

Trinity Lutheran Church

Brewster, NY



Tenebrae

April 18, 2025

7:00 PM

WELCOME as we gather in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst.

We welcome our visitors today. If you are looking for a church home and want to know more about living together as Christians, please contact Pastor Boyd during the week.

If you know of others who are in need of signs of God's love and grace, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us for worship in person or through our social media channels. They may also contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

You are invited to worship with us each week. There is a spoken in-person service on Thursdays at 12 noon and on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. as well as via Facebook Live on Trinity's Facebook page. Services may also be viewed on Comcast channel 21 at 11 am (note, they are a week behind). The service will be posted later on our YouTube page. The weekly bulletin is posted on our website:

Website: <http://trinitybrewsterny.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-Brewster-NY-160570420670756>.

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber

PARENTS: *Please help your children follow the worship service, including standing up with the assembly. Thank you.*

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We welcome our siblings in Christ from Gilead Presbyterian church as they join us in worship for this special service. We thank their choir for their special music and Roxanne Roth, Duane Stroud-Boutte, & Mariah Warren for reading lessons

INTRODUCTION

Jesus came not to save himself but to save us. On the cross, he turns our rejection of him into his salvation of us so that we might know how great the will of God is to save and how far God will go to rescue us from death.

GATHERING (in silence)

PLEASE STAND

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day on which our Lord, having been betrayed,
breathed his last.

This is the day when our Savior walked into darkness,
for us and with us.

This is the day when we saw Jesus' humanity
in his humility.

This is the day when we remember Christ meets us in our brokenness,
joins us in despair, and is present with our pain.

Hope is not lost, dear friends.

This is the day, but soon, there will be another.

CONFESSION

We pause to prepare our hearts, minds and spirits to listen and watch as Jesus journeys to the cross. In these moments, we remember how he pointed us to what it means to live in faith and trust. Let us reflect on those ways in which we have strayed from the path that God invites us to follow

Silence for reflection and self-examination

We confess to You, our Lord and Savior,
**that we have betrayed and denied You,
forgotten and doubted You.**

When our faith is tested,
we wonder where You are.

When we see injustice in the world, we often stand by,
we turn our backs, we ignore the cries of others.

We confess that again and again we deny You
and betray You with our silence

when we fail to proclaim Your Good News,
when we fail to live out Your teachings
failing to love our neighbor as ourselves
and when we fail to love you wholly.

Forgive us, O God,
and help us to truly repent.

Help us to remember

Your sacrifice,

Your love,

and to know Your forgiveness.

In the name of the One who lived,
who was crucified,
and who lives again,
Jesus the Messiah,
we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even in the darkness of this night, even in the emptiness of these hours
that stretch out before Easter morning, the promise of the Resurrection
is still at hand. It is a dim light, and yet to the light of Christ that we
cling. Grant us peace on this night Give us grace to receive this
assurance of your love given in the name of the Father, and of the +
Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTORY SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:39-46

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' [[Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.]] When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, 'Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.'

PLEASE BE SEATED

HOMILY

Pastor Jen Boyd

PLEASE STAND

HYMN: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" (ELW 347)

**Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.**

**Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time. God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

**Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.**

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Music: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Holy God, we are grateful that you hear our prayers and respond with mercy. Because of your mercy, we do not lose heart. Hear now the prayers of this community. May they echo beyond our reach.

Brief silence

We mourn with you, O God, as your Son suffers and dies for the sake of the world. Give us humble and repentant hearts, and hold us as we grieve together what appears to be the end of all goodness. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

Creation weeps at the death of Jesus. Remind us always that we, too, are part of your creation, wholly interdependent for our flourishing. Give us humble and repentant hearts that we might commit to the wellbeing of all that you have made. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We feel the victory of sin and death in the violence and warfare that persists in our world. Give us and our leaders humble and repentant hearts that we might work for peace even where it seems impossible. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

Abide with all who walk in the valley of the shadow of death, who are experiencing pain and struggle in body, mind and spirit. Rest your healing strength upon them as well as hope in your loving promise to end all suffering. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

We acknowledge all the ways in which our self-seeking has caused you and our neighbors pain and suffering, O God. Give us humble and repentant hearts to turn to you for forgiveness and grace. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

All the saints who have gone before us were at the same time sinners. Give us humble and repentant hearts to accept their humanness and still celebrate the ways in which their faith inspires us. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

Additional prayers may be offered silently, aloud or online in the comments

Pastor: We entrust all these prayers and those of our hearts to you, O God. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to suspect:
to suspect that darkness can be crushed by sunrise,
that silence can break with song,
that praise can be shouted in graveyards,
that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to suspect this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to believe:
to believe laughter will be heard at dawn,
that tombs will be unsealed,
that grave clothes will be folded away,
that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to believe this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to trust:
to trust that the conspiracy belongs to heaven,
that crosses aren't the last word,
that the last word is always love,
and that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to trust this is not the end.

