



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 after Pentecost July 9, 2023

www.trinityalameda.org
Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Pastor (510) 846-0883

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

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

Erin Downey

↑HYMN OF PRAISE

Page 4-5 (hymnal insert)

✠ GATHERING ✠

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

↑CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,
we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

↑HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* #434 vs. 1, 5

**1 *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.***

**5 *Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.***

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

↑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.**

***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

Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

↓ FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

↓Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

↓SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.

²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

↑GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Page 8 (hymnal insert)

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

↑GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not

dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

↓SERMON

↓HYMN *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

#608 vs. 1, 3

1 *Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.*

Refrain

*"Come home, (Come home),
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"*

3 *Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and
pardon,
pardon for you and for me. Refrain*

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909

↑ 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.)

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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, church musicians, and all ministers of your word (*especially name/s*) as they carry out your work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made: rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace. Guide government leaders at all levels—national, state/province, and local—to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick, consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught. Send skilled caregivers to all in need and make your presence known among all who suffer. Today we pray especially for *the family of Vincent Maloney, the*

family of Randi Strom, Don Sherratt, Jason Hayes, Bernadette Hunsaker, Lacy Wentz, Jack Garcia, Carmen Hernandez, Maria Bonino, Peter Dow, Jane McDermott, Mary Goglio, Wes & Marla Anderson, Elena Sweet, Constance Farber, Barry Toomajian, Alan Petersen, 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, Crown Bay Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Alameda, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We give thanks for the fullness of the lives of Greyson Moder and Annie Cianciolo as they celebrate their birthdays this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament. Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today. Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment. 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

God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action. Embolden us by their example to build up the beloved community in all the contexts we encounter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

‡ MEAL ‡

↑ SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

↓ OFFERING

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING Page 11 (hymnal insert)

*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 God thanks and praise.*

↑ PREFACE FOR THE DAY

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)

***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!***

↑ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER Page 12 (hymnal insert)

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.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

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

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

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST...

Page 13 (hymnal insert)

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.

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our father as we pray:

↑ 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

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good. **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 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 break the chains of hatred and fear;
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.**

↑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. We thank you, generous God,
**for the refreshment we have received at your
banquet table. Send us now to spread your
generosity into all the world, through the one who
is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

↑BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in
the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

↓ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑HYMN *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* #697 vs. 1, 3
Refrain

*Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

**1 I am weak but thou art strong:
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. Refrain**

**3 When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. Refrain**

Text: North American traditional

↑DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Erin Downey

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THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 42

IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Mon 7/10 | <i>Dine and Connect hosted at Trinity</i> |
| | 9:30am Craft Group |
| Tues 7/11 | 7:30am Bible Study (meets on Zoom) |
| Wed 7/12 | 10:00am Women's Bible Study (meets on Zoom) |
| Sun 7/16 | SET update meeting immediately following worship |

STRATEGIC EXPLORATION TEAM (SET) UPDATE MEETING Please plan to attend this important Strategic Exploration Team update immediately following worship next Sunday, July 16. Come prepared to ask questions and offer your suggestions. We look forward to a good conversation.

RELAY FOR LIFE Join Trinity's Terrific Trekker's on Saturday, July 22nd beginning at 10am at Leydecker Park in Alameda for this year's Relay for Life event. You may contribute to raising money for cancer by donating to American Cancer Society- please give your checks made out to American Cancer Society to Joanne Robinson in order for it to be counted towards our team goal of \$1,000. To dedicate a luminaria and for any questions, please see Joanne.

JULY MIDWAY SHELTER MEAL The July 23rd Midway Shelter meal needs participants! Please see the sign-up clipboard in the Fellowship Hall to take a part of the meal or to be the drop-off coordinator. All information needed will be emailed to you ahead of time, or you can contact Jessica directly if you have questions or would like more details about participating.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Greyson Moder (7/12)
Annie Cianciolo (7/15)

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