# **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

March 9, 2025 - 10:00 a.m.



## First Sunday in Lent

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

# Service of Word and Sacrament

In the bulletin: The asterisk (\*) invites you to stand as you are able. Boldface type indicates the congregation's responses. At the sign of the cross  $(\pm)$ , you are invited to make that same sign upon yourself in remembrance of your baptism.

#### Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude** Sonata quasi una Fantasia ("Moonlight") Ludwig van Beethoven

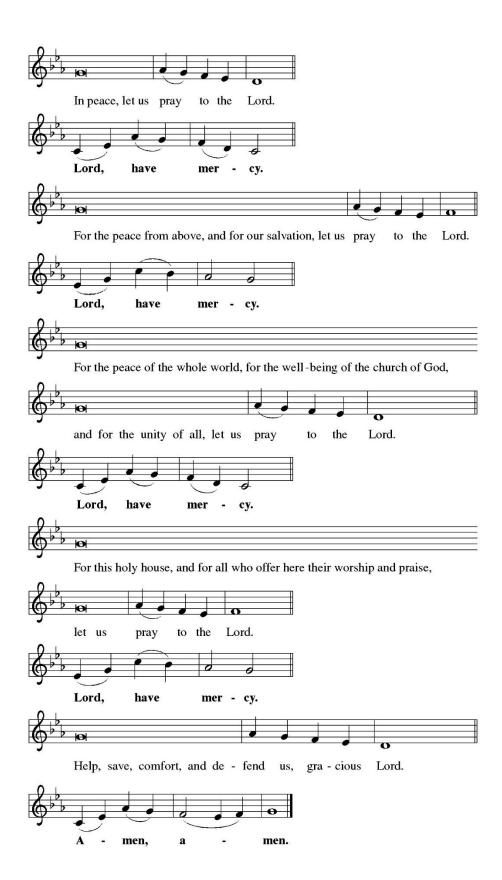
## \*Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand if you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gifts of love, mercy, and grace.

Amen.

## \*Kyrie



Let us return to God, confessing our sin In the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

#### Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.

Forgive us for the times

we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.

Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering home.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

#### \*Gathering Hymn No. 624

#### Jesus, Still Lead On



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

## Prayer of the Day

Please be seated.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord God,

you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land.

Guide us now,

so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**Choral Anthem** 

The Lamb

Gerald Patrick Coleman

directed by Will Bowers

#### ₩ WORD ₩

#### First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

#### A reading from Deuteronomy.

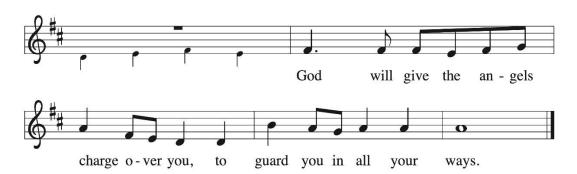
<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as the place where the name of God dwells. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and the Lord brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

#### Refrain



- <sup>1</sup> You who dwell in the shelter of <sup>1</sup> the Most High, who abide in the shadow of <sup>1</sup> the Almighty—
- <sup>2</sup> you will say to the Lord, "My refuge | and my stronghold, my God in whom I | put my trust." R
- <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the <sup>1</sup> Lord your refuge, and the Most High your <sup>1</sup> habitation,
- <sup>10</sup> no evil <sup>1</sup> will befall you, nor shall affliction come <sup>1</sup> near your dwelling.
- <sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge <sup>1</sup> over you, to guard you in <sup>1</sup> all your ways.
- <sup>12</sup> Upon their hands they will | bear you up, lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. R
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion <sup>1</sup> cub and viper; you will trample down the lion <sup>1</sup> and the serpent.
- <sup>14</sup>I will deliver those who <sup>1</sup> cling to me; I will uphold them, because they <sup>1</sup> know my name.
- <sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will | answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.
- <sup>16</sup> With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them | my salvation. R

