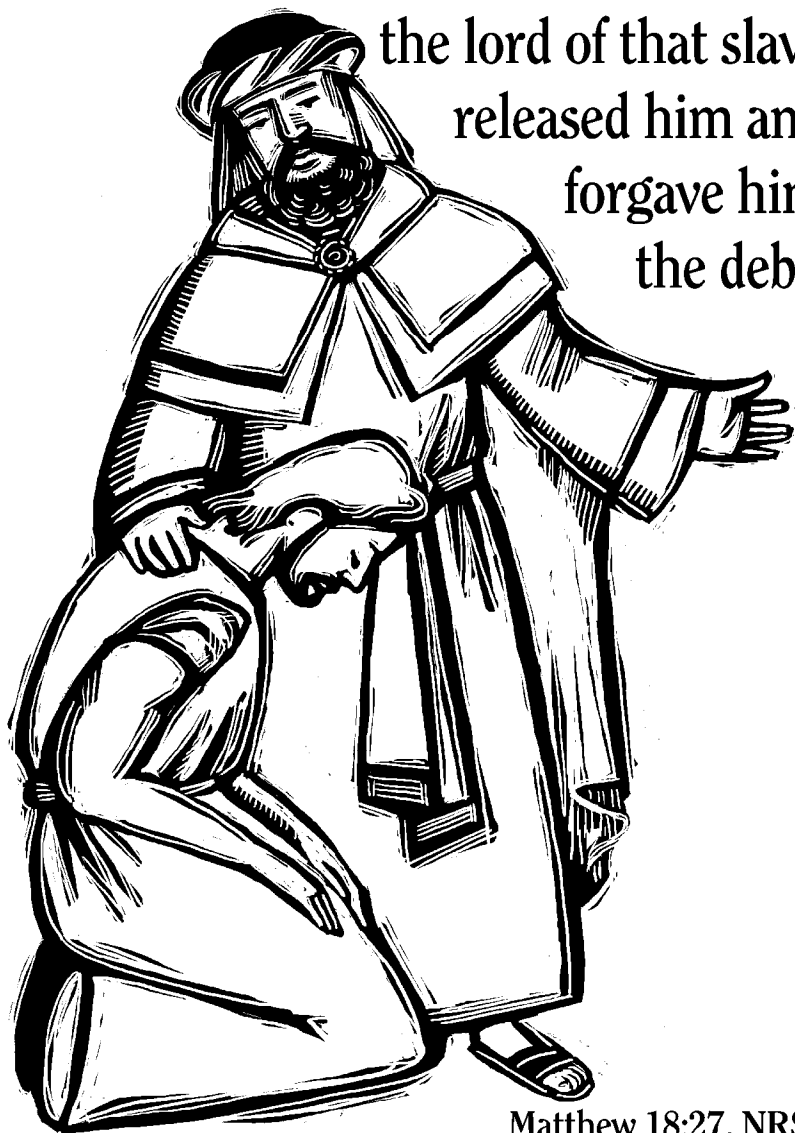


And out of pity for him,
the lord of that slave
released him and
forgave him
the debt.



Matthew 18:27, NRSV

September 17, 2017

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
38801 Blacow Road
Fremont, CA 94536
Church: (510) 793-6285

September 17, 2017
8:45 AM, 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Church: [Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

Singing Bowl

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

PRELUDE . . . *Leilani Camara and Michael Keating*

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We are an Open and Affirming church. Together, let us worship God, rejoicing in the good news which we celebrate this day!

All: There is a place in God's heart, there is a place at Christ's table, there is a place here and in every welcoming church for all people.

L: Christ who gathers us, bids us follow in the ways of love and justice.

All: May our hearts be open to Christ's leading in our worship and our living, this day and always.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross,
the sign marked at baptism.

P: *Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.*

All: Amen.

P: *Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: *God of all,*

All: **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

P: *If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one*

another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN. . . "All Creatures, Worship God Most High!" vs. 1, 4, 6

Text: Francis of Assisi - Tune: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge* - ELW #835



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row
6 O sist-ers, broth-ers, take your part, and wor-ship God with hum-ble



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your
heart: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! All crea-tures, bless the Fa-ther,



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
fears; still make your song a-mid the tears: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it, Three in One:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

GREETING

P: *God of hosts most gracious, God the Son who saves us, God the Spirit placed upon us, is with you all.*

All: And also with you.

