



**January 29, 2023**



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

January 29, 2023  
10 AM Service – Epiphany 4  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

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Welcome! Enter with Prayer, Worship in Awe, Leave to Serve.

Our worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and website. If you do not wish to be filmed, please do not sit in the first four pews or the last pew.

Children’s Time and communion distribution are not filmed.

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

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## **WELCOME TO THE STORY**

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*While we at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church have always considered ourselves a welcoming community of faith, we recognize that this is an area we can always improve upon. In this effort, our congregation completed the process to become a recognized Reconciling in Christ congregation. This morning we celebrate our 6-year anniversary! We are reminded that the journey continues as we learn and practice what this means.*

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## **A Story that Invites Us**

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### **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**

### **WELCOME**

Please Stand

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

*P: The light of our Savior is with you all.*

**All: And also with you.**

## WELCOME STATEMENT

**L:** We extend a heartfelt embrace to all who are seeking God's love and grace.

**All: We welcome all because God welcomes all,**

**L:** regardless of race or culture, Deaf or hearing, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

**All: We welcome all**

**L:** without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, varying intellects and abilities, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances,

**All: or anything that too often divides us.**

**L:** We invite you, wherever you are in your faith journey,

**All: to join us in caring, sharing, and serving God through our unity in Christ. Welcome.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*P: You call us through the waters of baptism to be our authentic selves. You called us holy and set us on a path to manifest your revolution on Earth.*

**All: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.**

*P: We praise you for the waters of life: for the streams and oceans, lakes and estuaries, and for the rain and snow that gives life to every living thing. From the waters above and the waters below, you made sacred our bond with water. Through the waters of the flood and the parting of the seas, you showed your promises to be true.*

*In the waters of baptism you claimed us and called each of us by our true name.*

**All: Through baptism into the body of Christ, you transformed our lives and made us whole.**

*P:* Send now your Spirit to move in our midst and soak us with your gifts of mercy, love, and grace.

**All:** Amen.

## GREETING

*P:* May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love, mercy, and justice of God, and wisdom of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

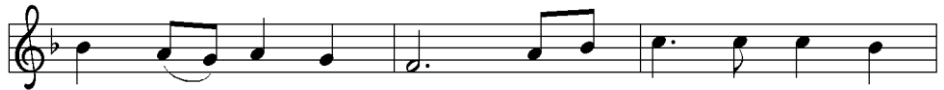
## HYMN: "All Are Welcome" vs. 1,4



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an



Christ shall end di - vi - sions: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

## INVOCATION

*P:* The grace of our Living Redeemer Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

## LITANY

L: Ancient of days, you have called to your creation since the beginning of time.

**All:** As you call us to worship, shine in our hearts with mercy and grace.

L: As you call us to come and see, shine upon us with wisdom and truth.

**All:** As you call us to be love and light, shine through us with your Holy Spirit.

L: In your love and light we sing...

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**L:** Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart.

**All:** Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Be Seated

# CHOIR ANTHEM: "Blest Are They"

Congregation, please join in on the refrain.

Matthew 5:3-12

David Haas

Re - joice! \_\_\_\_\_ and be glad! \_\_\_\_\_

Bless-ed are you, ho - ly are you, Re -

joice! \_\_\_\_\_ and be glad! \_\_\_\_\_ Yours is the

king-dom of God! \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Story that Shapes and Forms Us

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### INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: Holy One, our light and our salvation, open our ears to hear your word.

**All: Open our hearts to welcome your love. Amen.**

Reader: The first reading is from First Corinthians, chapter one, beginning with the eighteenth verse.

### READING: *1 Corinthians 1:18-31*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”



Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: Here ends the reading.

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Reader: People of God, may these words bring us good news—

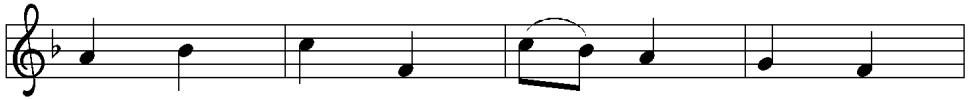
**All: news of salvation and hope, news of light and healing.**

Reader: And may these words empower us to share the good news of your gospel.

**All: Christ's love is for everyone.**

Please Stand

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

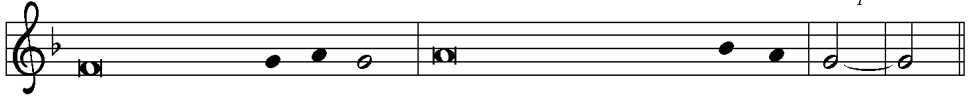


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*P: The Holy Gospel according to the fifth chapter of Matthew.*

**All: Glory to you, O God.**

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 5:1-12*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*P: The Gospel of our Messiah.*

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be Seated

**CHILDREN’S TIME:** Pastor Tim

Please Stand

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** “*When the Poor Ones*” vs. 1,2



1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;  
2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;



when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;  
when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;



when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;  
when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:



We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

Be Seated

**MESSAGE:** Pastor Tim

## A LITANY FOR RIC SUNDAY

*P: For the Church, in our call towards radical love, reconciliation, hospitality and unity:*

**All: Reconcile your people, O God.**

*L: For communities, cities and nations, where no one is excluded or discriminated against, and where love is our rule and justice is our practice:*

