

We will  
always be  
with the

*Lord.*



1 THESSALONIANS 4:17, ESV

**November 08, 2020**

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

November 08, 2020  
23<sup>rd</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 . . .** *“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”*

**WELCOME**

**SINGING BOWL**

**INVOCATION**

*P: Come, let us gather to worship our Timeless God.*

**All: We gather together to share with your children the past blessings we have received from our God.**

*P: Come, let us gather to worship our Awesome God.*

**All: We gather together to listen for God’s word for us today.**

*P: Come, let us gather to worship our Glorious God, who delights in our worship, witness and service.*

**All: We gather together to share our hope and trust in our merciful God, who has never failed or forgotten us. Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Are you awake? Are you alert?

**All: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.**

L: Are you watching the signs? Are you interpreting what is happening today?

**All: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.**

L: Do you see opportunities for ministry? Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

**All: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.**

L: Come, let us worship and let us work in the Kingdom of God.

**All: Christ has extended the invitation: let us work together in God's Kingdom on earth.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross.

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.*

**All: Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

*P: Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you.*

**All: We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

*P: We forget the least of our siblings.*

**All: We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

*P: We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.*

**All: Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

*P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus we are forgiven, by Jesus we are welcome, in Jesus we are called to rejoice!*

**All: Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. Amen.**

## LITANY

L: As for you, Creator, you did not keep earth waiting

**All: when darkness covered her shores and chaos hurried to destroy.**

L: As for you, you did not keep silent

**All: when you knew a word was all the difference between life and death.**

L: As for you, you did not hide  
**All: when discoveries threatened to change the world we thought we knew.**

L: As for you, you did not keep away  
**All: when wanderers walked the earth in search of home and purpose.**

L: As for you, you did not lie still  
**All: when the faithful few departed and even prophets were afraid.**

L: As for you, you did not leave us  
**All: but came as one of us in the hour of deepest need.**

L: As for you, you did not let death contain you  
**All: but rose in garden and city street; love and hope in your wake.**

L: So to you, Creator, is due our praise, our thanks, our hearts.  
**All: To you is the glory now and always from all peoples and places of earth.**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.  
**All: Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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

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## **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 . . . *Psalm: Psalm 70***

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me  
turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

## **SECOND READING . . . *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18***

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## **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: We come before you, O God,

**All: with gifts in your name in service of the world.**

L: We bring you this offering,

**All: as a symbol of our choice to follow you.**

L: Receive these gifts of love,

**All: that they may go forth as your blessing and wisdom for the world. Amen.**

### THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need. Holy God, rouse us to deep praise as we gather for worship. Enliven our worship with sincere and heartfelt song. Sustain the work of all church musicians and artists who lead us in praise and prayer. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Holy Judge, let justice roll down like waters over this world. Reign over the courtrooms of every land, in the hearts of those who guard the law and those who stand accused of crimes. Be present in cases where we long for both justice and mercy to prevail. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Holy Companion, console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Share the hours of those who live and eat alone. Comfort those who have few friends or who struggle with their identity and place in this world. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Holy Protector, be with all observing Veterans Day. Guard the lives of active duty and retired military personnel. Comfort all who mourn those who have died in the line of duty. Heal the wounds, both physical and mental, experienced by service members. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

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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**BENEDICTION**

*P: Go now, and follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before us in Christ. Serve God in sincerity and faithfulness. Teach those who come after you to trust in God. And may God protect you along the way; May Christ Jesus keep you alert and prepared; And may the Holy Spirit fuel the lamp that guides your path.*

**All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE . . . “Blessed Assurance”**

**SINGING BOWL**

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Pastor: Tim Huff  
Lay Liturgist: Art Kuhlmann  
Reader: Cheryl Kuhlmann  
Music: Leilani Camara  
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