Please be seated

Special Music:

"Erbarme dich mein Gott" by Johann Sebastian Bach - St. Matthew's Passion. Played by Juergen Tempel, cellist

+ WHAT JESUS CARRIED+

INTRODUCTION

Jesus carried not just the cross, but a crown of thorns upon his head. He bore the weight of unfilled hopes and the sin of the world. In this carrying, he gathered all of us in and revealed God's amazing love. We offer this prayer that our hearts, our ears and our lives may be opened to receive all that Christ offers to us.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Redeeming God, who was made incarnate for our sake,
may we see you sitting next to us,

in our fear,

in our hardships,

in our foolishness,

in our pain.

For in all things, you chose empathy over comfort,

**and we cling to you so we might share in the recovery your
resurrection brings.**

For today, we ask that you be with us, even with the difficult things,
so we might be present to others when they have pain, too.

In your most precious of names, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. **Amen.**

JESUS CARRIED: UNFILLED HOPES

Reading: Luke 22:47-53

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, 'Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?' When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, 'Lord, should we strike with the sword?' Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, 'No more of this!' And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!'

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *First candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

All our hopes

All our fears

Are met in you this night

We come, carrying their weight

To place them before you

And you, O Christ,

look upon us with love and mercy

offering us so much more

for you gave of yourself for us.

HYMN: “What a Friend we have in Jesus” (ELW #742)

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

**O what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer!

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

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JESUS CARRIED: REJECTION

Reading: Luke 22:54-62

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, 'This man also was with him.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about!' At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Second candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

You call us friends

But we are distracted

By our own wants and desires

Our own needs

Even as you are betrayed and rejected

Now as then

You still give of yourself to us

SPECIAL MUSIC: “O, Sacred Head Now Wounded”

Johann Sebastian Bach

**Performed by Gilead Presbyterian Church Choir and accompanied by
Juergen Tempel, cellist**

JESUS CARRIED: THE SIN OF THE WORLD

Reading: Luke 22:63-23:5

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, ‘Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?’ They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, ‘If you are the Messiah, tell us.’ He replied, ‘If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.’ All of them asked, ‘Are you, then, the Son of God?’ He said to them, ‘You say that I am.’ Then they said, ‘What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!’

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, ‘We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.’ Then Pilate asked him, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’ He answered, ‘You say so.’ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, ‘I find no basis for an accusation against this man.’ But they were insistent and said, ‘He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.’

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Third candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

You carry our grief and our sorrows

Our sins and our brokenness

You weep over the weight of them all

The anguish that you carry for us

Issues forth from the wounds upon your brow

Your love for us is unyielding

Stretched out upon the cross

And yet still you give of yourself to us

HYMN: “There in God’s Garden” (ELW #342, vs. 1, 2, 4)

**There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations.**

Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.

Its name is Jesus, name that says, 'Our Savior!'

There on its branches see the scars of suffering;

see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its life-blood.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome;

hear what the voice says, 'Come to me, ye weary!'

Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow. I will give blessing.'

Text: Kiraly Imre von Pecselyi, c. 1590—c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982

Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

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JESUS CARRIED: A CROWN OF THORNS

Reading: Luke 23:13-25

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, ‘You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.’

Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.' But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Fourth candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

Judgment encircled your brow

Judged for the sake of our sins

Your silence hung heavy

The powers of the world sought guilt

Our cries of "crucify"

Proclaimed their own judgment

The crown placed upon your head

Was the evidence of your love for us

The Lamb of God stands in silence

As you gave of yourself for us

HYMN: “Lamb of God” (ELW #336)

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

***Refrain:* O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.**

Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died. The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Refrain

I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a Lamb of God.

Refrain

Text:: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Music: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Text and music @ 1985 Straightway Music/ Mountain Spring Music

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JESUS CARRIED: A CROSS

Reading: Luke 23:26-43

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, “Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.” Then they will begin to say to the mountains, “Fall on us”; and to the hills, “Cover us.” For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?’

