



# 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.*

## **Palm Sunday March 24, 2024**

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

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Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

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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 ✠

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ↑ GREETING

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

↓ PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL **John 12:12-16**  
The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>[Five days before the Passover] the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—  
the King of Israel!"

<sup>14</sup>Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

<sup>15</sup>"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

<sup>16</sup>His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

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

### ↑ BLESSING THE PALMS

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us pray.

**We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### ↑ LITANY

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty in battle.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts is the King of glory.**

### ↑ PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

*All Glory Laud and Honor* #344 vs. 1, 3, 4

#### Refrain

*All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, redeemer, king,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.*

**1** *You are the king of Israel  
and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming,  
our King and Blessed One. Refrain*

**3** *The multitude of pilgrims  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present. Refrain*

**4** *To you, before your passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise.  
To you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise. Refrain*

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821;  
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

### ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Everlasting God, **in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

↓ FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the  
beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

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

↓ Psalm 31:9-16

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my  
throat and my belly.  
<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years  
with sighing; my strength fails me because of  
affliction, and my bones are consumed.**  
<sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my  
neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.  
<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**  
<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear  
is all around; they put their heads together  
against me; they plot to take my life.  
<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.  
I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; rescue me from the  
hand of my enemies, and from those who  
persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."**

↓ SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-1

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ  
Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

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

↓ CONGREGATIONAL READING OF THE GOSPEL

Mark 14:1-15:47

*See bulletin insert*

↓ CHOIR      *Behold, Behold Your King!*

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926  
Music: Larry Shackley, b. 1956  
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↑ 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.*

Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations. Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or in foster care, that they may know your love. We lift before you those who are ill or need special healing, especially *Betty Ann Haskins, Matt Fleischman, Ginny Parsons, Lou and Stevie O'Connell, JoAnn Lee, Eva Fields, Ryan Simpson, Elizabeth Madaras, RuthAnne Ladue, Jerry Stich, 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, Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Oakland, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We pray for the fullness of the lives of Lou O'Connell, Judy Lamb, and Calvin Moder as they celebrate their birthdays this week. 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*

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. 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

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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** 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 ✠**

**↓STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*The sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books are removed from the worship space. "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!" is sung by a cantor.*

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.

**↑BLESSING**

God all mighty, God most merciful bless us, keep us **✠**, and give us peace.  
**Amen.**

**↑DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Walk with Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Due to the solemn nature of this service, there will be no postlude today.

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## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 42

### IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 3/25 9:30am Craft Group  
Tues 3/26 7:30am Bible Study (meets on Zoom)  
Thur 3/28 6:30pm Maundy Thursday worship with simple soup supper- hosted at Trinity  
Fri 3/29 12:00pm Good Friday worship- hosted at Immanuel Lutheran  
Sun 3/31 9:30am Easter Sunday worship with Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt immediately following

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### Maundy Thursday

##### *March 28th at 6:30pm*

Share a meal with our brothers and sisters from Christ Episcopal, First Presbyterian, and Immanuel Lutheran Churches. This service takes place during dinner, just as Jesus met with his disciples for one last meal on Passover. A simple potluck of soup, salad, bread, and wine/juice will be offered, during which we will partake humbly of a footwashing and Holy Communion. All are welcome and ***RSVPs are requested for this service to assure we have enough place settings and food. To register, please contact Jessica.***

\*Trinity is hosting and will be responsible to set up the room and clean up afterwards. Your assistance is appreciated. If you prefer, you may speak to Jessica about bringing part of the meal for the potluck.

#### Good Friday

##### *March 29th at NOON*

Service takes place at Immanuel Lutheran Church

Gather with our friends at Immanuel for this holy and somber service led by Pastor Crystal Larsen Stewart and Pastor Stephanie Johnson. All are invited.

#### Easter Sunday

##### *March 31<sup>st</sup>*

Celebrate Jesus' resurrection with a morning of music, jubilation, fellowship and fun! Our worship service begins at 9:30am with special Children's message time, unboxing our Alleluias, and praising our risen Savior. Stay after the service for a special Easter brunch and an Egg Hunt for children. What a great day to bring family, friends, and neighbors along with you!

**EASTER FLOWERS INVITATION** Like we did last year, we would like to invite you to bring flowers to help enhance our worship space for Easter Sunday. We ask that you bring them already arranged in some sort of vase and drop them off Saturday at church before 2pm. Our volunteers from Visual Enrichment will place them around our sanctuary. Please mark the bottom of your vase with your name so we can be sure it is returned to you. You can reach out to Mary Kay or Pastor Stephanie with any questions. Please avoid lilies, as we have some allergies to this flower.

**THERE ARE HOLY WEEK CHILDREN'S BOOKLETS** available in the church entryway this morning for you to take to your kids, grandkids or young friends.

**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