



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1323 Central Ave, Alameda CA (510) 522-5220
Anchored in Faith. Serving Our Neighbor. Singing God's Praise.

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

First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2022

www.trinityalameda.org
Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Pastor (510) 846-0883
Rev. Craig Minich, Pastor: East Bay Lutheran Youth Program
Rev. Ned O'Donnell, Pastor: Lutheran Ministry to Nursing Homes

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

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 ✠

PRELUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come*

(Tune: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, J. Walter, 1524)

Arr. Helmut Walcha, 1907-1991

©1954 by C. F. Peters, ©2000 Augsburg Fortress

✠ GATHERING ✠

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

↓ LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

God of Hope, we know that you miss nothing. As we enter into this new year, remind us that you are always with us, on the clear road and in the wilderness. Guide our hearts to a place of grace and thankfulness, even and especially when the path feels overgrown and overwhelming. God of the wilderness: **embolden us to shine your hope into all the world.**

God of Hope, as we light this first candle, keep us alert to the needs of our neighbors around the corner and around the world. May our hearts be open to the many ways you invite us to share your love and your joy. God of the wilderness: **embolden us to shine your hope into all the world.**

God of Hope, today we remember our siblings in Ukraine, who long for peace and pray for safety. We add our own prayers for all who seek and offer shelter, for an end to violence and disruption, and for your peace and protection amid all the challenges they face this and every day. God of the wilderness: **embolden us to shine your hope into all the world.**

God of Hope, keep us alert to your invitation to be part of your healing work in the world. Open our hearts to the moments when we can extend your love through our hands and hearts. God of the wilderness: **embolden us to shine your hope into all the world.**

God of hope, giver of all things, we have so much to be thankful for. Thank you for being amid the challenges of this past year. Guide us to focus on your Word as we look forward to the hope that Jesus brings. Help us to give thanks in all circumstances. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the One we long for in this season of hope. **Amen.**

(The first candle is lit)

↑ HYMN *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

#244 vs. 1 & 4

**1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.**

**4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!**

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

↑ GREETING

The joy of our Lord Jesus Christ, the compassion of God and the creative power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. **By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

↓ FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

↓ **Psalm 122** (read responsively)

¹I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

²**Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the
LORD.**

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls and quietness within
your towers.

⁸**For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.”

↓ **SECOND READING** **Romans 13:11-14**

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is
now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For
salvation is nearer to us now than when we became
believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let
us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on
the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the
day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in
debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling
and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its
desires.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **GOSPEL** **Matthew 24:36-44**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th
chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and
hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven,

nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of
Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were
eating and drinking, marrying and giving in
marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and
they knew nothing until the flood came and swept
them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son
of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be
taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be
grinding meal together; one will be taken and one
will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not
know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But
understand this: if the owner of the house had
known in what part of the night the thief was
coming, he would have stayed awake and would not
have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you
also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at
an unexpected hour.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

↓ **SERMON**

↓ **CHOIR** *Come to Be Our Hope, O Jesus*

Text: Jaci Maraschin, 1929-2009

Music: Marcílio de Oliveira Filho, 1947-2005

↑ **APOSTLES' CREED** **page 105**

Let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles'
Creed.

**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.)*

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence,
let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care especially *the family of Betsy Maloney, Tim Bangert, Constance & Stephen Mann, Barry Toomajian, Richard Roth, David Johnson, Alan Petersen, Brad Wentz, Vincent Maloney, George Lyon, Sandra Schleske, Annalise Simmons, Helen Pedersen, Ann Kenyon, Tricia, Pam Clisham, Deanna Madarasz, Craig Anderson, Pastor Craig, Marilyn, Michael Rasmussen, Hilke de Arce, Jackson Bohm, Buddy and Sherri Scott, Nancy Stich, Patricia Runo, Gail Cromack, Kate Ganschow, Geoff Kline, Michael Lamb, Maddy Pearce, Willie Prewitt, Christine Winberg and Dorothy Wingire.* God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the ministries of your Word, for Trinity Church Council, the priesthood of all believers; Pacifica Senior Living, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda, the Lutheran Ministry to Nursing Homes, our Sunday School, and the East Bay Lutheran Youth Program. We give thanks for the fullness of the lives of Susan Bell, Lindsey Moder and Maddy Pearce as they celebrate their birthdays this week. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

At this time, you are invited to pray the prayers of your heart, either silently or aloud.

A moment is offered for prayers from the congregation

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

✠ MEAL ✠

↑ SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

The offering baskets will not be passed through the congregation at this time. Please place your offering in the basket placed on the stand in the middle aisle of the sanctuary.

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

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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 173

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, in the highest. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-sanna in the high-est.

↑ 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

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.
Thanks be to God!

↓DISTRIBUTION

↓LAMB OF GOD Page 174
*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.*

↑POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and give you peace.
Amen.

↑PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

↑BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

↓ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑HYMN *Fling Wide the Door* #259 vs.1 & 4
1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;

***the King of glory comes in state;
the Lord of lords and King of kings,
the Savior of the world who brings
his great salvation to the earth.
So raise a shout of holy mirth
and praise our God and Lord,
Creator, Spirit, Word.***

**4 *Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;
our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace,
upon our sorrows shine your face,
and let your Holy Spirit guide
our journey in your grace so wide.
We praise your holy name,
from age to age the same!***

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

↑DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

(Haf trones lampa fardig, Swedish Folk Tune)
Arr. Paul Manz, 1919-2009 ©1990 MorningStar Music
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