

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.

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026

www.trinityalameda.org
Rev. Jill Ross, Interim Pastor- revjilliross@gmail.com

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work.
Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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

Parents/caregivers of children who are six or younger are welcome to take their children to the children's room during the worship service for childcare. If you are new or visiting Trinity, please see a greeter who will show you where the children's room is located. You are welcome to bring them back for a blessing during communion or pick them up at the conclusion of worship.

↓PRELUDE Yuri Kye; Owen Miyoshi, trumpet

☩ 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 pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

↑HYMN ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

#504 vs. 1-2

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

↑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 **Page 204**

1. Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth; we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

2. Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

3. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

↑PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, **we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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 **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I
will make a new covenant with the house of Israel
and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the
covenant that I made with their ancestors when I
took them by the hand to bring them out of the land
of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was
their husband, says the LORD. 33 But this is the
covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law
within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I
will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No
longer shall they teach one another or say to each
other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, says the
LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember
their sin no more.

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

↓Psalm 46 (read responsively)

1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
2 **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be**
moved, and though the mountains shake in the
depths of the sea;
3 though its waters rage and foam, and though the
mountains tremble with its tumult.
4 **There is a river whose streams make glad the city**
of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be
shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
6 **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;**
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
8 **Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what**
desolations God has brought upon the earth;
9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the
world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the
spear, and burns the shields with fire.
10 **"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be**
exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in
the earth."
11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob
is our stronghold.

↓SECOND READING **Romans 3:19-28**

19 Now we know that, whatever the law says, it
speaks to those who are under the law, so that
every mouth may be silenced and the whole world
may be held accountable to God. 20 For no human
will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by
the law, for through the law comes the knowledge
of sin.

21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness
of God has been disclosed and is attested by the
Law and the Prophets, 22 the righteousness of God
through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe.
For there is no distinction, 23 since all have sinned
and fall short of the glory of God; 24 they are now
justified by his grace as a gift, through the
redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put
forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood,
effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate
his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance
he had passed over the sins previously committed;
26 it was to demonstrate at the present time his own
righteousness, so that he is righteous and he
justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded.
Through what kind of law? That of works? No,
rather through the law of faith. 28 For we hold that a
person is justified by faith apart from works
prescribed by the law.

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

↑GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **Page 205**

Alleluia. Lord and Savior; open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

↑GOSPEL **John 8:31-36**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter**.** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

31 Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If
you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples,
32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will
make you free." 33 They answered him, "We are
descendants of Abraham and have never been
slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You
will be made free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you,
everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35 The
slave does not have a permanent place in the

household; the son has a place there forever. [36] So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

↓SERMON

↓CHOIR *O God of Light* (ELW #507)

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883-1954, alt.
Text © 1952, ren. 1980 The Hymn Society,
admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL

↑ 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.

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed (*local places may be named*). Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially *the family of Jim Ostergren, Chuck LaBel, Paul Meola, Laura Meola, Starr Brown, Chuck Willow, Lily, Bonnie Levo, Elizabeth Madaras, Lyla Hanson, Dennis Assid, Juliane Pew, Tracie Rasmussen, Harry Olsen, Jose Hernandez, Tanas and his parents, Paul M., Sonya, Michelle Koka, Nevi Zabilski, Ann Kenyon, Ginny Parsons, Lou O'Connell, Ryan Simpson, Peter Dow, Constance Farber, Alan Petersen, Annalise Simmons, Helen Pedersen, Tricia, Nancy Stich, Patricia Runo, Michael Rasmussen, Kate Ganschow, Michael Lamb, Maddy Pearce, and Dorothy Wingire.* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the ministries of your Word, for Trinity Church Council, Trinity's Call Committee, the priesthood of all believers, Christ Episcopal Church in Alameda, the Lutheran Church of Kagitumba in Rwanda and our Sunday School. We give thanks for the fullness of the life of Karol Luque as she celebrates her birthday this week. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. 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

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead.. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

☩ MEAL ☩

↑ SHARING THE PEACE
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

↓ OFFERING *Trumpet Tune* by Jeremiah Clarke
Yuri Kye; Owen Miyoshi, trumpet

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING **Page 206**
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; 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 **Page 207**
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, in the highest.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-sanna in the high-est, ho-sanna in the high-est.

↑ 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
Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, 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 **Page 208**
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

↑ 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. Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

☩ SENDING ☩

↑BLESSING

↑HYMN ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***
#504 vs. 3-4

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

↓DISMISSAL
Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

↓ POSTLUDE Yuri Kye; Owen Miyoshi, trumpet

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNEMENTS AT TRINITY

IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Mon 10/26	9:30am	Craft Group
Wed 10/28	7:30am	Early Morning Bible Study (meets on Zoom)
Sun 11/1	9:30am	Worship- Pastor Dee Emmert guest preaching

Assisting in Worship

Assisting Minister: Mary James
Reader: Sherri Bangert
Greeters: Kathy & Stan Booker
Children's Attendant: Karol Luque
Coffee Hour:
Altar Guild: Joanne Robinson

Assisting in Worship 11/1

Assisting Minister: Kaye Fitzsimons
Reader: Anita Burnaford
Greeters: John Kofranek & Marilyn Ohm-Smith
Children's Attendant: Mary James
Coffee Hour: Karol Luque
Altar Guild: Marvera Kline

Next week's lessons:

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12