

Jerusalem, Jerusalem... How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

Luke 13:34, NRSV



March 13, 2022

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

March 13, 2022 10 AM - 2nd Sunday in Lent Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

GATHERING ... WORD ... MEAL ... SENDING

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

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.

PRELUDE . . . "On Eagle's Wings" – piano: Myrna Emata Diaz, vocal: Keith Hillesland, dance: Karen Narveson

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: If God is a hen,

All: we are under God's wing.

L: If God is a table,

All: we each have a seat.

L: If God is a house,

All: we are safe from the storm.

L: If God is a party,

All: we're invited to dance.

L: If God is a melody,

All: our names are the lyrics.

L: If this is God's house, then all are welcomed.

All: All are loved. All belong. Let us worship Holy God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Family of faith, we come to confession not to wallow in our own guilt. Instead, we come to confession because we know that change starts with being honest.

All: So in a desire to grow and change, let us pray to a God who loves us like a mother hen.

P: Let us confess our sins together. When the Pharisees tried to stop Jesus, Jesus said,

All: "I will keep on."

I will keep on healing.

I will keep on teaching.

I will keep on preaching.

I will keep on flipping the tables of injustice.

I will keep on treating every person like a child of God.

I will keep on believing that this world can change.

I will keep on

and keep on

and keep on until God's promised day.

Forgive us, God, for the times when we stop.

Amen.

Silence for Reflection.

P: Family of faith, because Jesus' love just keeps going, we can trust that love and grace exists for us. So rest in this good news:

All: No matter what we do wrong or what we leave undone, we are under God's wing. We are loved, held, and forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.



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.





KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.

All: Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be Seated

GATHERING ... WORD ... MEAL ... SENDING

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: Loving Creator, we are here, telling stories of dust.

All: We are here, trying to shake the dust out of our

ears so that we might hear you clearly.

Reader: We are here, hoping that showing up is the first step in returning to you.

All: Scoop us up in your embrace and carry us to a place of truth.

Reader: Clear the smog that makes it hard to see. Clear the dust that makes it hard to hear.

All: We are at the edge of our seats. We are listening for you. Amen.

Reader: The first reading is from Genesis, chapter fifteen, beginning with the first verse.

READING . . . *Genesis* 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

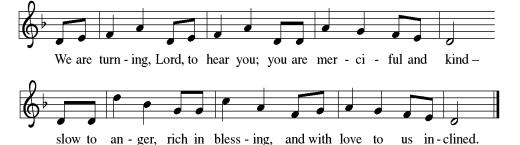
When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter thirteen, beginning with the thirty-first verse.

All: Glory to You, O God.

GOSPEL . . . Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

P: The Gospel of our Living God.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME . . . Carmen Blair

Please Stand

HYMN . . . "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church" vs. 1,2



Be Seated

HOMILY . . . Pastor Tim



Please Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

L: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

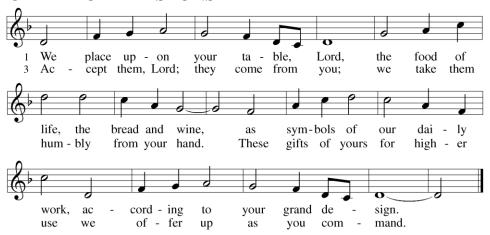
All: We do so as an act of faith, and in support of God's work in this congregation and the world.

Be Seated

THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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 PRAYERS

L: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: You raise up leaders committed to love and justice.

Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good.

Merciful God.

All: receive our prayer.

L: You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

All: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

All: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

All: We thank you, O God.

P: God who knows us, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up. We wish that we could be more like you in that way. In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking. In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling. In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating. We long for these things. So today we ask you—be with us when compassion fatigue rears its head.

All: Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe.

P: Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close.

All: Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language.

P: *Be with us and show us the way to the life you long for us.*

All: Show us a life of expansive faith.

P: Show us a life of overflowing joy.

All: Show us a life of absorbing beauty.

P: Show us a life of engrossing purpose.

All: Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." With this bread and cup we remember our Savior's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table.

All: Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst.

P: So, pour out yourself onto this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness. God, we are amazed by you.

All: Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or translation which is most familiar to each of 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus has always been one to invite. He said, "Drop your nets and follow me." And, "Let the little children come."

All: Jesus said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed."

P: Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table.

All: And here we will be met. Here we will be fed.

P: Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy. So come. Not because you must, but because you can.

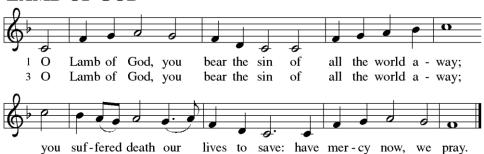
All: All are invited to this Table.

peace with

Be Seated

LAMB OF GOD

e - ter-nal



God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Holy Communion is open to all.

Come forward up the center aisle to receive the individually packaged elements from Pastor Tim, then return to your seat down the side aisles before opening them. Separate and remove the clear top seal to access the wafer, then remove the foil layer to access the grape juice. The ushers will come around to collect the empties.

COMMUNION HYMN . . . "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"



- My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal va ry,
- 2 May thy rich grace im part strength to my faint ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a round me spread,
- 4 When ends life's tran sient dream, when death's cold, sul len stream





COMMUNION HYMN . . . "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P: Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy.
- All: Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation,
- P: mending broken hearts, working for justice,
- All: and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- L: We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike.
- All: As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray.

 Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . **SENDING**

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

- P: As we leave this place, may we be awestruck by the beauty of this world. May we laugh, and may it be contagious.
- All: May we overflow with love for those around us.

P: May we be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy. And in all of our living, and breathing, and being, may we find ourselves full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change our life.

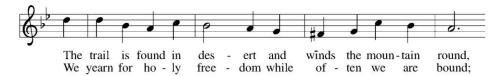
All: In the name of the Beloved, and Love itself—we go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

SENDING HYMN . . . "Bless Now, O God, the Journey" vs. 1,2



- 1 Bless now, O God, the jour ney that all your peo ple make, 2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
- O |

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take. your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.





DISMISSAL

L: You are marked with the cross of Christ.

All: We go forth to love and serve.

POSTLUDE . . . Myrna Emata Diaz

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