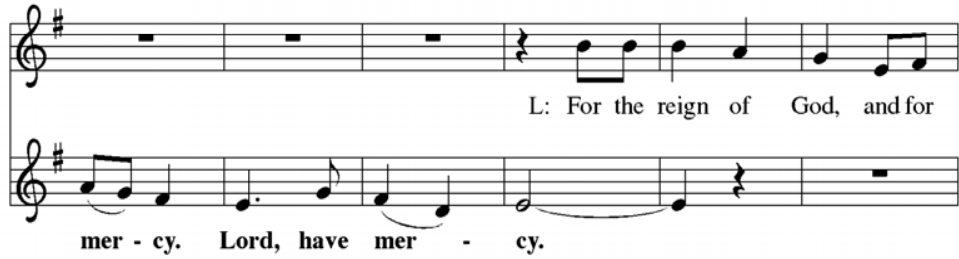


KYRIE



L: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have



L: For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

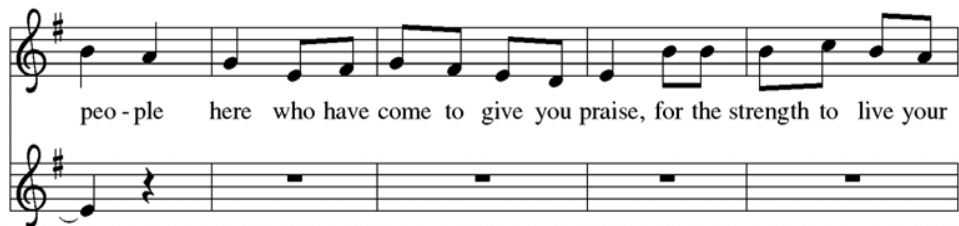


peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the



Lord. L: For your

All: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

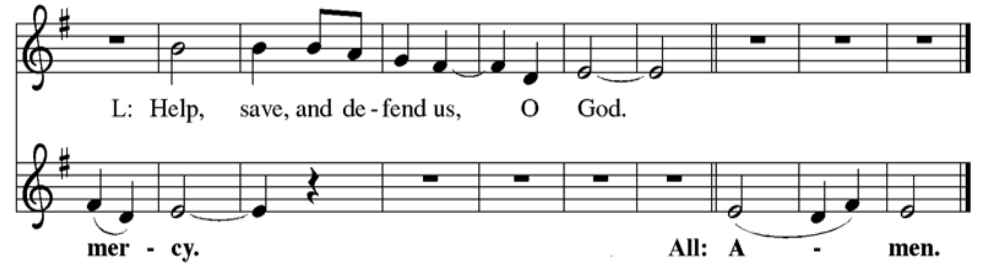


peo-ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



word, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have



L: Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. All: A - men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION



Refrain

All: Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion



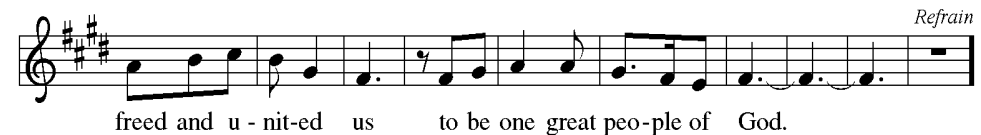
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo-ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u-nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and

Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

Refrain

God; to make all things new.

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.

