



*Overcome*  
evil  
*with*

**GOOD.**

ROMANS 12:21

**August 30, 2020**

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

August 30, 2020  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

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## GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

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

### PRELUDE

### 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!**



**"If anyone  
would come after me,  
he must deny himself and  
take up his cross  
and follow me."**

**MARK 8:34, NIV**

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Loving God, you call us to turn away from our own selfish interests, to take up our cross, and to follow you.

**All: To find our lives, may we live them in service of your mission.**

L: As we come before you this morning, give us open hearts and open hands.

**All: Make us eager to hear your voice and seek your guidance.**

L: Open our minds to your ever-present spirit that is always moving within and around us.

**All: Open our spirits to your nudging and open our lives to your love.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross.

*P: In the midst of your holy presence, O God, we encounter a mystery deeper than the foundations of the earth.*

**All: You are who you are, sacred and indefinable.**

*P: Forgive us when we try to put you in a box, or frame you in our own image.*

**All: Help us as we allow your divine image to define and shape us.**

*P: Speak mercy and grace to us, when we deny the path before us, and guide us with your shepherding love, when we are unsure of how to follow.*

**All: Strengthen us and give us the courage to say: “Here I am, ready to love and serve.”**

Silence for Reflection

*P: We are in the presence of the Holy One,*

**All: whose holiness is in our very being.**

*P: Rejoice and be glad, for in Christ's love we are reminded of this divine truth:*

**All: We are God's beloved creation, reclaimed for a holy path.**

## **LITANY**

L: You call us to be your voices in this world

**All: and we stay silent.**

L: You call us to be your hands in this world

**All: and we keep them hidden.**

L: You call us to be your feet in this world

**All: and we go our own way.**

L: When we meet those who are doubting

**All: and say nothing, forgive us.**

L: When we meet those who need your touch

**All: and do nothing, forgive us.**

L: When we are called to take up your cross

**All: and carry nothing, forgive us.**

L: Breathe life into these bones, bring freedom to these lives

**All: that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that you are our Lord and our God. Amen**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.

**All: By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## 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.**

## READING . . . *Romans 12:9-21*

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## READING . . . *Matthew 16:21-28*

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests



and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

## **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. God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a workshop of your love. When we quarrel, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. 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.**

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**GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING**

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**BENEDICTION**

P: God sends us to serve.

**All: Here I am, ready to serve!**

P: God sends us to love.

**All: Here I am, ready to love!**

P: God sends us to bless the world.

**All: Here I am, ready to bless the world!**

**DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

**SINGING BOWL**

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Pastor: Tim Huff

Lay Liturgist: Keith Hillesland

Lector: Cheryl Hall

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema