



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran Church

*Engaged by Grace.*

WEEKLY

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Ministry Announcements for the week of November 27 - December 4, 2022

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### **Our Sunday Schedule**

8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry

9:15 am – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

9:45 am – Children’s Warm-up in the Conference Room

10:00 am – Worship in person in the Sanctuary and Online at [www.engagedbygrace.org](http://www.engagedbygrace.org)

10:50 am – Children’s Wrap-up in Grace Hall/Adult Hospitality in Gathering Space

### **New Ministry Opportunities**

#### **Service of Lament and Healing**

Holy Trinity’s next Service of Lament and Healing will be **Sunday, November 27 at 4:00 pm**. Whether you are dealing with loss, physical or emotional struggles, broken relationships, or the holiday blues, you are encouraged to attend. The vision for this service is to provide a safe and holy space for people to express their deepest concerns, silently or aloud, in the presence of the baptismal community that is committed to sharing such concerns with God and each other. The goal is to promote healing and strengthen the witness of our faith community as it is centered on our trust in God’s promise of life and love for all the world through Christ Jesus our Lord. We gather to lay our concerns explicitly before the Lord, trusting that the Lord will be at work through us to address those concerns for the well-being of all.

We look forward to sharing this worship experience with all who are interested. Please invite any friends or neighbors who might like to attend. Contact Pastor Steve, Vicar Jaren or Josh Brodbeck with questions.

#### **First Gift for Jesus**

Our “First Gift for Jesus” ministry is an opportunity to include Jesus among those for whom you are purchasing gifts this Christmas season. As Mary cared for baby Jesus, she wrapped him in swaddling cloths. At Holy Trinity, we will be sharing God’s love with foster children by purchasing and making blankets. *My Very Own Blanket* is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to give foster children a blanket of their own so the children have something to help them feel warm, safe, and secure. Be watching for more information to come next week.

#### **WELCA Bible Study**

The WELCA Bible Study will continue their exploration of “*Jesus and nature: Teachers of Faith*” on **Tuesday, November 29 at 10:00 am**. Please join us in this session as Jesus turns our attention to birds and mammals. We will delight and wonder in creation and the creatures God has made.

## **Congregational Meeting**

A brief congregational meeting for the purpose of electing church council partners will be conducted **Sunday, December 11 at 11:00 am**, immediately following worship. Please plan to attend.

## **Ministry Staff Reflections - Faith Enrichment**

*“Why are you eating a snack and not sharing with us, Mrs. Fox?..... You know Vicar Jaren would want you to share your snack with us..... You are not doing justice!”* These are a few comments from the children at the start of our Faith Enrichment time following worship last Sunday. Instead of giving a snack to each child as typically would happen during our Faith Enrichment time in Grace Hall, I intentionally ate a snack without sharing anything with the children. This example really drove home the point of what it means to do justice as we heard in last Sunday’s Narrative Lectionary text from Micah- *“What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”* (Micah 6:8). The comments from the children were spot-on in demonstrating their understanding of me not being fair, not doing justice, when I selfishly and unfairly ate my own snack in front of them.

Earlier this same day during the children’s sermon, Vicar Jaren taught the children what the word *justice* meant. He said that if he had an apple, he would share it with someone who didn’t have any food to eat. Vicar Jaren gave another example of sharing a toy truck with someone who didn’t have a toy. These simple examples helped our young children begin to understand what justice is.

When the children came with me to Faith Enrichment time in Grace Hall to review Sunday’s Narrative Lectionary Scripture and do a related activity and craft, it was clear that they had listened intently during worship and made meaningful connections. Isn’t that what is most meaningful for any of us? Hearing God’s word and applying it to our own lives?

Our new Sunday morning schedule for the elementary-aged children has been intentionally structured to welcome them at 9:45 in the Conference Room with fun singing and to share the day’s Scripture as we read from the Children’s Story Bible. Age-specific worship bulletins and coloring pages further connect the Sunday Narrative Lectionary text that we are all hearing in hopes that worship is an even more meaningful experience. Then, after worship, we walk to Grace Hall for a snack (shared by all!) and a craft and activity to help us apply the Sunday lesson to our own lives. It is my prayer that our children are growing in their faith as we learn God’s Word. Thanks be to God for the many ways we all love and support one another as we grow in faith.

