



# 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.*

## **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2024**

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

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Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

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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

### ↓ PRELUDE

*Abide With Me*

Tune: *Eventide*, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

Arr. Mark Sedio, b.1954

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## ✠ 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 forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,  
have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN

*Blessed Assurance*

#638

**1** *Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.*

### Refrain

*This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior, all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.*

**2** *Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain*

**3** *Perfect submission, all is at rest;*

*I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,*

*filled with his goodness, lost in his love. Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

### ↑ 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

ACS p. 12

*O Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy.*

*O Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy.*

*Have mercy, O Lord. Have mercy, O Lord.*

### ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, **you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### ↓ FIRST READING

Jeremiah 11:18-20

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;

then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me

that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,

let us cut him off from the land of the living,

so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind,

let me see your retribution upon them,

for to you I have committed my cause.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

↓Psalm 54

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, by your name;  
in your might, defend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my prayer, O God;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the  
ruthless have sought my life, those who have no  
regard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper;  
it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who spy on me;  
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice  
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from every trouble,  
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

↓SECOND READING James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show  
by your good life that your works are done with  
gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter  
envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be  
boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does  
not come down from above, but is earthly,  
unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and  
selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and  
wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from  
above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to  
yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace  
of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of  
righteousness is sown in peace for those who make  
peace.<sup>4:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where  
do they come from? Do they not come from your  
cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want  
something and do not have it; so you commit  
murder. And you covet something and cannot  
obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts.  
You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask  
and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in  
order to spend what you get on your pleasures.  
<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the  
devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God,  
and he will draw near to you.

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

↑GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS p. 14

*Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Christ is risen, ris'n indeed.*

↑GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 9<sup>th</sup>  
chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed  
through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know  
it;<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them,  
“The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human  
hands, and they will kill him, and three days after  
being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not  
understand what he was saying and were afraid to  
ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he  
was in the house he asked them, “What were you  
arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent,  
for on the way they had argued with one another  
who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the  
twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be  
first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he  
took a little child and put it among them; and taking  
it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever  
welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me,  
and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but  
the one who sent me.”

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

↓SERMON

↓CHOIR *God, We Gather as Your People*

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961  
Text © 2007 Welcome Song Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

↑APOSTLES' CREED ACS p. 17

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.

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

### *A brief silence.*

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace. Instill in your church a spirit of humility and curiosity, that we embrace all who seek you. We pray especially for ministries of hospitality and faith formation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Curb our habits of overuse, and guide us toward more sustainable sources of energy, food, and water. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, your peace brings justice and solidarity. Encourage peace among peoples, tribes, and nations; heal divisions in our country and local communities, that together we might cooperate for the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you draw near to you all who are in need. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer, especially *Sally Petersen, Jeremiah Jacob Schultz, Nevi Zabalski, Saemi Ladue, Ginny Ostergren, Chuck Bangert, Ann Kenyon, Betty Ann Haskins, Matt Fleischman, Ginny Parsons, Lou and Stevie O'Connell, JoAnn Lee, Ryan Simpson, Elizabeth Madaras, Jerry Stich, Sister Pat Nagle, Peter Dow, Jane McDermott, Mary Goglio, Marla Anderson, Constance Farber, Alan Petersen, Annalise Simmons, Helen Pedersen, Tricia, Pam Clisham, Deanna Madarasz, Jackson Bohm, Nancy Stich, Patricia Runo, Michael Rasmussen, Gail Cromack, Kate Ganschow, Michael Lamb, Maddy Pearce, Christine Winberg and Dorothy Wingire.* Transform economic, political, and social systems that oppress vulnerable people, especially systems of structural racism and generational poverty. 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, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Tiberon, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We pray for the fullness of the lives of Cindy Mills, Willie

Prewitt and Ray Wentz as they celebrate their birthdays this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, you accompany all through changes and transitions. Help us to see where you are calling this community to new ways of living the gospel promise; assure us that even as change brings loss, it also brings hope and life. 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*

Merciful God, you embrace us on our final pilgrimage from this life. Accompany all who have died, console those who mourn, and at the last, show us the way to eternal life in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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

ACS p. 20

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

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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** ACS p. 20-21

*Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our  
God.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, 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 in heaven, hallowed be your name, your  
kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in  
heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our  
sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us  
from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For  
the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**↓ INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.  
Come, here is your God. **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** ACS p. 25  
*O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
Grant us your peace. Amen.*