All: **Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM . . . “We Are the Lord’s”

WE LISTEN AND THINK

READING . . . *Romans 14:1-12*

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not

despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

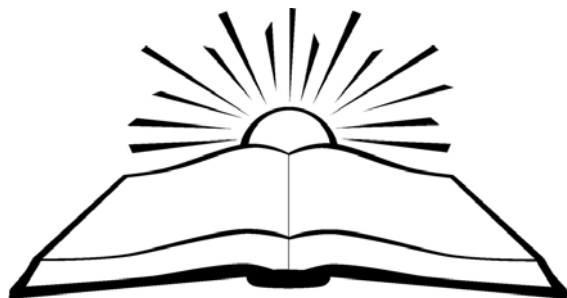
“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand



ALLELUIA VERSE

All: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the eighteenth Chapter

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL . . . Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves

who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S TIME . . . Pastor Tim

Please Stand

SONG . . . “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” vs. 1, 2, 4

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots - Tune: *The Sacred Harp* - ELW #605



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Be Seated

MESSAGE . . . Pastor Tim

WE SHARE THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have received much from God—grace, mercy, abundance, the love of Christ, and the gift of life itself.

All: In our worship, we praise God and give God thanks for these gifts. Let us now offer what we can as a way of saying, “Thank you.” In gratitude for God’s generosity, let us share God’s abundance with one another.

THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY



All: As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were



gath - ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo - ple from



all the ends of earth be gath - ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for these gifts and ask that they be used to help the needy in our community and throughout the world.

All: As we offer you these gifts, we offer ourselves as well, that together we might transform the world with your grace and love. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. Creator God, you spoke light into being, you separated the waters, you formed the dry land. Protect and enliven the creation you so love, and make us willing partners in its care. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of the nations, you love all tribes, peoples, and languages. We pray for all who govern. Give them wise and generous hearts for those they serve. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Divine Healer, calm the anxiety of those who are wrongly accused, who suffer under crushing debt, or who are in prison. Reassure those who are lonely, impatient, brokenhearted, homebound, hospitalized, or ill. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for this assembly; for our guests and visitors, for newcomers to this community, for those who are certain and those who doubt, and for all who seek you in this place. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, hear now the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God of mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you. All: And al - so with

you. L: Lift up your hearts. All: We

lift them to the Lord. L: Let us give

thanks to the Lord our God. All: It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, and inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Risen Savior gave us:

All: 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 us 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.



FRACTION RITE

P: God gives food to those who hunger. Come, be fed, be healed.

All: We come with thanks to God's abundant table. Amen.

Be Seated

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion is open to all.
Grape juice is white, wine is red.
If you desire communion brought to you,
please let an usher know.

COMMUNION HYMN . . . “As We Gather at Your Table”

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr. - Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en
Contradansen – ELW #522



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.



COMMUNION HYMN . . . “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

Text: Latin hymn - Tune: attr. Lucius Chapin - ELW #359



1 Where char-i-ty and love pre-vail, there God is ev-er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho-ly fear, God's char-i-ty we learn;
3 Let us re-call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho-ly Son;
4 Let strife a-mong us be un-known; let all con-ten-tions cease.
5 Let us for-give each oth-er's faults as we our own con-fess,



brought here to- geth-er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re- turn.
as mem-bers of each bod-y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo-ry that we seek; be his our on-ly peace.
that we may love each oth-er well in Chris-tian gen-tle-ness.

COMMUNION HYMN . . . “Ubi Caritas et Amor”

Text: Latin antiphon - Tune: Jacques Berthier - ELW #642



U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,



u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.
Where true char - i - ty God is dwell - ing there.

Singing Bowl

Please Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: O God, you are Hospitality. You are Welcome. You are the Invitation, the Table, the Feast. By your spirit may we learn to receive and offer grace, to share from the sustenance of our lives and not simply its crumbs.

All: Embolden us as we serve as the voice of those who continue to ask the church for justice and bread. In Christ we pray. Amen.

POST COMMUNION THANKS

All: Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
 Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
 weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
 mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
 From of old you loved and sought us: Thanks be to you for
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us.
 Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

WE CARRY GOD'S CARING LOVE TO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

P: We leave this church, O God, with songs of new life on our lips.

All: With a message of hope in our hearts, with a determination to serve on our minds, with the love of Jesus Christ binding us together in faith community. Amen.

SENDING OUT . . . "Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"

vs. 1, 3

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt – Tune: Sicilian – ELW #544

1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -
 vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.
 Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in
 rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.

Now the Feast and Celebration" Musical setting by Marty Haugen
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