

for my house
shall be called a

HOUSE of PRAYER

for

ALL PEOPLES



Isaiah 56:7

August 16, 2020

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

August 16, 2020
11th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

[Click here for a video of the service](#)

PRELUDE . . . *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*
Favorite Hymn of Gail Walker

WELCOME

SINGING BOWL

INVOCATION

P: We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

All: God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.

P: We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

All: God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.

P: We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: When hatred and division separate us,

All: God's love binds us together.

L: When quarrels estrange us from one another,

All: Christ's light shows us the way to reconciliation.

L: When we feel excluded and left out,

All: The Spirit's peace erases our pain.

L: When all hope of fellowship seems lost, God's grace restores our hope.

All: Come! Let us worship God, who makes us one.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign if the cross.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

All: Amen.

Silence for Reflection

P: Reconciling God,

All: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

P: We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

All: We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

P: We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

All: We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.

P: We sin in thought, word, and deed.

All: By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

All: Our sins are forgiven.

P: Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

LITANY

L: You call us to love those whom you would love,

All: and give us the words to say.

L: You call us to bring wholeness to lives that are broken,

All: and give us the words to say.

L: You call us to bring comfort to those who are grieving,

All: and give us the words to say.

L: You call us to bring good news to those who are seeking,

All: and give us the words to say.

L: Your word, living water in desert sands.

All: Your word, blossoming in parched earth.

L: Your word, bearing fruit wherever it is sown.

All: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.

All: Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING



INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: You are the living God who sustains all life in continually unfolding ways. And now may we open our ears to your continually unfolding Word. You speak to us in new and vital and imperative ways.

All: With all the power you have given us, let us be silent and open to listening... for nourishment, comfort, for challenge and new focus. Amen.

Reader: The first reading is from Isaiah chapter fifty-six, beginning with the first verse.

FIRST READING . . . *Isaiah 56:1, 6-8*

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Reader: Here ends the first reading.

The second reading is from Matthew chapter fifteen, beginning with the tenth verse.

SECOND READING . . . *Matthew 15:10-28*

[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME . . . *Pastor Tim*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tim*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours,

All: and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

L: Water and word, wine and bread:

All: these are signs of your abundant grace.

L: Nourish us through these gifts,

All: that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those who need your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: The God of dreams has brought us together.

All: The God of dreams sends us forth to love one another well.

P: The God of love has knit us together in unity.

All: The God of love sends us forth to heal our divisions.

P: The God of hope sends us forth together.

All: The God of peace sends us forth to bring the world home.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE . . . *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*

Favorite Hymn of Terri MacFarlane

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff

Lay Liturgist: Ann Harren

Readers: Alex and Zach Harren

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

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