**↑ 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. Holy God,  
you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with  
dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome  
others and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

**↑ BLESSING**

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

**↑ HYMN** *We Are Marching in the Light* #866

*1. We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.*

*We are marching, (marching, we are marching,  
marching,)  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, (marching, we are marching,  
marching,)  
we are marching in the light of God.*

*2. We are dancing in the light of God,  
we are dancing in the light of God.  
We are dancing in the light of God,  
we are dancing in the light of God.*

*We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing,  
dancing,)  
we are dancing in the light of God.  
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing,  
dancing,)  
we are dancing in the light of God.*

*3. We are praying in the light of God,  
we are praying in the light of God.  
We are praying in the light of God,  
we are praying in the light of God.*

*We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)  
we are praying in the light of God.  
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)  
we are praying in the light of God.*

**4. We are singing in the light of God,  
we are singing in the light of God.  
We are singing in the light of God,  
we are singing in the light of God.**

**We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,  
we are singing in the light of God.  
We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,  
we are singing in the light of God.**

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

**↑DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Blessed Assurance*

Tune: *Assurance*, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

Arr. Mark Sedio

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# THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 41

## IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 9/23 9:30am Craft Group  
Tues 9/24 7:30am Tuesday Morning Bible Study (meets on Zoom)  
Wed 9/25 10:00am Women's Bible Study (meets on Zoom)  
Thurs 9/26 1:00pm Ukuleles with Ozzy  
7:30pm Council Meeting (meets on Zoom)  
Fri 9/27 Pastor Stephanie's Weekly Sabbath (day-off)

**COFFEE HOUR NEEDS A HOST NEXT SUNDAY, 9/29.** Please see the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you can help.

**OUR POP-UP CHOIR IS BACK!** We meet each Sunday morning at 8:45 to rehearse a simple hymn or anthem to sing in the service. Everyone is welcome to join us; reading music is not required, just a desire to sing!"

## COMING UP:

**Pride in the Park:** Saturday, October 5th from noon to 5:00pm, Trinity will have a table set up in Chochenyo Park (2430 Encinal Avenue). We hope to see you there! Be sure to stop by our table to visit, or if you have time, please speak to Pastor Stephanie or Demeter Lamb about volunteering to sit at our table for part of the day to hand out stickers and pins and information about our church to others who stop by.

**Blessing of the Animals:** Pets are invited to join us in worship on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, where the focus will be on the Blessing of the Animals. Pets will receive a special blessing from Pastor Stephanie during the service.

**Have you read our online newsletter (Builder) this week?** Here's a look at some information that you will find there that isn't in the bulletin announcements:

- An Organ Recital "Aspects of Fire" at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento September 22nd.
- A Zoom Celebration of World Food Day and the 50th Anniversary of the ELCA World Hunger Campaign - October 15th on Zoom
- A Conversation about proposed California Propositions with the Executive Director of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy, Regina Banks - October 10th on Zoom
- Minutes from our council meeting

If you aren't receiving the email newsletter in your email inbox and would like to be, please see Jessica to get that taken care of. Visitors who would like to receive our weekly email may sign-up by going to our website-[trinityalameda.org](http://trinityalameda.org), clicking the tab "About Trinity" and then clicking on "Newsletter" to submit your email address to begin receiving it. You may unsubscribe at any time.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:** Please see the back page of this bulletin to see if you have an assigned role for next week's Worship Service.

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED!** The Coffee Hour sign-up was misplaced during summer camp. Please see the replacement in the hall if you already had a date chosen or see if there is a date you can host coffee hour this fall.

### Assisting in Worship:

#### This morning:

Assisting Minister: Mary James  
Reader: Ray Wentz  
Greeters: Chuck & Sherri Bangert  
Children's Attendant: Candace Gutleben  
Coffee Hour: Rachel Hanson & Mary James  
Altar Guild: Joanne Robinson

#### Next Sunday, 9/29

Assisting Minister: Sherri Bangert  
Reader: Mark Schoenrock  
Greeters: Joanne Robinson  
Children's Attendant: Karol Luque  
Coffee Hour: *open*  
Altar Guild: Joanne Robinson

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

### Birthdays this Week:

Cindy Mills (9/23)  
Willie Prewitt (9/25)  
Ray Wentz (9/28)

### 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