



**If any want to  
become my followers,  
let them deny themselves  
and take up their cross  
and follow me.**

**Mark 8:34, NRSV**

**February 28, 2021**



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
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February 28, 2021  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent / Bold Women's Day  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

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## GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

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**PRELUDE . . .** *“The Glory of These Forty Days”*

**WELCOME**

**BOLD WOMEN'S DAY INTRODUCTION**

**SINGING BOWL**

With the help of the Spirit, look within. See what burdens  
may be lifted, what obstacles may be removed,  
what new life and promise await us.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Eternal God, we give thanks for the witness of bold women. In  
early times, today and into the future, bold women show us how  
to live as God's beloved children in God's beloved creation.

**All:** **We live into our baptismal call to work for justice and peace  
for all God's creatures. Together, we say: Thank you, God!**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at baptism.

*P: Wellspring of salvation, when we are parched from thirst and turn to the dry wells of worldly promise,*

**All: restore us with the healing waters of your grace;**

*P: when the course ahead is littered with wreckage and refuse from our past, wash away our sins and our sorrows,*

**All: and carry us forward on the river of your mercy and your love.**

*P: Shower us with your living water, and refresh our souls,*

**All: that we may be washed clean in the river of your forgiveness and your grace.**

Time of silent reflection . . .

*P: Our hope and assurance rest in God's unfailing love and forgiveness.*

**All: In this love and forgiveness, we encounter the living God.**

## **GREETING**

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.*

**All: Amen.**

## **LITANY OF BOLDNESS**

L: Lord our God, we give thanks for the witness of bold women. In early times, today and into the future, bold women show us how to live as God's beloved children in God's beloved creation. We live into our baptismal call to work for justice and peace for all God's creatures. Together, we say:

**All: Thank you, God!**

L: O God of our ancestors, we remember the bold witness of our foremothers who paved the way for all women, lay and ordained.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

L: O Holy One, who breathes life into us all, we raise before you the bold women among us today.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

L: For those who pray, for those who parent, for those who study, for those who advocate,

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

L: For those who laugh, for those who share, for those who extend hospitality, for those who smile,

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

L: O Gracious One, forgive us when we are too timid to live up to the boldness you have placed within us.

**All: We pray to you, O God.**

L: O Gracious One, enable us to recognize, honor and support the boldness you have placed within others.

**All: We pray to you, O God.**

L: O God of infinite possibility, grant to us all the opportunity to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

L: O God of abundant life, grant to us all emotional, physical and spiritual wholeness so that we might best serve others in your name.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

L: O God of strength, give us courage, hope and open hearts, that we might experience expanding possibilities and grow through change.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

L: Each of us has been surrounded by bold women on our way, if only we look for them. For whom do you thank God today? Name her aloud and let us thank God for her witness.

Here persons may speak the names of bold women out loud.

L: Together, we say:

**All: Thank you, God!**

L: Thank you, God, for the witness of all bold women yesterday, today, and tomorrow. We praise you for their witness to your love and mercy.

**All: Strengthen us to live out our baptismal call to serve you and our neighbor with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength. Thank you, God! Alleluia, Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: God of tender care, like a mother, you never forget your children, and you know already what we need.

**All: In all our anxiety give us trusting and faithful hearts, that in confidence and boldness we may embody the peace and justice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD**

Reader: We continue with the Introduction to the Word:  
Lead us in your truths, O God.

**All: Teach us your ways and your paths.**

Reader: Into whatever journey lies before us,

**All: lead on, Holy Spirit; lead on.**

### **READING . . . *Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16***

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an

everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

### **GOSPEL . . . *Mark 8:31-38***

[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**Reader:** Word of God, word of life.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Carmen Blair***

**HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tia Pelz of Christ the King Lutheran Church***

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: Named and claimed by God, we are called to embody God's love and presence in the world.

**All: Our offering will enable this church to be the voice that speaks love, that speaks challenge, and that speaks grace to a world that so desperately needs to hear this radical, transforming message.**

## THANKFUL OFFERING

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need.

**All: Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: God our Creator, you made us in your image

**All: and you call us from wherever we are in time and place to be your disciples.**

L: God of Generations, we celebrate the lives of the women who fought the good fight and stood up for the Gospel and the truth of Scripture, yesterday and today. Strengthen our voice of proclamation. In your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of Life, we give thanks for the bold women among us today who serve with a sense of holy purpose in their vocations as daughters, aunts, grandmothers, sisters and mothers.

Empower us by faith and bless our vocations at home and in the church. Inspire us to encourage one another in fellowship, laughter, hospitality and sharing. In your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Loving God, we pray for the men throughout the ages who support and encourage women in their quest to use their God-given gifts for your purpose. Give us courage to work together as equals to proclaim your grace and hope. In your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: O God our Greatest Friend, surround us with your love and affirmation through the kindness of others, be they friend or stranger, young or old. Give us eyes to see the love you lavish on all your people. Make us bold to speak your truth and act on behalf of your kingdom with courage and strength of purpose. In your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of Understanding, give us courage to stand up for the abused, the needy, the sick, the poor and the stranger. We pray for those who suffer in mind, body or spirit, that you might bring healing and comfort. Inspire us to be your hands to provide for those in need as we are able. 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: In your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

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.**

LENT *Lent* LENT *Lent*



## **BLESSING**

*P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: The God of all grace bless you now and forever.*

**All: Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

**L: Go in peace. Be Bold!**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE . . . “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”**

## **SINGING BOWL**

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Pastor: Tim Huff

Homilist: Pastor Tia Pelz of Christ the King Lutheran Church

Lay Liturgists: The Wicke Family

Reader: Sharon Pickering

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

**LENT**  
Pray + Fast + Give