#### **Second Reading:** Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

#### A reading from Romans.

<sup>8b</sup> "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

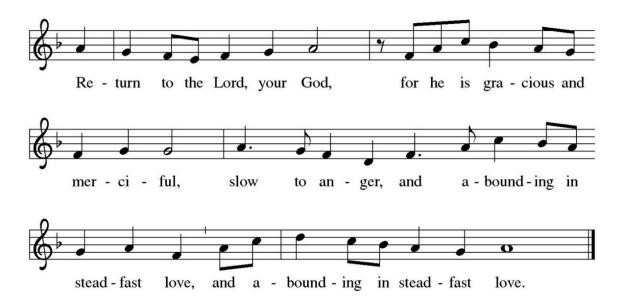
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, "No one who believes in the Lord will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who ask for help. <sup>13</sup> For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### \*Gospel Acclamation

Please stand if you are able.



#### \***Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered the devil, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led Jesus up and showed him in an instant all the dominions of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered the devil, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God;

the Lord alone shall you serve."

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'God will command his angels concerning you,

to protect you,' 11 and

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.""

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered the devil, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> Having finished every test, the devil departed from Jesus until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **Prayer for Understanding**

Please be seated.

Bring your word near to us, O God. May it rest not only on our lips, but also reside in our hearts.

Amen.

#### **Hymn of the Day No. 326** *Bless Now, O God, the Journey*



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### \*The Apostles' Creed

Please stand if you are able.

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

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.

Amen.

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

Please be seated.

Hearing the call to return to the Lord, let us join the whole people of God in prayer for all who cry out in pain and in hope.

A brief silence.

Break down and mend divisions within your church, Holy One. Bring together rich and poor, homeless and housed, and those who hold differing political views as the one body of Christ. Unite us in worship of you. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Sustain citrus groves and orchards, divine Gardner. Provide rich soil and water in due season for an abundant harvest. Help us share the fruit of your harvest with all people. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Raise up peacemakers, Almighty God. In nations ravaged by war, pour out your Spirit of wisdom on their leaders. Equip them to respond with your mercy and justice. Make peace flourish in all the world. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Speak gently to all who are alone, Merciful One. Embrace those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all those who are ill, all those on our prayer list, especially...Brad and Theresa. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Teach us to love as you love, Gracious Lord. Open us to encounter our enemies as our neighbors. Give us courage to trust in your redeeming love and extend your grace to all. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Bless the saints who have gone before us, Great Redeemer. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

To you, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

#### **₩** MEAL **₩**

#### \*Sharing of the Peace

Please stand if you are able.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

#### And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another and then we are seated.

## **Offertory Hymn No. 188** *Create in Me a Clean Heart*



Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

## **Offering Prayer**

Please remain seated.

Gracious God,

in your great love you provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

Amen.

#### Invitation to the Table

Christ comes to us in, with and under the bread and wine to nourish our faith.

The uncontainable presence, grace, love, forgiveness and
mercy of Christ come to us in this simple meal that spans all time and space.

All of God's children – regardless of denominational background –
are welcome and invited to share it with us.

## \*The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand if you are able.

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

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,

almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,

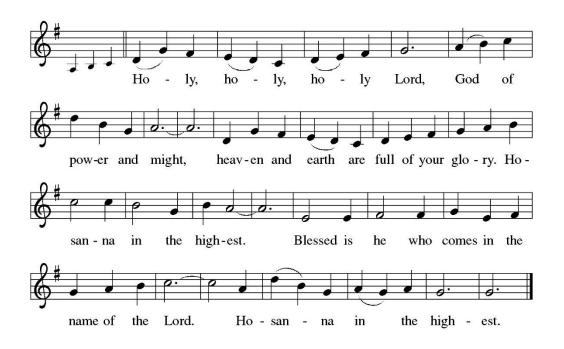
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



#### \*Prayer at the Table

Holy are you, O God, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights in preparation for his ministry.

Now, as we prepare for the yearly Paschal feast of your Son's death and resurrection, you lead us to repentance for our sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to renew the covenant you made with us through 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.

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.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world.

