



# 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.*

## The Second Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024

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

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The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

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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**     *Impromptu Op. 78, No. 2*  
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, 1875-1912  
©1914 Weekes & Co.

*For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.***

*Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.***

## ✠ 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 writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Hear God's flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**↓ CHOIR**     *In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness*  
Text: Anonymous, China; tr. Francis P. Jones, 1890-1975; adapt. Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Text © 2012 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com.

### ↑ 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.**

**↑ KYRIE**     *Glory to God*     **p. 147**

*In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.***

### ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, **by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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**     **Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

### ↓ Psalm 22:23-31

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the**

**LORD hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who  
fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who  
seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live  
forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and  
turn to the LORD; all the families of nations  
shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules  
over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow  
down in worship; all who go down to the dust,  
though they be dead, shall kneel before the  
LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom  
they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people  
yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has  
acted!"

## ↓ SECOND READING

**Romans 4:13-25**

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did  
not come to Abraham or to his descendants through  
the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it  
is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs,  
faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law  
brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is  
there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that  
the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed  
to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of  
the law but also to those who share the faith of  
Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is  
written, "I have made you the father of many  
nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he  
believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into  
existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping  
against hope, he believed that he would become  
"the father of many nations," according to what was  
said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He  
did not weaken in faith when he considered his own  
body, which was already as good as dead (for he  
was about a hundred years old), or when he  
considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No  
distrust made him waver concerning the promise of  
God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory  
to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to  
do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was  
reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the  
words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not

for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be  
reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus  
our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to  
death for our trespasses and was raised for our  
justification.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**p. 151**

***Return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.***

## ↑ GOSPEL

**Mark 8:31-38**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup>  
chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man  
must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by  
the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be  
killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all  
this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and  
began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at  
his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind  
me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on  
divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said  
to them, "If any want to become my followers, let  
them deny themselves and take up their cross and  
follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life  
will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake,  
and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For  
what will it profit them to gain the whole world and  
forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in  
return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me  
and of my words in this adulterous and sinful  
generation, of them the Son of Man will also be  
ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father  
with the holy angels."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ↓ SERMON

↓ HYMN ***Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*** #802 vs. 1, 4

***1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
follow his example pure,  
through a world that would deceive us  
and to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in his footsteps treading,  
trav'lers here, our home above,  
full of faith and hope and love,  
let us do our Savior's bidding.***

***Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
I shall follow where you guide.***

- 4 Let us also live with Jesus.  
He has risen from the dead  
that to life we may awaken.  
Jesus, you are now our head,  
we are your own living members;  
where you live, there we shall be  
in your presence constantly,  
living there with you forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be;  
life eternal grant to me.**

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **↑APOSTLES' CREED p. 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.

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let  
us pray for the church, the well-being of creation,  
and a world in need.

***A brief silence.***

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in  
your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in  
baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church.  
Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops,  
pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O  
God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and  
ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing  
climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the

soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that  
generations to come may cherish your creation.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and  
dignity of every person, especially any who  
experience hatred and rejection because of gender,  
ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or  
religion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate  
helpers to any who suffer because of war and  
violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those  
who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and  
console the bereaved. Today we pray especially for  
***Matt Fleischman, Ginny Parsons, Lou and Stevie  
O'Connell, Barbara Denis, JoAnn Lee, Eva Fields,  
Ryan Simpson, Elizabeth Madaras, RuthAnne Ladue,  
Jerry Stich, Kelly Rager, Sister Pat Nagle, Judy Lamb,  
Bernadette Hunsaker, Peter Dow, Jane McDermott,  
Mary Goglio, Wes & Marla Anderson, Constance  
Farber, 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, 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, Alameda Korean  
Presbyterian Church, the Lutheran Church of  
Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We  
pray for the fullness of the lives of Kevin Mills,  
Cathleen Laine, Nancy Leavitt and Pastor Craig  
Minich as they celebrate their birthdays this week.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your  
faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust  
in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant  
that our acts of service will express Christ's  
sacrificial love. 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***

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who  
lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example  
until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O  
God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through 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 p. 152

*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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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 p. 153

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n 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, 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

Here find bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come! **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 p. 154

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away 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. Generous God,  
**at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING ✠

### ↑ BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

### ↓ ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ↑ HYMN *Guide My Feet* ACS #987

- 1 Guide my feet while I run this race.  
Guide my feet while I run this race.  
Guide my feet while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**
- 2 Hold my hand while I run this race.  
Hold my hand while I run this race.  
Hold my hand while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**3** *Stand by me while I run this race.  
Stand by me while I run this race.  
Stand by me while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.*

**4** *I'm your child while I run this race.  
I'm your child while I run this race.  
I'm your child while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.*

**5** *Search my heart while I run this race.  
Search my heart while I run this race.  
Search my heart while I run this race,  
for I don't want to run this race in vain.*

Text: African American spiritual

## **↑DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share God's promises in Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**      *Wade in the Water*

African American spiritual Arr. Samuel Coleridge-Taylor ©1905

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## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 51

### IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 2/25	9:30am	Craft Group
Tues 2/27	7:30am	Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
	10:00am	Music & Worship Committee (meets on Zoom)
Wed 2/28	2:00pm	Lenten Mid-Week Worship
Thur 2/22	6:00pm	Bible Study with Pastor Crystal (Immanuel) (meets on Zoom)

**ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC, FROM STARR** This month we've heard a lot of music in observance of Black History month. Today I've chosen pieces by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912), the first African British composer to garner international acclaim. His father was from Sierra Leone and his mother was English. At age 15 he began studies at the Royal College of Music, first as a violin major and then switching to composition, and soon published a symphony. He came to America in 1904 and was introduced to African American spirituals. For his first collection of spirituals, *24 Negro Melodies*, he wrote, "What Brahms has done for the Hungarian folk music, Dvorak for the Bohemian, and Grieg for the Norwegian, I have tried to do for these Negro Melodies." He died of pneumonia at age 37.

**LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP** This year our mid-week Lenten worship will happen on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00pm. We hope this will make the service more accessible to those who prefer not to get out in the dark. We plan to worship in the style of Taizé. The Taizé service is a contemplative prayer service developed in the monastic community in Taizé, France. Characteristics of this service - repetitive prayer set to simple musical lines, liturgical readings, and silence – have been adapted by Christian communities outside of Taizé, France, to provide the bases for meditative services.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY WITH IMMAUNEL ON ZOOM** Pastor Crystal Larson Stewart of Immanuel Lutheran are partnering up during Lent to offer two mid-week Lenten practices of discipline. Along with mid-week worship services at Trinity, Pastor Crystal will lead a bible study on Thursdays at 6:00pm on Zoom. See the weekly Builder+ in your email (or on Facebook) for the link. Bible study materials may be found in the Narthex.



### **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