



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1323 Central Ave, Alameda CA 510-522-5220

Mission: To be a caring and diverse community of people who know and share the love of God through Jesus Christ.

October 14, 2018 Joshua Renews the Covenant

www.trinityalameda.org

Stephanie Johnson, Pastor (510) 846-0883

Craig Minich, Pastor: East Bay Lutheran Youth Program

Ned O'Donnell, Pastor: Lutheran Ministry to Nursing Homes

The Israelites have now, at long last, arrived and settled in the land which had been promised to their wandering ancestors. It was God who brought them through it all and delivered on the divine side of the covenant. Now it's the people's turn to choose where their loyalties lie.

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH. *You are invited to join with us as we seek to be God's loving community for all who enter here. You are received as a friend . . .*

- *just as you are, created by God.*
- *whatever your color, culture and customs, your age, abilities, sexual orientation or gender identity.*
- *wherever circumstances find you... in the midst of change or challenge or pain, in need of strength and hope, or in search of spiritual fullness and friendship.*
- *whether you are a new visitor or an old friend, have no church home, have doubts or do not believe, or want to follow Christ and pursue peace and justice in Christ's name.*

You are embraced as an expression of the diversity and beauty of the creation God has given us.

You are welcome here!

The presence of children is a gift to the church and a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our youngest brothers and sisters and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

THE SERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE:

Sarabanda

Domenico Zipoli 1688-1726

✠ GATHERING ✠

(Arrows indicate when the congregation may sit ↓ or stand ↑ as able. **Bold print** are responses spoken by the congregation.)

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Confident in God's mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

God of forgiving grace,

We are not always patient to wait for your words and your actions in our lives. We whine and complain, and we try to control those things which are out of our control. We manipulate, cheat, and extract all we can for our gain. Forgive us. Transform our hearts, our minds, and our behaviors so that we might be more like you.

We are blessed to be loved by a fierce and passionate God who will stop at nothing to claim us as God's own. In God's goodness, today, all our sins are forgiven, washed clean, and we are transformed into new creations, made whole by the saving work of Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord.

Amen.

↑ GATHERING

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

#326

↑ GREETING

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

And also with you.

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

*This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia.*

page 196-197

- 1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. (refrain)**
- 2. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (refrain)**
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God, you bring us safely through all the trials and dangers of our lives. Keep us mindful and make us joyful to praise you with grateful hearts. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

↓ CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Keeping a Promise"

Ken Medema

Following the Children's Message, parents of children who are six or younger are welcome to take their children to child-care and retrieve them for communion. (10:30 worship service only)

✠ WORD ✠

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 198

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

↑ GOSPEL

Matthew 4:8-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

↓ PRIMARY READING

Joshua 24:1-26

²⁴Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And 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. ³Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac; ⁴and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. ⁵Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst; and afterwards I brought you out. ⁶When I brought your ancestors out of Egypt, you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. ⁷When they cried out to the Lord, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and made the sea come upon them and cover them; and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt. Afterwards you lived in the wilderness a long time. ⁸Then I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they fought with you, and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I destroyed them before you. ⁹Then King Balak son of Zippor of Moab, set out to fight against Israel. He sent and invited Balaam son of Beor to curse you, ¹⁰but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed you; so I rescued you out of his hand. ¹¹When you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho, the citizens of Jericho fought against you, and also the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I handed them over to you. ¹²I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove out before you the two kings of the Amorites; it was not by your sword or by your bow. ¹³I gave you a land on which you had not labored, and towns that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and oliveyards that you did not plant. 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.

¹⁵Now 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.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for 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 protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and 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.” ¹⁹But 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 transgressions or your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” ²¹And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!”

²²Then 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.” ²³He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” ²⁴The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” ²⁵So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

²⁶Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak in the sanctuary of the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

↓SERMON

↓HYMN

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

#512

↑APOSTLES' CREED

page 105

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

(The congregation is encouraged to take the position which is most prayerful to you.)

Prayer Leader: Steadfast God,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

⊕ MEAL ⊕

↑SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

↓OFFERING

Your Call, Oh God

by Ken Medema

↑PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Hymn

As the Grains of Wheat

#465

*As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.*

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

If we were to list all the things which you have done for us, O Lord, we would never come to the end. Bless these gifts and inspire us to be generous people who always look for those in need, desiring to share what we have so generously been given. For the sake of your Son Jesus. Amen.

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 199

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.

↑ PREFACE FOR THE DAY

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

↑ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 200

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

↑ JESUS' WORDS OF INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in the version or language of your choice.

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.

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We are your household, O God, and we have chosen to serve only you. Feed us on your promises and nourish us at this holy table, this family dinner where sisters and

brothers eat together regardless of who we are or what we have done. Come now to the table, children. All has been prepared—for you.

Thanks be to God.

↓ DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

*The cup we serve is non-alcoholic. Dip the bread into the cup (intinction). **Gluten-free wafers and a gluten free common cup are offered for those who have need. Please indicate your need to the pastor as you approach to receive the host.** If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing or remain seated.*

↓ LAMB OF GOD

Page 201

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

↓ DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Ken Medema, piano

↑ POST COMMUNION BLESSING

↑ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God,

in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous.

May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

↑ BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

↑ HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God

#866

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.

↓POSTLUDE

Ken Medema

Many worshippers choose to stay in the sanctuary to listen to the musical postlude (3-4 minutes).