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Fifth candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

Creation cried in vain

As its beauty bore its Creator

Marred by the sin of the world

Its branches used to abuse the flesh

The roots that carried God's nourishing grace

Ripped from its source to be a sign of worldly power

A cross fashioned to betray and to

A cross to reveal what God is willing to do

Love carried that cross
For Christ gave of himself for us

SPECIAL MUSIC:

“By Thy Grievs” performed by Trinity Senior Choir Abraham Ritter

JESUS CARRIED: THE AMAZING LOVE OF GOD

Reading: Luke 23:44-49

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, ‘Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.’ Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, ‘Certainly this man was innocent.’ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Sixth candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

The burdens we carry

Taken on by Jesus

The struggles of our world

The struggles of our lives

The hurts we endure

The pain we cause others

Jesus takes it all on himself

Carrying them to death

Carrying them all
As Jesus gives himself for us

HYMN: "Ah, Holy Jesus" (ELW #349, vs. 1, 2, 5)

**Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!**

**Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.**

**Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.**

Text:: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.

Music: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

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JESUS CARRIED: ALL OF US

Reading: Luke 23:50-56

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Brief silence

REFLECTION

† *Seventh candle is extinguished*

PRAYER

All that was carried

All that Jesus took upon himself

All for you

All for me

All for generations of the past

All for generations of the future

All for me

All for you

Christ carried it all

All for love

All for grace

All for us

Time of silence

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

A large cross is carried in and placed in the chancel. The assembly stands and faces the cross as it is brought forward.

The response is said three times: as the procession begins, halfway to the altar, and as the cross is placed at the altar.

Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

The assembly is seated.

Silence is kept for meditation on the mystery of the crucified Savior, the mystery of redemption. During this time worshippers may come to the Cross to make a sign of reverence. Reverencing the cross may include actions such as pausing before the cross, bowing, kneeling before it for prayer, or touching it.

After a time of silence, the presiding minister continues.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Jesus, we wait here by your tomb

carrying our grief;

the grief of the betrayer,

the grief of the denier,

the grief of the crucifiers.

We carry the grief of the lost,

the heartbroken, the bereft.

Upon you was laid the grief of us all.

It is finished.

God of endings, God of darkness,

God of the tomb, God of dark days and great loss,

be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

We watch

We wait

And yet, there is hope in the waiting

Watch for what God has in store for you

And for the world

All depart in silence.

You may remain in the sanctuary as long as you wish to pray. If you feel called to do so, you are welcome to come forward and pray at the cross. When you are ready, please leave in silence.

Worship notes: Portions of the worship service has been adapted by Pastor Jen from the following resources:

+ **Introduction, Prayers of Intercession** (@ clergy stuff)

+ **Confession**, (Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, [Rev-o-lution](#))

+ **Words of Forgiveness**, (Rev. Shannan R. Vance-Ocampo, *Transitional Presbyter, Albany Presbytery*)

+ **Affirmation of faith** (Roddy Hamilton **Jonny Baker Worship**

Tricks. http://jonnybaker.blogs.com/jonnybaker/2004/11/worship_trick_4.html)

+ **Reflections of what Jesus carried** (Spill the Beans, vol. 18)

+ **Call to Worship, Prayer for illumination**, (Seven Last Words Worship Planning Guide, Illustrated Ministry, LLC, 2024. Resource available at illstrtdm.in/7LastWords-Worship.)

+ **Prayers with the last words** (Pastor Jen Boyd)

+ **Concluding prayer** (Carole Penner, [Leading in Worship](#) blog).

Other parts of worship are from the hymnals, Evangelical Lutheran Worship and All Creation Sings

SCHEDULED TO SERVE: FRIDAY, APRIL 18 @ 7:00 PM

ASSISTING

MINISTER

Joanne
Halbekath

USHERS

Don Icken

ACOLYTE

ASSISTING MINISTER	USHERS	ACOLYTE
Joanne Halbekath	Don Icken	



The organ prelude and preparatory time for worship begins approximately ten minutes before each service.

HOLY WEEK-Easter Services, 2025

Sun, April 20	(Easter)	Holy Communion 9:00 AM
Sun, April 20	(Easter)	Holy Communion 11:00 AM

A complete **CALENDAR** can be found at www.trinitybrewsterny.org

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN: Restless or unhappy children can be taken to the Narthex, where worship can be heard over speakers. Busy bags with activities are available in the narthex for our youngest worshippers. Please return the bags at the end of the service.

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission Statement:

*As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our lives
that we might be the presence of God in the lives of others.*

Trinity Lutheran Church

2103 Route 6, Brewster, NY 10509; 845-279-5181;

www.trinitybrewsterny.org;

Office Hrs: M-F, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Reverend Jennifer Boyd, Pastor: revjedyer1@yahoo.com; 845-279-5181

Charles A. Germain, Jr. and Dorothy R. Kafalas: Deacons

Franklyn W. Commisso, Ph.D.: Minister of Music

Laura Braun, Office Admin: TrinLutheranOffice@yahoo.com

Doris O'Toole, Council President: trinitylutherancouncil@yahoo.com

Members of Trinity: Ministers to the Community & World





Holy Week