

The hour has come
for the

SON
of
MAN

to be glorified.

JOHN 12:23, NRSV

March 21, 2021

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
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Fremont, CA 94536
Office: (510) 793-6285

March 21, 2021
5th Sunday in Lent
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

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

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

PRELUDE . . . *“My Song Is Love Unknown”*

WELCOME

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: Have mercy on your people, O God.

All: Wash us. Cleanse us. Make us more perfect in your love.

L: Open the skies and pour down your grace upon your people.

All: Open our hearts to hear your voice. Let the thunder of your presence awaken us!

L: Have mercy on your people, O God.

All: Restore within us the joy of your salvation. Draw us nearer to Jesus, our Christ!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: God of steadfast love and mercy, we have shielded our eyes from the evil and injustice in the world.

All: We have turned away from your forgiveness and your compassion, and from your wisdom and your guidance.

P: We have allowed our voices to be silent.

All: Cleanse us. Purify us.

P: Remind us that we still have much to learn,

All: and that you continue to teach us.

P: Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that our faith in you might be renewed.

All: In humble confidence, we pray. Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: In the grace of God, through the love of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit,

All: we are saved from brokenness and sin and are restored to the joy of God's salvation.

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.

LENTEN LITANY

L: God of love and mercy, open our hearts to your presence as we worship you this day.

All: Whether our prayers are filled with celebration or with loud cries and tears,

L: remind us that you are the source of our eternal salvation.

All: Give us the strength to respond faithfully to your transforming love,

L: that the joy of your salvation might shine in and through us all.

All: Wipe away our wrongdoing, clean our hearts, and make us more perfect

L: For it is in your perfect love that we are drawn more fully into your image.

All: In the name of the glorified Christ, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers.

All: Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: 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.

Reader: Today's reading is from the Gospel of John, chapter twelve, beginning with the twentieth verse.

READING . . . *John 12:20-33*

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this

hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Reader: Here ends the reading.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Carmen Blair*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tim*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: With grateful hearts, let us share a portion of the bounty God has given us.

All: We do so as an act of faith, and in support of God’s work in this congregation and the world.

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: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need. You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said either 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.

BLESSING

P: Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to: walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God.

All: We will walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High.

P: Walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: You are marked with the cross of Christ.

All: We go forth to love and serve God.

POSTLUDE . . . “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff

Lay Liturgist: Bethany Stevenin

Reader: Tori Valcarcel

Children’s Time: Carmen Blair

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair

Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