## **Plan for Resuming Communion from the Altar**

Without question, the pandemic has disrupted our life together as a community of faith in many ways. Among the most prominent and challenging has been the change to our pattern for receiving God’s grace through the sacrament of communion. The communion liturgy has always been central to our worship life as the one Lord Jesus Christ offers himself to us from the altar table in one bread, one cup ... each of us together, when presented with the bread and wine, being filled with God’s grace when hearing and trusting the sacramental promise: the body of Christ, given for you ... the blood of Christ, shed for you.

For a period of time, as a community health precaution at the onset of the pandemic, we refrained from distributing and receiving communion at all, appreciating still the grace of God that also comes to us through God’s word in scripture and proclamation along with the Christ-filled care, support and concern we were showing for each other.

Later, when perceiving it was health-safe enough for the congregation to do so, we resumed communing together in a new way that we use yet today. Distributing individual kits of communion elements, we consecrate that bread and wine in worship together, then hearing and trusting the promise together all at one time: the body of Christ, given for you ... the blood of Christ, shed for you.

Still, we are eager to resume the regularly appointed blessing and distribution of one bread and one cup from the altar, with everyone receiving the elements and hearing the promise directly. To that end, Council has discerned, within a wide variety of perspectives shared by the Worship Advisory Team,

Parish Health Team, Staff and persons across the congregation, a plan to do so on Maundy Thursday next spring. Until then, we will continue communing together in worship at our seats with individual kits of elements through this fall and winter, given ongoing health considerations as we emerge from the pandemic.

At the same time, Pastor Steve and Vicar Jaren remain available at other times to share communion with anyone who would like to receive the bread and wine directly.

Thanks be to God for the grace we receive through this blessed sacrament and the way it forms us as the body of Christ, receiving and trusting its promise together: the body of Christ, given for you ... the blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **Concerts at Holy Trinity**

The next presentation of Holy Trinity's concert series will feature the Brass Band of Columbus on **Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 pm**. They will perform their annual Christmas concert with a reception following. Plan to join us for a lovely afternoon of holiday music!

### **Stewardship Corner**

Long ago, the prophet Jeremiah wrote, "*The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?*" (Jeremiah 17:9). We only have to look within to acknowledge that Jeremiah's statement is still true today. Fortunately, we have One Who does understand it. Beyond that, we have One Who sympathizes with us in our weaknesses (Hebrews 4:15). So deeply does God sympathize with us that God came to us in human form in order to provide the cure for those weaknesses – our sins – in His body on the Cross. As Christ gave Himself for us, let us give ourselves in service to God. For more information about stewardship, contact Max Buban at [maxmbuban@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maxmbuban@sbcglobal.net) or 614-771-8594.

## **News of Invite Ministries**

### **New Prayer Concerns:**

Marilyn Hodge, mother of Carolyn Cramer, recovering from a fall and fractured pelvis

### **Prayers for Our Members:**

Jack Rauch, at First Community  
Shirley Wehr, at ProMedica Medbridge  
Gavin Larrimer, at First Community Health Care Center  
JoAnn Curry, dealing with a respiratory illness  
Brian Barrett, recovering from eye surgery  
Jenny Peters, recovering from surgery on her hand  
Norma Rauch, amid various health concerns

### **Prayers for Our Family and Friends:**

Charles Jentes, father of Jill Banicki, hospitalized with infections in his legs  
Marian Jordan, cousin of Janet Benedick, hospitalized with Guillain-Barre Syndrome  
Aaron Adkins, husband of Ron Benedick's former coworker, undergoing chemotherapy  
Joe Berkemer, uncle of Matt Berkemer, undergoing chemotherapy  
Phyllis Bliss, undergoing kidney dialysis twice/week  
Betty Mak, friend of Shirley Boyd, beginning daily home dialysis  
Rene Geiger, friend of Shirley Boyd, suffering from an undiagnosed illness  
Katya Brodbeck, wife of Josh Brodbeck, recovering from a difficult dental surgery  
Carla Neal, niece of Catherine Canada, following thyroid surgery  
Cheryl Shilling, friend of Catherine Canada, recovering from surgery  
Lenora Cochran, daughter of Michael and Kylie Cochran, born 9 weeks prematurely  
James Daniel Craven, great-grandson of Genie Craven, born with immature lungs  
Jeanne Loy, mother of Cyndy Decker, suffering from end-stage dementia  
Nancy Case, friend of Sue Eubanks, being treated for cancer  
Joe Glieco, nephew of Sue and Bill Eubanks, diagnosed with leukemia  
Tim Curry, brother of Bev Farrell and brother-in-law of JoAnn Curry, struggling with Parkinson's

