

Sermon Topic

Jesus Presented at the Temple

1 Samuel 1:21-28, Luke 2:22-32

Would you permit me to whine a little bit today? If not, you might want to skip down farther... If so, keep reading! I had a crazy couple weeks. We had some van problems and it was going to cost more to fix than we wanted to spend on a 12-year-old van, so we got rid of it and began shopping for a new van. We had a loaner car, but ended up having some battery problems with it.

During this time, our dryer died, so we started looking for a replacement. Then I forgot to change my batteries on Sunday morning so the mic died during the sermon. This past Wednesday we got a new dryer—yay! We also got a new (to us) van delivered—yay! But in finalizing the sale, the van didn't start—boo! So we sent it back.

I had big plans for how the past week+ would go and none of this was included, but there it was anyway. I imagine you've had your fair share of experiences like that too, where all your plans seem to go wrong and frustration piles on frustration. It's not a good feeling.

Only, may the LORD establish His Word." 1 Samuel 1:23

Hannah was desperate for a son. She prayed and prayed and prayed until finally God provided. Her plan was to give that son—Samuel—back to the Lord, where he could be used by God. In working out the details for when that would happen, her husband Elkanah uttered these wise words: May the LORD establish His Word.

It's great to make plans. We seek wisdom and insight from God, and do our best to make those plans. We want them to align with God's plan. We want our lives ordered around His Word, not ours. But we don't always understand God's plan. Or things don't go according to plan and that's frustrating. But with Hannah and Elkanah, we can pray that God would establish His Word among us and mold our plans to His—because we know His plan is good and life-bringing.

Vicar Jason Christ, Director of Attract and Middle School Ministry



FIRST TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome!

If you are a guest with us today, we are so glad you are here! We invite you to fill out a yellow card from the pew rack and put it in the offering plate during worship.

You will find all of the words in the worship service projected at the front of the church. If you require a printed copy, they are available from the ushers in the back of the church.

If you have something you would like us to pray about this week, you can write it on the back of the yellow card. Our staff and prayer team will pray for the requests during the week. If you so choose, we will post your request online at our online prayer wall as well.

First Trinity is a Bible-based church. We believe God's Word is the sole authority for this life. We are imperfect people loving imperfect people.

Our prayer for you today is that you would connect to God and grow closer and closer to Him each day.

FT Kids & Youth Sunday School

Education Hour Sunday 10-11 a.m.

Children

Childcare Infants - Age 2

Meets in Upper Preschool 2

Preschool - Ages 3 & 4

Meets in Upper Preschool 3

Kindergarten - Age 5

Meets in Upper Preschool 3

FT Kids - Grades 1-5

Meets in Gym

Just Us - Adults

With Developmental Disabilities

Meets in Gym

Youth

Middle School Grades 6 - 8

Meets on Lower Level

High School Grades 9 - 12

Meets on Lower Level Lounge

Adult Sunday Classes—10 a.m.

Until—February 16

Toughest Questions About Christianity

Led by Pastor Chuck and Susan Whited (Lower Level)

People have lots of tough questions about Christianity these days. "Why are Christians so judgmental?" "Why does God allow evil?" "Why is Jesus the only way to heaven?" and more...this course will explore the answers to tough questions like these, but more importantly will teach HOW to answer questions with authenticity, integrity, and straightforward truth.

James *Led by Sue Steege (Upper Level)*

True faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The New Testament book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. Join us as we dig through James!

Liturgy of the Ordinary *Led by Phil Reed (Library)*

This class investigates sacred practices in everyday life. Worship itself is made up of ordinary stuff. Learn how brushing your teeth, eating leftovers, losing your keys, and other overlooked moments can make us aware of God's presence in surprising ways.

Altar Flowers 2020 Sign Up

Only a few dates left!

Sign-up area in lobby. \$20 per date chosen may be placed in available envelope and placed in offering. You may take the flowers after the 11:15 service or pick them up on Monday. *Please leave the green insert in the vase.*



Altar Flowers
Presented to the Glory of God

Worship Helpers

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement & inform the office.

