

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.

May 6, 2018 The Sixth Sunday of Easter



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

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

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 SERVICE ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS PRELUDE

All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Linda Lamb

✠ GATHERING ✠

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

↑ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain, for the waters that surround us.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

P: We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

C: We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

P: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for those newly baptized; for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

↑ GATHERING

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

#385

↑GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

↑HYMN OF PRAISE

Pages 4-5 (hymnal insert)

Refrain:

Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory forevermore!

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. (refrain)

2. Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. (refrain)

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. (refrain)

↑PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray.

C: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

↓CHILDREN'S SERMON

Following the Children's Sermon, 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 ✠

↓FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

↓ Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the
earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.

↓ SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL VERSE

Alleluia

Page 8 (hymnal insert)

Alleluia, alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

↑GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

↓SERMON

↑HYMN

We Are Called

#720

↑NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God.

Congregation: Your mercy is great.

‡ MEAL ‡

↑ SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: 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

Break Forth Into Song

arr. Allen Pote
Choir Anthem

↑ HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat

Page 10 (hymnal insert)

Refrain:

***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.***

***As this cup of blessing once shared within our midst may we share the presence of
your love
(refrain)***

***Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares within your love.
(refrain)***

↑ PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Be known to us, O Lord,

C: in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

↑ THANKSGIVING

Page 11 (hymnal insert)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

↑PREFACE FOR THE DAY

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

↑HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 11-12 (hymnal insert)

C: Holy, holy, holy are you. God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

↑EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Page 12 (hymnal insert)

P: You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation. Above all we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal 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. 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.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.

C: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ in the unity of the Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever. A - men.

↑LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 us 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.

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

↓ DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

The cup we serve is non-alcoholic. Dip the bread into the cup (intinction). If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing or remain seated.

↓ LAMB OF GOD

Page 14 (hymnal insert)

1 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us

2 Lamb of God, you broke the bonds of sin and death; have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us

3 Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us

4 Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love; have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us

5 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

↓ Distribution Music

One Bread, One Body #496

What a Friend We Have in Jesus #742

↑ POST COMMUNION BLESSING

↑ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Life-giving God,

C: in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

↑ BLESSING

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

↑ HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#631

↑ **DISMISSAL**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

↓ **POSTLUDE** *Christ Ist Erstanden (Christ Is Arisen)*

Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer
1656-1746

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