Michael Forts, brother of Jared Forts, recovering from a hospitalization for a serious illness  
Amy Sherman, niece of Alan and Therese Gaulke, diagnosed with throat cancer  
Diane McGuire, friend of the Hudson family, undergoing radiation  
Marge Gray, friend of Barbara Keller, dealing with heart problems  
Sue Kochheiser, sister-in-law of Phil Kochheiser, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer  
Louise Pence, friend of the Larsons, recovering from knee replacement surgery  
Eloise and Tesla Leibold, twin daughters of Chase Leibold, experiencing difficult times  
John Hink, son-in-law of John & Judy McKitrick, recovering from back surgery  
Squire Aschinger, nephew of John & Judy McKitrick, diagnosed with cancer  
Staci Sigrist, cousin of MJ Neiman's family, experiencing a recurrence of cancer  
Terry and Pam Reed, parents of Dave Reed, struggling with complications of Terry's Parkinson's Disease  
Kathy Sammons, mother of Jeff Sammons, experiencing fluid in her lungs  
Phyllis Podmore, mother of Susan Setterlin, who broke her hip  
Sharon Larson, cousin of Barb Stock, experiencing cancer elsewhere following breast cancer  
Amy Lavoie, cousin of Becky Warnement, battling a recurrence of lung cancer  
Karen Byrd, aunt of Becky Warnement, experiencing end-stage Alzheimer's Disease  
Those affected by the global pandemic, natural disasters, the Armed forces, victims of terror, and all those on the margins of society most vulnerable to unrest, oppression and exploitation.

## News of Embrace Ministries

### Children's Christmas Pageant

The title of this year's Christmas pageant is *Simple Gifts*. It will be conducted during the **10:00 worship service on Sunday, December 18**. Rehearsals happen on Thursdays from 6:00-6:45 pm (you can come for dinner at 5:30!) and Sunday mornings from 9:15-9:45 just prior to "warm up" time. The music tracks for the songs are available so your child(ren) can listen and practice at home. Any child is welcome to participate! Contact [Noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:Noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org) or [Joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:Joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org) to let us know the names, ages, and grades of your child(ren).

### Council Seeking Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for a slate of candidates to serve 3-year terms on Church Council. All confirmed members of Holy Trinity are eligible to serve. Church members are invited to suggest candidates (including themselves) to Council President Jill Banicki [jentes.1@osu.edu](mailto:jentes.1@osu.edu), Pastor Steve [steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org) or the church office [email@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:email@engagedbygrace.org) or 614-486-9433.

### Sunday Hospitality

As we once again enjoy shared hospitality after worship, we are looking for people to help. Hosting Holy Trinity's hospitality table after worship on Sundays is a great way to share fellowship with church friends or celebrate a special event in your life. You are asked to provide a light snack to share while beverages are provided by the Hospitality committee. There are currently several dates available for hosting. Please see the sign-up sheet near the coffee station for open dates. Contact Chris Pryor with questions.

### Daily Devotions

As we move into a new ministry year, Holy Trinity continues to provide *The Word In Season* and *Portals of Prayer* daily devotional resources. The lessons in the first follow the traditional set of passages from the Revised Common Lectionary and the lessons from the second align with the seasons of the year.

Adding to the resources listed above is *Acts of the Almighty - Meditations on the Story of God for Every Day of the Year*, by Pastor Walter Wangerin, Jr. Though this resource was written to be read January 1-December 31, we began the story of God on Rally Day, September 11. You can use *Acts of the Almighty* to follow the pattern of our weekly Bible passages in the Narrative Lectionary when reading the January 1 devotion as August 3, January 2 as August 4 and so on. Copies of the book as well as a companion guide are available at the Info Center.

## **Making Sense of Martin Luther**

A new adult faith formation opportunity is underway on **Sunday mornings at 9am** in the church library. *Making Sense of Martin Luther* is an exploration of the key theological components of Martin Luther's teachings and how they apply to us today. Adults of all ages are invited to participate.

