

May 29, 2022

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

May 29, 2022 10 AM – Ascension of Jesus Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

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

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

SINGING BOWL

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

PRELUDE – "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" – Karen Narveson and Myrna Emata Diaz

WELCOME

Please Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the risen Savior Jesus be with you all.

All: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP FOR ASCENSION DAY

- by Rev. Mindi

L: A new day has begun.

All: Hope wins!

L: A fresh start is granted.

All: Faith wins!

L: Today you have the opportunity to do something new.

All: Hope wins!

L: Christ is entering your life in a new way.

All: Faith wins!

L: Come, let us worship God, who is inviting us into life in a new way, a way that transcends death, a way of hope and faith.

All: Love wins! Let us worship Christ, who overcame death to give us new life!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR ASCENSION

- by Rev. Mindi

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

P: Almighty God, we confess that we have our eyes set in the clouds instead of on the earth You have given us.

All: We desire heavenly treasure but we keep believing that worldly means will help us attain it.

P: Forgive us for our short sightedness.

All: Draw us away from the temptations to seek worldly power and measures of success,

P: and call us to the down-to-earth message of Your love, to care for the needs of those around us,

All: especially the oppressed and marginalized.

P: You have called us through scripture to care for the widows and orphans among us;

All: help us to see all those who are left out by society and are in need.

P: Help us to break down the dividing walls that we have placed, so that we may truly be one,

All: as You and Christ are one. For it is in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: We were made by God, brought forth from the earth, the earth that was called good when God created it.

All: Our very being is good.

P: Go, know that you are forgiven and loved by the God who made the earth, and made you.

All: We will share the Good News. Amen.

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN – "I Come with Joy" vs, 1,4,5



4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God ha





love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

INVOCATION

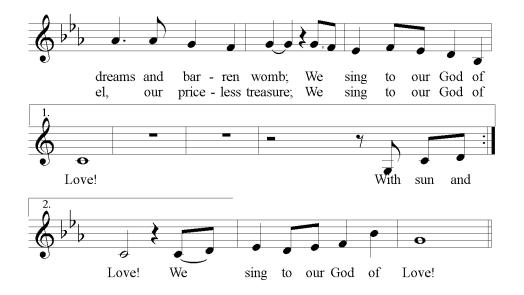
P: Worship our Creator in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. The God who created the world and fills it with life is with you all.

All: And also with you.









THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Creator of life, we do not know the face of the future, any more than your disciples did.

All: Like them, we have many questions: how to live; how to bear witness.

L: Like them, we thirst for the spring waters of the Spirit to inspire us in our living;

All: to give us a heart language in our testimony.

L: You have been raised in glory

All: that we might rise with dignity.

L: You live in power that we might live in peace

All: You are present everywhere that we might be fully present in our own lives

L: This we believe.

All: This we step out on.

Be Seated



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

Reader: Today's reading is from Acts, chapter one,

beginning with the first verse.

READING – *Acts* 1:1-11

In my earlier account, Theophilus, I dealt with everything that Jesus had done and taught, from the beginning until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After the Passion, Jesus appeared alive to the apostles—confirmed through many convincing proofs—over the course of forty days, and spoke to them about the reign of God.

On one occasion, Jesus told them not to leave Jerusalem. "Wait, rather, for what God has promised, of which you have heard me speak," Jesus said. "John baptized with water, but within a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

While meeting together they asked, "Has the time come, Rabbi? Are you going to restore sovereignty to Israel?"

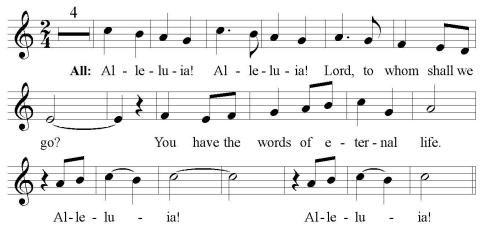
Jesus replied, "It's not for you to know times or dates that Abba God has decided. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; then you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."

Having said this, Jesus was lifted up in a cloud before their eyes and taken from their sight. They were still gazing up into the heavens when two messengers dressed in white stood beside them. "You Galileans—why are you standing here looking up at the skies?" they asked. "Jesus, who has been taken from you—this same Jesus will return in the same way you watched him go up to heaven."

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



P: The holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



GOSPEL – *Luke 24:44-53*

"Then Jesus said to them, "Remember the words I spoke when I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the psalms had to be fulfilled."

Then Jesus opened their minds to the understanding of the scriptures, saying, "That is why the scriptures say that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead on the third day. In the Messiah's name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of all this.

"Take note: I am sending forth what Abba God has promised to you. Remain here in the city until you are clothed with the power from on high."

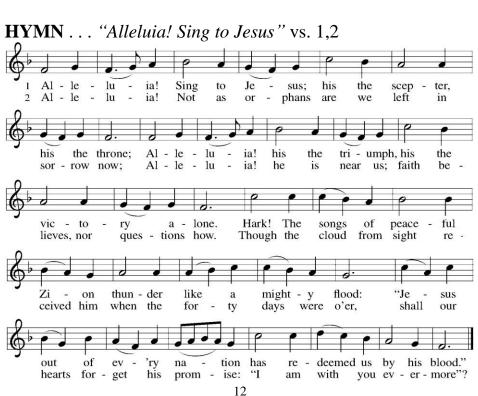
Then Jesus took them to the outskirts of Bethany, and with upraised hands blessed the disciples. While blessing them, the savior left them and was carried up to heaven. The disciples worshiped the risen Christ and returned to Jerusalem full of joy. They were found in the Temple constantly, speaking the praises of God."



Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME – Pastor Tim

Please Stand



Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

Please Stand

AN ASCENSION DAY LITANY – by Christine Sine

- L: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new world has broken into ours—
- All: a world in which justice does come for the poor, freedom comes for the prisoners, and healing for the sick.
- L: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new community has been formed—
- All: a community that loves and cares for all members, a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected, a place where all find a place of belonging.
- L: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new creation has begun—
- All: all that was distorted is being restored, all that is corrupted is being renewed, all that was broken is being made whole.
- L: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
- All: God's new world has begun.

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

INVITATION TO OFFERING

- L: God is our chosen portion, the cup of our salvation, the bread of life.
- All: Let us share our gratitude for God's gift of everlasting presence as we share a portion of God's many abundant gifts with a world in need of the Easter miracle.

THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand





OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Your power and might, O God, bring forth our worship and praise.

All: Your love and mercy, Compassionate One, call forth our gratefulness and thanksgiving.

L: In appreciation for your blessing in our lives,

All: we offer you these gifts from our hearts, this fruit of our industry.

L: Receive them, we pray, in the name of the one who ascended to heaven,

All: that our lives here on earth might be filled with your Spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. Holy One, ruler of heaven and earth, wash us in your Holy Spirit and make us witnesses to your resurrected life in this community. Let our fellowship be a sign to others of the presence of Christ. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: In faithful and diverse worship, turn all people toward you and your loving will for humankind. Bridge differences among traditions and across faiths. Unite us in mission for the sake of a world in need. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: In the suffering and death of Jesus, draw near to those who suffer and for whom death approaches. Hold them in the palm of your loving hand and give them rest. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. As we remember his life, his service, his death, his resurrection, his ascension, we speak of the mystery of faith:

- All: Christ died to reveal salvation to us; Christ arose to reveal resurrection life to us; Christ ascended and will return to reveal glory to us.
- P: Then, when we gather at your feast in glory, seated with our siblings from all time, we will clap our hands, shouting our joy to you,
- All: God in Community, Holy in One, now and forevermore. 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 of our hearts.
- 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

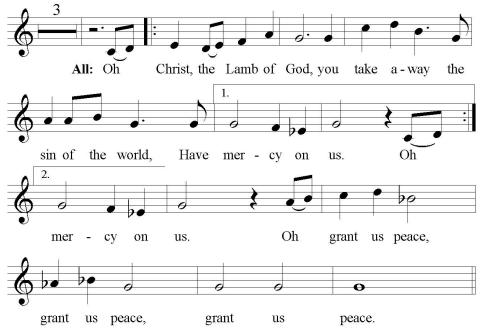
P: The disciples knew Jesus in the breaking of the bread!

All: We come to the table of the risen Christ where we are known and loved.

The ushers will invite you to the Lord's Table after the Lamb of God is sung.

Be Seated





DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion is open to all.

If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

For communion at the altar rail:

You may come up the center aisle to the altar rail as space allows, stand or kneel, and hold out your hand for the pastor to dop the wafer into. Then take a cup of grape juice from the assistant, partake, then return to your seat via the side aisles, depositing your disposable cup in the provided bowls.

For communion at your seat with pre-packaged kit:

You may come to altar rail as above, take a communion kit from the assistant, and return to your seat to partake. Or you may remain seated and partake of the communion kit you picked up at the entrance. The ushers will come around to collect empty kits.



COMMUNION HYMN – "One Bread, One Body"



SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: We have tasted your goodness, O God, in your gifts of word and sacrament. May our hearts burn within us, that we may proclaim your mighty acts and joyfully live as your chosen people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken.

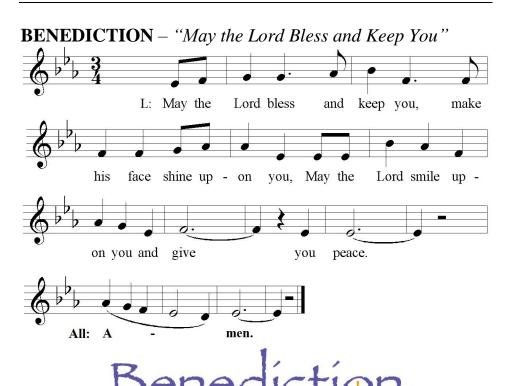
All: May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the risen Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Be Seated

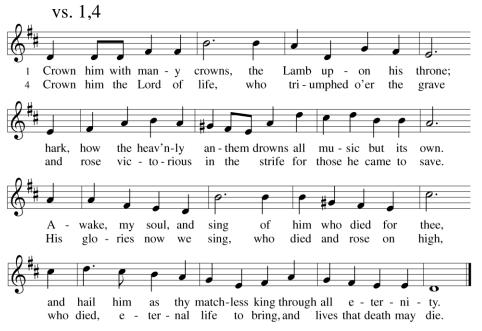
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

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



SENDING OUT HYMN – "Crown Him with Many Crowns"



DISMISSAL

L: Go as witnesses of the Risen Savior.

All: Christ ascended to bring life to all!

POSTLUDE – Myrna Emata Diaz



Life Together setting used by permission of Dennis Lintvedt and Glenn Petersen.