Through your Son & Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

\*The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical Version)

Let us now pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

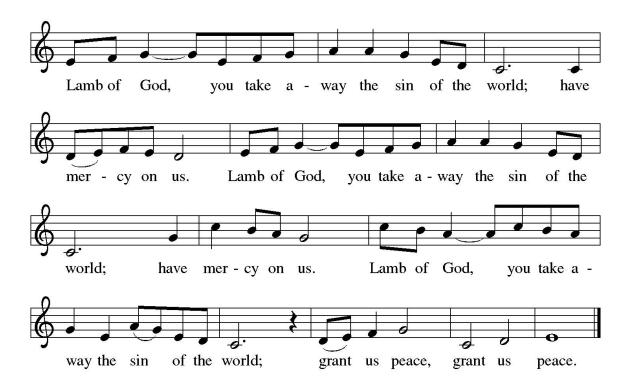
#### The Communion

Here is food and drink for the journey. Come and be filled.

Amen.

### **Communion Hymn**

### Lamb of God

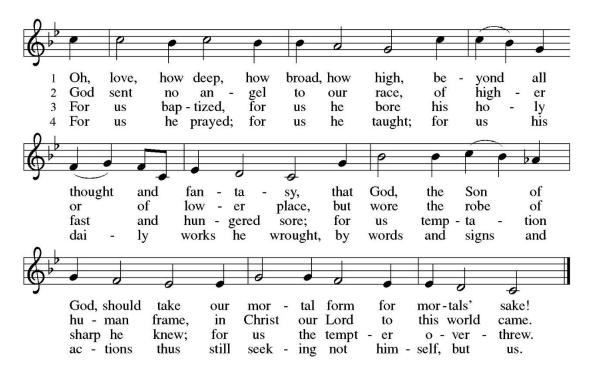


Those celebrating with us from your homes: please share the bread and wine or grape juice with one another using these words: The Body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. An Amen or Thanks be to God is spoken in response to these gifts.

Those celebrating with us in person: Please come forward by the center aisle to receive a wafer- gluten free wafers are also available - and an individual cup of wine or white grape juice from those serving. Please return to your seat by the side aisle.

#### Hymn No. 322

#### Oh, Love, How Deep



- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed, for us, in crown of thorns arrayed, he bore the shameful cross and death; for us he gave his dying breath.
- 6 For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign; for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
- 7 All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad: the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

Text: Thomas á Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–1885, alt. Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

#### **★** SENDING **★**

## **Prayer after Communion**

Please remain seated.

Holy God,

you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us at your table.

Send us now to welcome all and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## \*Blessing

Please stand if you are able.

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
+ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

#### \*Sending Hymn No. 319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

#### \*Dismissal

Go in peace. Be assured of God's grace.

We go to connect people to Jesus through love and the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** Diffusa Est Dom Paul Benoit

As the last act of worship, you are invited to remain for the Postlude. If you do not wish to stay, please be respectful of those who are listening.

+ + +

Your tithes and offerings are important to our ministry. On-line donation options are available at holytrinityakron.org/donate or by contacting Financial Secretary Jim Minisall at jminisall@holytrinityakron.org. Or simply mail your offerings to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect Street, Akron, Ohio 44304. Thank you for your generous and regular support.

The Love Offering for March will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

Crowd Media Release Notice... Please be aware that by attending our gathering in person, you consent to your voice, name, and/or likeness being used, without compensation, in photography and video for exploitation in any and all media, whether now known or hereafter devised, for eternity, and you release Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, its successors, assigns and licensees from any liability whatsoever of any nature. By participating, you agree to be subject to the foregoing.

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Choral Anthem: The Lamb, Gerald Patrick Coleman, Copyright: 1987 Morning Star Music.