## **News of Empower Ministries**

### **Empowerment Shelf**

#### **From Elizabeth Sammons With Love from our Racial Justice Taskforce (November, 2022)**

*Take Back the Block*, *Three-fifths* and *The Black Joke* are books that I've read myself or seen as books of note. This literature intends to expand our awareness, theology and/or acceptance of diverse viewpoints. We hope you'll discover how these writings from other generations embrace what it means to be human and walk in spirit.

#### ***Take Back the Block* by Chrystal Giles**

Sixth grader Wes Henderson sets out to save the neighborhood where he's lived his whole life from being sold to a real estate developer. Available in audio. For grades 3-6, 2021

#### ***Three-Fifths* by John Vercher**

Pittsburgh, 1995. The son of a Black father he's never known and a white mother he sometimes wishes he didn't, 22-year old Bobby Saraceno is passing for white. Bobby has hidden his truth from everyone, even his best friend and fellow comic book geek, Aaron, who has just returned home from prison a hardened racist. But after witnessing a crime, Bobby's secrets come out when his father enters his life.

#### ***The Black Joke: One Ship's Battle Against the Slave Trade* by A.E. Rooks**

The most feared ship in Britain's West Africa Squadron, His Majesty's brig, Black Joke, was one of a handful of ships patrolling the western coast of Africa in an effort to end hundreds of years of global slave trading after the fall of Napoleon. The ship's diverse crew and dedicated commanders would capture more ships and liberate more enslaved people than any other in the squadron.

## Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for November 27 – December 4, 2022

### Sunday, November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry  
 9:15 am – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal  
 9:45 am – Children’s Warm-up (Conference Room)  
 10:00 am - Worship in-person and online at [www.engagedbygrace.org/](http://www.engagedbygrace.org/)  
 10:50 am – Children’s Wrap-up and Hospitality (Grace Hall)/Adult Hospitality (Gathering Space)  
 4:00 pm – Service of Lament and Healing

**Monday** 6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555 Meeting

**Tuesday** 10:00 am – WELCA Bible Study

**Wednesday** 10:15 am – Preacher’s Bible Study

**Thursday** 5:30 pm – Thursday Supper  
 6:00 pm – Children’s Choir/Pageant Rehearsal  
 6:30 pm – Bell Choir  
 7:30 pm – Adult Chancel Choir

**Friday** No Events Scheduled

**Saturday** No Events Scheduled

### Sunday, December 4, 2022 - Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am – Confirmation Class (Youth Room)/Adult Faith Enrichment (Library)  
 9:15 am – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal  
 9:45 am – Children’s Warm-up (Conference Room)  
 10:00 am - Worship in-person and online at [www.engagedbygrace.org/](http://www.engagedbygrace.org/)  
 10:50 am – Children’s Wrap-up and Hospitality (Grace Hall)/Adult Hospitality (Gathering Space)  
 7:00 pm – High School Youth Group

## Holy Trinity Schedule of Worship Servers – November 2022

Date	Time	Welcome Center	Assisting Minister	Lay Reader	Ushers	Livestream	Bread Bakers	Communion Team
Nov. 27	10:00 am		Keith Townsend	Jody Passafume	Chris Pryor Phil Favret Peter Ward	Ben Kaffenberger	Nancy VanFossen	Suellen Sharp Nancy Riley

### Sunday Worship Texts

Sunday, November 27 – Matthew 26:36-38; Habakkuk 1:1-7, 2:1-4, 3:[3b-6], 17-19 **God joins us in our distress so that we may accompany others in their distress.**

Sunday, December 4 – Matthew 5:13-16; Esther 4:1-17 **God prospers us to be leaders in the advocacy of others.**

### The Holy Trinity Staff:

Pastor: Steve Wachtman ([steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org))  
 Vicar: Jaren Summers ([jaren.summers@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:jaren.summers@engagedbygrace.org))  
 Preschool: Nancy VanFossen ([nancy.vanfossen@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:nancy.vanfossen@engagedbygrace.org))  
 Administrator: Laura Hudson ([laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org))  
 Minister of Music: Joshua Brodbeck ([joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org))  
 Director of Faith Formation: Noelle Fox ([noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org))

For mobile giving options, scan code below with your phone’s camera or go to <http://www.engagedbygrace.org/offering>



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