



**HE TAUGHT
THEM AS ONE
WHO HAD AUTHORITY**

MARK 1:22

February 07, 2021

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

February 07, 2021
5th Sunday after Epiphany
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

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

PRELUDE . . . *“Christ, Be Our Light”*

WELCOME

SINGING BOWL

INVOCATION

L: Gracious God, hear our songs.

All: Gather us in as one people, that we may worship you as one body.

L: Heal our broken hearts and bind up our wounds, that we may come into your presence healthy and whole,

All: as we seek your wisdom.

L: Help us to discern your greatness,

All: as we honor the power and glory of your love. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Have you not known?

All: Our God is the everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth.

L: Have you not heard?

All: God does not faint or grow weary.

L: Have you not known?

All: God’s understanding is unsearchable.

L: Have you not heard?

All: God gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.

L: Have you not known?

All: Those who wait for God will renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

L: We come to hear.

All: We come to know. Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: How can we look at this world and not sing of your praises, O God? The beauty and majesty of the world is overpowering!

All: Yet we have a tendency to take all that you do for us for granted.

L: We treat the world with callous indifference, using its resources carelessly and with little regard to the future.

All: We insist on war as solutions for problems rather than peaceful striving.

L: We turn our backs on people in need, the weak and downtrodden go unnoticed in our midst.

All: We always believe that someone else will care for those in need.

L: How foolish we are, O God!

All: How ignorant we have become!

L: You have given to us all that we need. You have blessed us with the witness of Jesus Christ who came so that we might learn how you would have us live, in honor and peace.

All: Forgive us. Heal our hearts and spirits. Make us fully aware of all our blessings and our responsibilities.

L: Give us again a spirit of joy in serving you.

All: Help us be agents of peace and hope to others. For we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Silence for Reflection

L: Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls. The demons of arrogance, indifference and apathy are being cast out. New life is offered to us in Jesus Christ. Rejoice! Be Glad!

All: For God's love is poured out to us this day. Amen.

LITANY . . . “Prayer for Eagles’ Wings”

L: You lift us up to the heights, Holy One.

All: On wings like eagles’ you enable us to soar with the possibilities

L: of revolution, of transformation both within our own souls,

All: and within this world which needs so much care.

L: And yet it is not the bright skies where we most often live.

All: We are here with our feet on the ground—

L: your feet planted firmly beside us

All: as we try to walk without fainting:

L: walk through the shadows of death and ill-health and addiction;

All: walk through life changes: moves, births, aging, loss.

L: We need your strength to not grow weary as we continue to hope for new life amidst old attitudes and injuries.

All: We long to run and not grow faint as we challenge the injustices that seep into our own daily encounters;

L: and as we work for your compassion and wholeness

All: for all people, and all creatures, and the very earth.

L: Lift us up to the heights, Holy One, so we may again catch a glimpse

All: of the vast possibilities of your Shalom even as we pray for it here on earth.



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.

All: Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: We are here, O God, waiting to hear your word.

All: Help us recognize your voice as we listen for your guidance.

Reader: Search our hearts and open them to your call.

All: We are ready for your word of love.

FIRST READING . . . *1 Corinthians 8:1-13*

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

GOSPEL . . . *Mark 1:21-28*

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Reader: Holy Mystery, you know us more intimately than we know ourselves.

All: Open our hearts to your invitation and give us the courage to follow.

CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Pastor Barbara Caine of Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Barbara Caine of Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: Come into Christ’s light with your gifts.

All: They need not be gold or precious oil. Gifts of love and compassion are the greatest treasures of all.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God, you are the source of all goodness and life.

All: We bring our offering to you this day, knowing that all we have comes from you.

L: We hear your call and we answer, bringing all that we have and all that we are.

All: Use our gifts, our talents, and our bodies for your work of peace and justice. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need. For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

L: For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

L: For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

L: For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

L: For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Let us pray.

All: Have Mercy, O God.

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

L: The God who named the stars has named each of us. Remember that God is calling your name.

All: We will answer God's call to proclaim the gospel of love.

L: Jesus Christ healed, cast out the demons, and made people whole. Jesus offers you wholeness.

All: Healed by Christ, even in our brokenness, we go to proclaim the gospel of love.

L: The Holy Spirit anointed Mary, birthed the church, and is right now blowing you out into the world!

All: Empowered by the Spirit, we go out to proclaim the gospel of love! Amen!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Be the Light of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE . . . “*On Eagle’s Wings*”

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff

Homilist: Pastor Barbara Caine of Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church

Lay Liturgists: Carmen Blair and
Laurence, Kathy, Annelise, and Marielle Miedema

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