# This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, 3/9	10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Worship Coffee Fellowship - Chapel Lounge Celebration of Life Service for the Sebastians Sanctuary & Chapel Lounge ~ Lunch following the service in the Chapel Lounge & Rm. 202
Monday, 3/10	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Finance Team Meeting - Zoom Council Leadership /GSB Forum - Zoom
Tuesday, 3/11	6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Worship & Music Meeting - Zoom Derbytown Chorus - Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, 3/12	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Devotions - Facebook Lenten Devotions & Lunch - Room 202 Listening Sessions Leadership Debrief - Zoom
Thursday, 3/13	6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir - Sanctuary Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
Friday, 3/14	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Faith 5 Check-In - Zoom Property Team Meeting - Library
Saturday, 3/15	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Men's Bible Study</i> - Church Office <i>Women's Bible Study</i> - Room 202
Sunday, 3/16	10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Worship Coffee Fellowship - Chapel Lounge Arts @ Holy Trinity Concert - Sanctuary

## March 9, 2025 Worship Stewards

Reader: Sonya Nagle Assisting Minister: Frederica Cohen Communion Assistant: Alexa Sandmann

#### In Our Prayers...

March 9: Brad Bowman (Pr. Becki's father), Theresa McGee (friend of Steve White).

<u>March 2:</u> David Bledsoe (relative of Joan Amon), Cindy White (relative of Steve White), Art White (relative of Steve White), Thomas Lavin (friend of Steve White), Harry Jackson (friend of Steve White).

<u>February 23:</u> The family of Donna Carroll (member) and the family of Michael Hunter (member), Tom Bouton (member), Connie Archbold (member).

<u>February 16:</u> Becky Adkins (member), Rachel Cheuk (daughter of the Kimbles), Mary DeBerry (member), Joan Derrig (member), Pat Keller (member), Betty Oberdorfer (member), Sandy Plummer (member), the family of Norm Richenbacher (member), Gene Thrall (member), Karen Karris (friend of Val Clark).

The names of those making the request will be printed next to the name of the person being prayed for. We kindly ask those making the request to keep our prayer list coordinators updated as to the status of the person they are requesting prayer for. We would be glad to continue praying for individuals (adding them for another four weeks) upon request. If you have updates or additions to the prayer list, please contact Sally Richenbacher, Rachel Núñez, or Pastor Becki Verbridge.

# ...Ministry Team Leaders...

Ministry Team	Team Leader(s)	Phone
Congregation Care & Connection	Amanda Archbold	(330) 322-6554
Finance	John Guran	(330) 606-3915
Invite-Welcome-Connect	Sandy DeLuca	(330) 703-4870
Meditation Memorial Garden	Sonya Nagle	(330) 410-4160
Outreach & Social Concerns	Gregg Loesch	(330) 733-4081
Personnel	John Stefanik	(330) 666-3579
Property	Kevin Heckel	(330) 283-2866
Worship & Music	Frederica Cohen	(330) 535-3037

## ...Our Staff...

Interim Pastor Director of Cong. Care & Connection	Becki Verbridge Rachel Nunez	bverbridge@holytrinityakron.org rnunez@holytrinityakron.org
Dir. of Music Ministry Financial Secretary	David Lines Jim Minisall	dlines@holytrinityakron.org jminisall@holytrinityakron.org
Communications Coord.	Sandy DeLuca	sdeluca@holytrinityakron.org
Parish Secretary	Annmarie Demko	ademko@holytrinityakron.org
Maintenance Coord.	Bruce Mansour	mansour@holytrinityakron.org
Sexton	Vince Simmons	

## ...Activity Coordinators...

Activity	Coordinator	Phone
Altar Guild	Deborah Ickes	(678) 353-7444
Assisting Ministers	Rachel Núñez	(330) 634-6597
Communion Assistants	Deborah Ickes	(678) 353-7444
Council President	Diane Chambers	(330) 388-5018
Men's Bible Study	Jack Harig	(330) 644-9862
West's bible Study	Tom Baumgardner	(330) 603-3691
Prayer Chain	Sally Richenbacher	(330) 650-1175
Readers	Nancy Riemenschneider	(330) 239-1086
Stewardship	Jack Harig	(330) 644-9862
Ushers	Gregg Loesch	(330) 733-4081
Women's Bible Study	Rachel Núñez	(330) 634-6597

50 N. Prospect Street Akron, OH 44304 (330) 376-5154