**All: Reconcile your people, O God.**

*P: For people in our lives and those unknown to us, who need healing, care and compassion, and those in the midst of conflict, violence or war:*

**All: Reconcile your people, O God.**

*L: For people working for justice, peace and reconciliation, that in humility they serve, in courage they speak out, and in faith they persist:*

**All: Reconcile your people, O God.**

*P: For those who have gone before us, especially the LGBTQIA and BIPOC leaders who paved the way to reconciliation and inclusion in our communities, may we join them in their legacy:*

**All: Reconcile your people, O God.**

*L: We shall all be reconciled in Christ.*

**All: United and one in our life together, praise to God who has loved and created us, praise to God who has lived with us and accepted us, praise to God who dwells with us and sends us into the world. Amen.**

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## A Story that Feeds Us

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### 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.**

### THANKFUL OFFERING

**OFFERING MUSIC:** *“There Shall Be Showers of Blessings”* – Jason Deo

Please Stand

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE**



1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store:



na-ture's won-der, Je - sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**L:** Let us pray. God of all creation, you have given us life, love, compassion and hope. We offer the gifts of our very beings to your holy calling.

**All:** **Strengthen us through these gifts to be the arms of mercy and justice for the world. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**L:** Trusting in the One who made us, dwells in us, and calls us to life, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need. Spirit of Life, we thank you for the infinite and as-yet undiscovered diversity of your creatures, of galaxies beyond our imagining. Teach us to feel awe again. Teach us to see and celebrate the stunning beauty in all you have made. God of grace,

**All:** **hear our prayer.**

L: God of the People, you made us in your image and you call us good. Silence all voices of shame and hatred – including the ones in our own heads – and inspire us to love ourselves and one another the way you so desperately, passionately, and deeply love us. Teach us to love neighbors who live in different skin. Make us bold in our proclamation that the lives, loves, and gifts of all races, genders, and sexualities matter to you, and so they matter to all of us – manifest in both word and deed. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Head of the Church, you have called us together. Draw us closer to one another and thereby closer to you. Open us up to people we don't know yet, so that we might continue to greet you in faith and be joyfully changed by who you are: wild and wonderful and out in the world. Bless this community of faith with challenges to grow us, care to wrap us up when we are wounded, and an abiding fire for the justice you are bringing. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Compassionate Jesus, you dwell in solidarity with the oppressed, the lonely, and all who suffer. We pray for comfort, for wholeness, for peace with justice, and for your will to be done. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God of grace,

**All: hear our prayers.**

L: Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your grace and your unlimited capacity for love and mercy.

**All: Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: God is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to our Redeemer.**

L: Let us give thanks to our Creator.

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

## THE EUCHARIST

*P: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

**All: You created us, unique, human creatures, created to love and be loved, created to seek relationship with you and each other.**

*P: We give thanks to you for your gift of our sexuality, that which calls us into intimate relationship with each other.*

**All: We give thanks to you for your gift of those we love and who love us, especially those in covenant relationship with us, who embody your presence to us in many and holy ways.**

*P: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus the Christ. Through him, you showed us a new way to be in relationship with you and with each other, to care for one another and the stranger, and to see you in different ways.*

**All: Through him, you showed us a new level of acceptance and new ways to worship you.**

*P: By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church,*

**All: delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.**

*P: Through this community which you have called together through our concern, our passion, and our seeking to know you, we learn more about you, your sustaining love, and your own passion for justice and liberation for all.*

*On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

*When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

*And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

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

*P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.*

**All: Strengthen us for our witness and our service in your name. Increase in us our courage and wisdom as we live and work for your realm.**

*P: By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Creator, now and forever.*

**All: Amen.**





## 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.**

## FRACTION RITE

*P: We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.*

**All: For this meal we give thanks!**

Be Seated

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

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion is open to all.

Grape juice is white, wine is red.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Let an usher know if you need communion brought to you.

**For communion at the altar rail:**

You may come up the center aisle to the altar rail when directed by the ushers, stand or kneel, and hold out your hand for the pastor to drop the host into. Then take a cup of grape juice (white) or wine (red) 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 the altar rail as above, take a communion kit from the assistant, and return to your seat to partake. The ushers will come around to collect empty kits.



*A* PLACE  
AT THE  
TABLE

# COMMUNION HYMN: "God, We Gather as Your People"



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -  
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be  
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and  
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.  
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,  
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.  
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we  
that they nev - er have a rea - son to  
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your  
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.  
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.  
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.  
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

## Refrain



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

# COMMUNION HYMN: "Let Streams of Living Justice"



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

## SINGING BOWL



Please Stand

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*P: Loving God, we thank you that you fed us in this Sacrament. Help us remember that the Eucharist is not a passive activity. Gather us to be reminded and restored, so that we may scatter to be the body of Christ for the world.*

**All: Be with us as you take us places that, on our own, we would not go. Help us make the real power of love in the world. Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**L:** O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day.

**All: As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Be Seated

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

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**A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve**

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## WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

*P: Let us covenant together that no one will be left beneath the table lapping up crumbs. The church becomes dim-sighted and malnourished if all are not welcome to partake of your abundance. Now, companioned by the Spirit, go forth and be the evidence of the all-inclusive hospitality of our welcoming God!*

**All: We will go out into the world and shout that all means ALL!**

## SENDING HYMN: “To Be Your Presence” vs. 1,2,3



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Be the light of God to ALL.

All: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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**Join us on the patio for some colorful treats!**

