



# 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.*

## Sixth Sunday of Easter May 14, 2023

[www.trinityalameda.org](http://www.trinityalameda.org)  
Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Pastor (510) 846-0883

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Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

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**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** *Gayom ni hingami*  
(*Lord, Your Hands Have Formed this World*)

Tune: *Ikalahan*, Philippines, traditional  
Arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 ©1999 Augsburg Fortress

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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

### ↑ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

#449 vs. 1, 3

**1** *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold, and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!*

**3** *The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God. Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!*

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932 Text © John B. Geyer

### ↑ GREETING

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### ↑ CANTICLE OF PRAISE Page 169-170

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

**Alleluia, Alleluia. (repeat)**

- 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)**
- 3. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (refrain)**

### ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

↓ FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

↓ Psalm 66:8-20

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, you peoples;  
let the sound of praise be heard.  
<sup>9</sup>**Our God has kept us among the living  
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**  
<sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.  
<sup>11</sup>**You brought us into the net;  
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**  
<sup>12</sup>You let people ride over our heads; we went  
through fire and water, but you brought us out  
into a place | of refreshment.  
<sup>13</sup>**I will enter your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup>those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.  
<sup>15</sup>**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**  
<sup>16</sup>Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.  
<sup>17</sup>**I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**  
<sup>18</sup>If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;  
<sup>19</sup>**but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**  
<sup>20</sup>Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

↓ SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

## ↑GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ↓SERMON

### ↓CHOIR

*I Come with Joy*

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936  
Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

## ↑APOSTLES' CREED

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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.)*

You may choose to sit or stand as you are comfortable.

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving, especially *the family and loved ones of Geoff Kline, Chuck LaBel, Peter Dow, Jane McDermott, Mary Goglio, Wes & Marla Anderson, Elena Sweet, Constance Farber, Barry Toomajian, Alan Petersen, Vincent Maloney, George Lyon, Annalise Simmons, Helen Pedersen, Ann Kenyon, Tricia, Pam Clisham, Deanna Madarasz, Craig Anderson, Pastor Craig, Michael Rasmussen, Jackson Bohm, Nancy Stich, Patricia Runo, Gail Cromack, Kate Ganschow, Michael Lamb, Maddy Pearce, Willie Prewitt, Christine Winberg and Dorothy Wingire.* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the ministries of your Word, for Trinity Church Council, the Strategic Exploration Team, the priesthood of all believers, Buddhist Temple of Alameda, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We give thanks for the fullness of the life of Brendan Mills, John Kofranek, Demeter Lamb and Candace Gutleben as they celebrate their birthdays this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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*

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

### ✠ MEAL ✠

#### ↑ SHARING THE PEACE

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

#### ↓ OFFERING

#### ↑ 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, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into 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

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

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you. **Thanks be to God!**

#### ↓ DISTRIBUTION

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The cup we serve is non-alcoholic. **Gluten-free wafers 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

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**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. Gracious God,  
**in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

↑ BLESSING

The God of all, who raised ✠ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

↓ ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ HYMN *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* #392 vs. 1, 5

**1** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."*

**5** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."*

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Tōa-sīa*

*(God Created Heaven and Earth)*

Music: Pinpo melody, from Taiwanese Seng-si

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# THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 33

## IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 5/15 9:30am Craft Group  
Tues 5/16 7:30am Bible Study (meets on Zoom)  
Wed 5/17 *No Women's Bible Study this week*  
Thurs 5/18 7:30pm Council Meeting (meets on Zoom)  
Sun 5/21 *Congregational Semi-Annual Meeting, immediately following worship.*

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DATE** Our Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following worship. This year we do not have any Council Members leaving, but if you are interested in being a part of Council, please speak with Anita Burnaford. At this meeting we will be reviewing our financial position for the first quarter of 2023, as well as other agenda items that Council will identify at their May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please join us for the meeting and the following time of fellowship with coffee hour hosted by the Council.

**PASTOR STEPHANIE IS OUT OF THE OFFICE THIS WEEK** This week Pastor Stephanie will not have office hours. She will be attending the Festival of Homiletics virtually for required continuing education units. Voicemails and emails will still reach her during this time, though she may not be able to respond immediately. For an urgent matter, please contact Jessica.

**AAPI HERITAGE MONTH** Our God is Lord of the universe. People all over the world worship God in their own languages with their own music, so it makes sense that the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal contains hymns from many different countries which allow us to feel a part of this broader church. In the month of May, Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we will sing or listen to hymns from our Asian sisters and brothers.

## SAVE THE DATE- Trinity Choir Concert

Which couple's special song from their high school days was "Theme from *A Summer Place*"? Join us on Sunday, June 4, at 3:00 to find out! The Trinity choir presents "Make a Joyful Noise" which will feature vocal duets, organ, piano, flute, choir songs and more. Refreshments follow. Come and bring your friends to this free concert.

**FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN-SAVE THE DATE!** Trinity will host a Family Mingle for families with young children on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30pm-5:30pm. We'll provide a BBQ dinner in the backyard of Trinity while the kids play and the adults can mingle. Games and crafts for the kids provided, this event is a free evening of fun. Family RSVP's are requested by contacting Jessica in the office either by email or call/text: [trinityalameda@gmail.com](mailto:trinityalameda@gmail.com), (510) 812-4752.

**STEEPED IN STORIES** If you are a fan of fantasy, whether you have long loved the world of Middle Earth or have never even watched the blockbuster movies, you are invited this month to read *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 24th at 7:00pm on Zoom

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

## Birthdays this Week:

Brendan Mills (5/16)

John Kofranek (5/18)

Demeter Lamb (5/19)

Candace Gutleben (5/20)

**Visits from Pastor Stephanie**

If you would appreciate a visit from Pastor Stephanie, she is available by phone, text or email to make an appointment. She is happy to visit with you in your home, at her office, or a location of your convenience.

**Pastor's Office Hours**

*Mon-10:00-Noon; Tues. 9am-Noon; Thurs.-10:00-Noon*

You can reach Pastor Stephanie on her cell phone at (510) 846-0883