



# 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.*

## Fifth Sunday after Easter May 18, 2025

Rev. Jill Ross, Interim Pastor- [revjillross@gmail.com](mailto:revjillross@gmail.com)  
[www.trinityalameda.org](http://www.trinityalameda.org)

---

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

---

**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. We invite you to join us in our commitment to being an anti-racist, LGBTQIA+ embracing, community- loving congregation.*

***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 *First Song I Sing*

*Let the first song I sing today be praise to You.*

*Let the melody linger all day long.*

*Let a smile and a kind deed show my praise to You  
and encourage someone else to sing along.*

*Singing "Praise the Lord,"*

*Singing "Praise the Lord,"*

*Singing "Praise the Lord,"*

*Singing "Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord."*

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

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

### ↑ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks  
for the gifts of baptism.

*Water is poured to refill the baptismal font*

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers and give new life  
to beloved servants of your church; waters that  
extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our  
own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and  
Risen One. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN *Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather* #530

- 1. Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we  
link with hand;  
looking toward our Savior's cross, joined in  
love we stand.  
As we seek the realm of God, we unite to  
pray:  
Jesus savior, guide our steps, for you are the  
Way.*
- 2. Many are the tongues we speak, scattered  
are the lands,  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's  
demands.  
E'en in darkness hope appears, calling age  
and youth: Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for  
you are the Truth.*
- 3. Nature's secrets open wide, changes never  
cease,  
Where, oh where, can weary souls find the  
source of peace?  
Unto all those sore distressed, torn by  
endless strife:  
Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are  
the Life.*
- 4. Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with  
deathless love;  
help us as we work and pray, send us from  
above  
truth and courage, faith and pow'r, needed  
in our strife:  
Jesus, master, be our Way, be our Truth, our  
Life.*

Text: Tokuo Yamaguchi, 1900-1995: tr. Everett M. Stowe  
Music: Japanese Gagaku mode; Isao Koizumi, 1907-1992  
Text ©1958 The United Methodist Publishing House,  
admin. The Copyright Company. Music: ©1958 Isao Koizumi

### ↑ 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.**

*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. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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

Acts 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us

how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

↓ Psalm 148

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
- <sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**
- <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,
- <sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
- <sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;
- <sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
- <sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**
- <sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;
- <sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**
- <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose  
name only is exalted, whose splendor is over  
earth and heaven.
- <sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people  
and praise for all faithful servants, the children  
of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.  
Hallelujah!**

## ↓ SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

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

## ↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 171

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

## ↑ GOSPEL

John 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ↓ SERMON

## ↓ CHOIR    *O God in Heaven*

Text: Daniel T. Niles, 1908-1970, alt.  
Text © 1964 Christian Conference of Asia. All rights reserved.

If you would like to follow the words, turn to #748 in our red hymnal.

## ↑ 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.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

***A brief silence.***

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness, especially *Matt Marcheschi, Mary Kay Wentz, Henry G., Klaus Hofmann, Paul M., Shari, Sonya, Michelle Koka, Janine Carr, Fern Stern, Anna Streissguth, Starr Brown, Mary Waller, Nevi Zabilski, Ann Kenyon, Ginny Parsons, Lou and Stevie O'Connell, Ryan Simpson, Elizabeth Madaras, 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.* Wipe away every tear. 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, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Alameda, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We give thanks for the fullness of the lives of John Kofranek, Demeter Lamb, Candace Gutleben, Jason Hayes, Kristin Moeller, Mary James and Danielle Montoya as they celebrate their birthdays this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. 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 give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## ✠ MEAL ✠

### ↑ SHARING THE PEACE

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

### ↓ OFFERING

### ↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 172

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### ↑ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 173

***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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. **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 174

***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.***

## ↑ 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. Living One,  
**in this feast you have made yourself known to us.**  
**Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING ✠

## ↑ BLESSING

## ↑ HYMN *I Know that My Redeemer Lives* \*

#619 vs. 1, 2, 4, 8

- 1 *I know that my Redeemer lives!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
he lives, my ever-living head!***
- 2 *He lives triumphant from the grave;  
he lives eternally to save;  
he lives exalted, throned above;  
he lives to rule his church in love.***
- 4 *He lives to silence all my fears;  
he lives to wipe away my tears;  
he lives to calm my troubled heart;  
he lives all blessings to impart.***
- 8 *He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives!  
I know that my Redeemer lives!***

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

## ↑ DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## ↓ POSTLUDE *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*, theme and 3 variations

Geoffrey Burnaford, flute

Tune: *The Ash Grove*, Welsh folk tune

Arr. Anne Krentz Organ, for Lutheran Summer Music ©2024

This commission was made possible through a generous gift from Stephen & Elizabeth Hogberg.

The Liturgical Composer In Residence position supported by The Eugene and Mary Sukup Church Music Program through a grant from the Sukup Family Foundation of Sheffield, Iowa

©2024 All rights reserved. Permission is hereby granted for duplication, recording and streaming of this music for local, congregational use.

All music and liturgy used with permission under Augsburg Fortress Sundays and Seasons Subscription SB132990 and One License A-706480. All rights reserved.

\* Denotes a selection from the 2024 favorite hymns list.



# THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AT TRINITY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 42

## IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 5/19	9:30am	Craft Group
Tues 5/20	7:30am	Tuesday Morning Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
Wed 5/21	10:00am	Women's Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
Thurs 5/22	7:30pm	Council Meeting (meets on Zoom)
Sun 5/25	8:45am	Pop-up Choir Rehearsal
	9:30am	Worship

**OUR SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE** after worship this morning right here in the sanctuary. Please stay for our brief meeting and then join us for Coffee Hour and fellowship.

**BOOK STUDY** on "Call to Allyship" will not meet today due to our Congregational meeting. We will resume next Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

**UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE AVAILABLE** Please take one from the church entryway. If you would like a digital copy as well, please let Jessica know and she will send you one via email.

## Assisting in Worship:

### This morning:

Assisting Minister: Chuck Bangert  
Reader: Kaye Fitzsimons  
Greeters: Ken & Candace Gutleben  
Children's Attendant: Jessica Fleischman  
Coffee Hour: Council  
Altar Guild: Joanne Robinson

### Next Sunday, 5/25

Assisting Minister: John Kofranek  
Reader: Kathy Booker  
Greeters:  
Children's Attendant: Mary James  
Coffee Hour: Marvera Kline  
Altar Guild: Joanne Robinson

## Next Week's Scripture Readings:

Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5  
John 14:23-29