



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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

www.trinityalameda.org

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

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission.

Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

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 *The Church's One Foundation*
Tune: *Aurelia*, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876
Arr. Anne Krentz Organ ©2001 Augsburg Fortress

*Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.*

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

✠ GATHERING ✠

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

↑ CONFESSIO 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 *The Church's One Foundation* #654 vs. 1 & 5

**1 *The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.***

**5 *Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!***

↑ 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.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE Page 4-5 (hymnal insert)

***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. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

↓ FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

- ¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- ²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
- ³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- ⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;

for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

↓Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole
heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and
praise your name, because of your steadfast
love and faithfulness; for you have glorified
your name and your word above all things.**

³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me
safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury
of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸**You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do
not abandon the works of your hands.**

↓SECOND READING Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by
the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a
living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is
your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this
world, but be transformed by the renewing of your
minds, so that you may discern what is the will of
God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone
among you not to think of yourself more highly than
you ought to think, but to think with sober
judgment, each according to the measure of faith
that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have
many members, and not all the members have the

same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body
in Christ, and individually we are members one of
another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the
grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;
⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;
⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in
generosity; the leader, in diligence; the
compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 16th
chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea
Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say
that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say
John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others
Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them,
“But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter
answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the
living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are
you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has
not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.
¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will
build my church, and the gates of Hades will not
prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the
kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth
will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on
earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly
ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was
the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

↓SERMON

↓HYMN *Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand*

ACS #1024

Refrain

***Here on Jesus Christ I will stand.
He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life.***

**1 *There's no other place I can hide
till the storm that rages subsides.
My voice cries to God from the flood,
and I'm saved because of his blood. Refrain***

**2 It is not the work of my hands
that has washed away all my sins.
I'm redeemed, and all of my days,
Jesus Christ will be my heart's praise. Refrain**

**3 When my days on this earth are done,
and I stand at God's holy throne,
my heart will not have any fear;
in Christ's righteousness I am here. Refrain**

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966 Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik
English adapt. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

↑ 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 Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance

where there is oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Today we pray especially for *Judy Lamb, Chris Laine, 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, Hope Lutheran Church in El Sobrante, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We give thanks for the fullness of the lives of Peter Dow and Marilyn Ohm-Smith as they celebrate their birthdays this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. 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 the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. 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 *We All Are One in Mission* #576 vs. 1-2

**1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.**

**2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent;
our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others
with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.**

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL

↑DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, the Lord Is King!*

Tune: *Darwell's 148th*, John Darwall, 1731-1789
Arr. Dan Forrest, b. 1978 © 2013 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

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THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 37

IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 8/28 9:30am Craft Group
Tues 8/29 7:30am Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
Wed 8/30 *No Women's Bible Study this week*

SAVE THE DATE!! Coming soon- Oktoberfest at Trinity! Please plan to join us on Saturday, October 7th for a fun, freshly-made German themed dinner consisting of brats, red cabbage, sauerkraut, German potato salad and apple strudel. The event will begin at 4:00pm. Cost will be \$20 per person, with all proceeds being directed to repair of our kitchen sewer line. Information on how to reserve your spot and flyers to invite your friends coming soon!

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. PROJECT AT TRINITY

Thank you for all of your offerings to this project! Please come help us put together kits after worship on Sunday, September 10th and enjoy coffee hour hosted by the Mission & Service Committee.

LAST CALL!! HAVE YOU FILLED OUT THE SURVEY FROM THE SET TEAM? If you have not yet filled out your Pastoral Duty Survey from the SET team and need a new one, please find copies in the narthex this morning. You may return your survey to the offering plate today. SET will be meeting today after worship to review all the surveys- please place your survey in the offering plate or give your survey to a member of the SET team (Anita, Karol, Ken, Chuck or Stan). Thank you for your valuable input!

STEEPED IN STORIES The next Zoom meeting for Steeped in Stories is Wednesday, August 30th at 7pm. We are reading *Little Women*. Please join us! Contact Pastor Stephaie or Jessica for the Zoom link.

Steeped in Stories is an opportunity to re-read classic children's and young adult novels with more nuanced and wiser adult eyes. Through these favorite books, we explore matters of faith, adversity, hope, and perseverance. Our discussion of *Little Women* will look at the ideas of self-indulgence and temperance.

If you can't make this discussion, you are invited to read our next book with us, *A Little Princess* by Frances Hodgson Burnett. We'll examine issues of favoritism and justice.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS AVAILABLE As we enter a new season, please take a look at our sign up sheet in the Narthex for open weeks to provide our coffee hour fellowship following Sunday worship. Responsibilities include making coffee and providing cookies or light refreshments for roughly 30 people and cleaning up afterwards. Feel free to sign up with a friend!

VOLUNTEER TO BRING FLOWERS It has been an unintentional hiatus, but a number of our members have missed having flowers adorn our worship space on Sunday mornings. We welcome you to help bring back this tradition in a new way. Please use the sign up sheet provided in the Narthex to volunteer for Sundays you will bring a flower arrangement to place on our flower stand in the chancel. If you are giving in honor or in memory of a special person or event, please let Jessica know prior to that Sunday so we may acknowledge the occasion in our bulletin.

JESSICA'S POSTED OFFICE HOURS Jessica's Thursday office hours will continue be in flux over the next several weeks while she cares for the needs of Jason as he continues to recover from illness and regains his strength. She is working remotely and is available by email or text/phone call anytime and by appointment if you need to see her in the office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Peter Dow (8/27)
Marilyn Ohm-Smith (9/1)

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