



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.

Second Sunday of Easter April 7, 2024

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

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

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

↓PRELUDE *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing,*
theme and 2 variations
Tune: *O filii et filiae*, French melody, 15th Century
Arr. Michael Burkhardt
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✠ 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, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

↑HYMN *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

#384 vs. 1, 3, 4

- 1** *That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!*
- 3** *O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.*
- 4** *All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!*

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, 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.**

↑CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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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 God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

↓ Psalm 133 (read in unison)

¹**How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!**

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down
upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron,
flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³**It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon
the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has
commanded the blessing: life forevermore.**

↓ SECOND READING

1 John 1:1-2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in

us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

↓SERMON

↓HYMN *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers* ACS #938 vs. 1, 2, 4

1 *Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor:
Christ is risen, God is here!*

2 *Christ has risen for the people
whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flow'rs to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples,
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
can't be silenced by the tomb.*

4 *Christ has risen and forever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.*

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community, admin.
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↑ AN AUSTRALIAN CREED

Let us affirm our faith.

**We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth,
origin and destiny of us all.**

**We believe in Jesus the Christ-God coming to us in
the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn- who
emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in
the face of despair. Plunged into death and hell, he
broke free of the captives, and is leading the way
to the land of promise where justice and peace will
flourish.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the
seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of
Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform
all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.**

**We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced
by the Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and
will be consummated in the glorious marriage of
earth and heaven, when all who have passed
through the world's deep sorrow will be raised
from the waters, robed in righteousness, and
gathered into the joyous fulfillment of God's
desire.**

**For the coming of that day on this day, we work
and pray: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

An Affirmation of Faith from our siblings in Australia

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.

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed
over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and
all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you
drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day.
Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is
renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen.
Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing
things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and
others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide
police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first
responders to work for the well-being of
communities and the dignity of every person, that
no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear
your people crying out for justice, for an end to
racism and other oppression, and for a world where
all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in
suffering or pain, especially *the family of Audrey
West, the family of John Stich, 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. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the ministries of your Word, for Trinity Church Council, the Strategic Exploration Team, the priesthood of all believers, Buena Vista United Methodist Church in Alameda, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

✠ MEAL ✠

↑ SHARING THE PEACE

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

↓ OFFERING

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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↑ 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, 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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

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.**

new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.

- 4** *May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with those oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.*

Text: Nigel Weaver, b. 1952 Text © 1993 Nigel Weaver.

↑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. Shepherding God, **you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

↑BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

↑HYMN *The Risen Christ* #390 v. 1, 2, 4

- 1** *The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city
street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.*
- 2** *The risen Christ, who stands with wounded
side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe;*

↑DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *The Risen Christ*

Tune: *Woodlands*, Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949
Arr. J. Wayne Kerr, b. 1958 © 2000 Augsburg Fortress

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THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 93

IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 4/8 *Dine & Connect hosted at Trinity*
9:30am Craft Group
Tues 4/9 7:30am Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
Wed 4/10 *No Women's Bible Study this week*

SEEKING SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS This year our Synod Assembly will take place Friday June 7-Sunday, June 9th in Fresno. We are seeking two voting members (preferably one man and one woman) to represent Trinity as voting members. If you are willing to be one of our congregation's delegates, please chat with Pasto Stephanie.

LUTHERAN LOBBY DAY Wednesday May 15th, from 8:30am-4pm in Sacramento. Registration is now open. For more information on Lobby Day, or to register to attend, please visit lutheranpublicpolicyca.org or talk with Mary James to learn more about this vital event.

THE MIDWAY SHELTER MEAL FOR APRIL is Sunday, April 28th. We need volunteers for all parts of the meal: entrée, starch (bread, potatoes, rice, etc.), veggie side dish, salad, dessert and drinks. Please see the sign-up sheet on the desk in the hall to sign up for a portion of the meal (to serve about 28 people, half of those are children) or talk to Jessica if you have questions about how you can participate.

IF YOU BROUGHT A FLOWER ARRANGEMENT for Easter Worship, thank you! The sanctuary was beautifully decorated for the day. Please remember to take your vases home.

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