	Feb 1/2	Feb 8/9
Altar Guild	Karen Wert Linda D'Amico Laura Zimberg	Karen Wert Linda D'Amico Laura Zimberg
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.		
Acolyte		Henry Millar
Greeter	Evelyn Schleidt	Martha Miller
Ushers	Tony D'Amico Randy Wert	Tony D'Amico Steve Puscheck
Reader	Susan DePlato	Martha Miller
Prayers	Bob Strassburg	Karen Wert
Communion	Susan DePlato	
Projection	Bill Wood	Charlie Ellis
Sunday, 8:45 a.m.		
Acolyte	Joey Guetti	Daniel McKeehan
Greeter	Fern Innes	Paul Gerlach
Ushers	Sam Gugliuzza Sammy Gugliuzza Louis Gugliuzza Peter Cross	David Gettman MaryAnn HarhiGettman Joel Rockensuess Noah Rockensuess
Reader	Dave Foster	Anne Miller
Prayers	Cindy Allsop	Ron Opferbeck
Communion	Joe Allsop Cindy Allsop Lisa Cross Tom Knapp Sue Steege	
Projection	Bill Wood	George Miller
Sunday, 11:15 a.m.		
Worship Assistant	Pat Canfield	Vicar Jason Christ
Acolyte	Lorelai Russell	Paris Adams
Greeter		Paul Gerlach
Ushers	Derek Pulver Zelda Pulver Preston Pulver Paris Adams	Fabian Family Dan Gietz
Reader	Tony Battaglia	Pam Jones
Prayers	Anne DiCenso Marsha Phillips	Brian Bunny Marsha Peth
Communion	Kim Kwietniewski Tracy Bramwell Kelsey Trautwein Barb Reardon Sue Steege	
Projection	Jennifer Pritchard	David Phillips

The Lutheran Hour
Sundays 9:30 a.m.
WXRL 1300AM LutheranHour.org

Announcements Deadline - Thursday at 9 a.m.
KFigini@FirstTrinity.com

1570 Niagara Falls Boulevard • Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 835-2220 • FirstTrinity.com • office@FirstTrinity.com

Worship Times
Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sunday 8:45 & 11:15 a.m.

Chinese Checkers Tournament

Mondays at 7 p.m. Until February 3

The Tournament will take place on the Lower Level at First Trinity. We will focus on mastering the rules and strategy of the game. Someone will take home a **first-place loving cup** on February 3. Snacks, fellowship and FUN will be provided. Feel free to bring your own game board if you have one.

Carl Fretthold
cfretthold@FirstTrinity.com

Last Chance to Make a Reservation!
Retirement Luncheon for Susan Brese and Tim Hartnett



Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 1 p.m.
Classics V Banquet Center
Invitations are in your mailbox or at the Welcome Center.

RSVP by Sunday, February 2

STAFF

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Jen Florio

Interim High School Ministry
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Calendar for February 2-9, 2020

For calendar details, visit our website: FirstTrinity.com/calendar

Sunday 2/2

8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
10 a.m. Education Hour
11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship
3 p.m. English Class/Mandarin Speakers
4 p.m. Mandarin Sunday Worship

Monday 2/3

8 a.m. Preschool Parent Conferences
7 p.m. Chinese Checkers Tournament

Tuesday 2/4

8 a.m. Preschool Parent Conferences
12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
6 p.m. Amherst Youth Basketball
6:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Prayer
7 p.m. Band

Wednesday 2/5

9:30 a.m. Women's AA
Servants of Christ Life Group
10 a.m. Preschool Chapel
12 p.m. Lunch With the Staff
3:30 p.m. CCA Basketball
7:30 p.m. Volleyball

Thursday 2/6

10 a.m. Preschool Chapel
4:30 p.m. Preschool Parent Conferences
6 p.m. Amherst Youth Basketball
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Gr 7&8
Joshua's Men

Friday 2/7

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6 p.m. High School Youth Group

Saturday 2/8

9 a.m. Men's Basketball
5:30 p.m. Traditional Worship
7 p.m. Saturday Night Light

Sunday 2/9

8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
10 a.m. Education Hour
11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship
3 p.m. English Class/Mandarin Speakers
4 p.m. Mandarin Sunday Worship

Upcoming Sermons

Feb 8/9

Light of the World

Isaiah 58:3-9a, 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 15/16

Living God's Way

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

Feb 22/23

God's Majesty Revealed

Exodus 24:8-18, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

Listen to past sermons at FirstTrinity.com/Listen

Thank You From the Makey Family

The family of Carl Makey thanks you for all the prayers, the cards, and the words of encouragement given to Carl during his extended illness. We are also most grateful for the sympathy expressed and the kindness showed when he was called home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our First Trinity family truly is a blessing from God.



MINISTRY COUNCIL

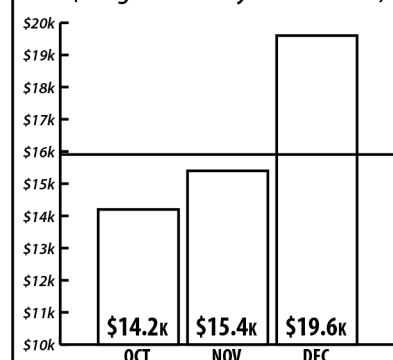
President: *Joel Rockensuess*
Vice-President: *Jeff Weber*
Secretary: *Bonnie Sugrue*
Treasurer: *Marlene Carr*
At Large: *Kevin Cross,*
David Fabian, Pam Jones

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN WORSHIP: 520

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: 152

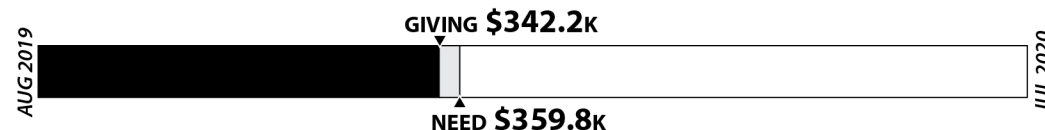
DECEMBER BY THE NUMBERS

Average Weekly Giving Comparison
(Budgeted Weekly Need = 15.9k)



Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. Malachi 3:10

Fiscal Year Giving to Mission and Ministry (\$825k Budgeted)



Give online at FTGives.com or text "give" to 716-710-8800.

