



**October 25, 2020**

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

October 25, 2020  
Reformation Sunday  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

---

## GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

---

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

**PRELUDE . . . “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

**WELCOME**

**SINGING BOWL**

**INVOCATION**

*P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God: the only Sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.*

**All: Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** God of all generations, on this Reformation Sunday, we remember all in the faith who take bold steps in new directions to re-form your church.

**All: Pour out your spirit upon us, that we too may dream dreams, see visions, and view the whole created order as your bountiful temple. With responsibility and joy, we pledge ourselves to renew this temple, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross.

*P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.*

Silence for Reflection.

*P: Source of all life,*

**All: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

*P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world.*

**All: Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional.**

*P: We are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.*

**All: Amen.**

## LITANY

L: Loving God, look at us with love, and open our hands and hearts so we may let go of distractions and obstacles and follow you to the springs of life, and joy.

**All: Open us to the wonder of your amazing grace, show us the fullness of your salvation, grant us the peace that passes all understanding.**

L: Speak to us today in word, music, movement and silence.

**All: Ever present God, forever seeking us and always teaching us:**

L: Open our minds to the truth of your care.

**All: Open our hearts to the gentle power of your love.**

L: Open our lips to share stories of faith.

**All: Open our hands to create beauty, to do justice and to show kindness.**

L: Open our souls to the breath of your Spirit.

**All: Open our mouths to sing boldly and loudly your praises. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Gracious Creator, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt,

**All: purify it;**

L: where it is in error,

**All: direct it;**

L: where in anything it is amiss,

**All: reform it;**

L: where it is right,

**All: strengthen it;**

L: where it is in need,

**All: provide for it;**

L: where it is divided,

**All: reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.**

## **FIRST READING . . . *Romans 3:19-28***

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. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

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

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

## **SECOND READING . . . *Matthew 22:34-46***

When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Pastor Tim***

## **HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tim***

## **THE CREED**

L: Let us confess our faith using the words of Martin Luther's explanation of the third article of the Apostles' Creed.

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

**All: In faith I turn to Christ.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith.**

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All: Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins, mine and those of all believers. On the Last Day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Gracious God, with these gifts we also offer to you our lives and our love, in grateful thanks for your grace that surrounds us every day.

**All: Use these gifts and us for your purpose, that your love may be known in all of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Confident in the gracious and ever-widening mercy of God, let us pray for the world, the body of Christ, and all who yearn for wholeness of life. Liberate us from our bondage to sin, God of freedom, that your church would continually be reshaped and reformed by the fire of the Holy Spirit. God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Show your righteousness, God of justice, that all who are oppressed and marginalized, forgotten, and cast aside would be given voice by elected leaders and compassionate citizens. God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Make wars to cease in all the world, God of peace, that all strife, violence, and bloodshed give way to reconciliation, compassion, and new life. God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Take us by our hand, God of companionship, when we are paralyzed by our fears and unable to step out in boldness. Give us courage to walk confidently with you. God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Give your stillness, God of calm, to all who are facing illness, surgery, or any uncertainty of health. May they know that their times are in your ever-healing hands. God, 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: God, 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: God's love sends us forth.

**All: God's love sets us free.**

P: God's love makes us whole.

**All: God's love brings us hope.**

P: God's love blesses our lives.

**All: God's love brings healing to our world.**

**DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE . . .** *"The Church of Christ in Every Age"*

**SINGING BOWL**

---



Pastor: Tim Huff  
Lay Liturgist: Bethany and Tom Stevenin  
Lector: Sharon Pickering  
Music: Leilani Camara  
Video Editing: Carmen Blair  
Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

