletter here ☞

Reach out to Pastor Tim to let him know you're here today: pastortim@holytrinitynyc.org.