(All data through December 31, 2019)

High School Clothing Drive Items Needed!

The high school students of First Trinity are collecting donations for the *Epilepsy Association of WNY*. We will be collecting items from January 19–February 9. Supplies can be dropped off in the labeled bins across from the Main Office or in the hallway by the Preschool.

The items we are collecting may include new or gently used: hats, socks, shoes, scarves, backpacks, children's clothing (any size), mittens, children's books, toys and *new* stuffed animals. Any help you can provide would be amazing and greatly appreciated! We will be delivering these items later in February.

Ash Wednesday Dinner & Worship February 26, Dinner from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Worship at 12:30 & 7 p.m.

First Trinity is hosting a completely **FREE** dinner prior to our evening Ash Wednesday service. We'll be having spaghetti with meatballs, homemade sauce, salad, bread, and drinks.

It's a great time to invite friends or family for dinner and then worship together afterwards.

As we plan, it is helpful to have an approximate headcount. If you think you will be coming, please sign-up in the lobby. There is also a sign-up sheet for those who are willing to help with the dinner.

Please sign up by February 19. Thanks!



Give Thanks to God For Loved Ones All Saints Service Oct 31 / Nov 1, 2020

If you have a loved one who has passed away since January 2019 and you would like them remembered at our next *All Saints Service*, please email a photo (or give us one to scan) with name and date of death to: *Kathy Figini* (kfigini@FirstTrinity.com).

The Ark Encounter Bus Trip March 24-27

Built to scale model of Noah's Ark, the Creation Museum, and more are part of the trip led by Pastor Mike Blackwell. Places are still available. Deadline to sign up is February 3. Also openings for the Vermont/New Hampshire trip August 21-25. For info contact *Pastor Mike* (716-713-7305).

SCRIP Gift Cards Sold in Main Office

SCRIP gift cards are sold between worship services each Sunday. Each gift card you purchase helps support Youth and Young Adult Mission Trips. *Thank you for your continued support!*



Saturday Night Light Concert Series

Saturday, February 8 at 7-9:30 p.m.

All are Welcome at First Trinity Lutheran Church
Free Christian Music & Snacks. Contact *John Angelucci* (716-946-9804, 2ndchancesmusic@gmail.com)

Horizon Support Group

Tuesday, February 11 at 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Horizon Parent & Family Support Group
Understanding Substance Abuse & Addiction

Meets at First Trinity the second Tuesday of each month.
For more information: *Colleen Babcock* (716-907-2585)

Our Next New Member Class

Wednesday, February 12 at 6-8:30 p.m.

If you would like to learn more about our church, or if you think you might be interested in becoming a member, we invite you to consider attending our next **New Member Class**. Participation in the class does not commit you to church membership, but it is an opportunity for you to find out more about the life and ministry of our church and to give prayerful consideration to entering into membership. We start with a light supper at 6 p.m.

Please register by February 9 at FirstTrinity.com, click on **Current Sign-Ups**, or call the office (716-835-2220), so that we know how much food and supplies to buy.

OPUS Valentine's Day

Luncheon at Pane's

(Older People Up to Something)

Wednesday, February 19, Noon
984 Payne Ave., N. Tonawanda 14120

Meal includes soup, vegetable, dessert & drinks. Choice of Chicken Parmesan, Roast Beef or Breaded Pork Chops. Sign up in lobby by February 16. Payment \$18 – to Erhard "Moose" Moosmann by February 16.



Grief Support Group at First Trinity

Wednesday, February 19 at 7 p.m.

Topic: *Finding Meaning: the Sixth Stage of Grief*. From the book, *Insights Into Grief and Possible Responses To It*, by David Kessler. Ron will lead the discussion. Whether grief is recent or not, you are welcome!
Questions: *Ron Opferbeck* (716-812-1695) or *Sophie Myers* (716-380-2689).

GriefShare: Your Journey from Mourning to Joy

Tuesdays, March 3-May 26 at 10 a.m.

GriefShare is a 13-week study that includes comfort, answers, and hope. The program provides help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. The topic on March 3 is: *Is This Normal?*
Ron Opferbeck (716-812-1695), *Sophie Myers* (716-380-2689),
Or *Mary Ann Young* (716-639-1169)