



First be reconciled
to your
brother or sister,
and then
come and offer
your gift.

MATTHEW 5:24, NRSV

February 12, 2023

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

February 12, 2023
10 AM Service – Epiphany 6
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

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.

WELCOME TO THE STORY

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

A Story that Invites Us

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: “Here I Am to Worship”

Verse 1:

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus:

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2:

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Chorus

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Chorus

WELCOME

Please Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Here in this place, God's light is shining.

All: Here in this place, Christ's voice is calling.

L: Now at this time, we are invited to choose life.

All: Here in this place, Christ's voice is calling.

L: Within this community, we are called to love.

All: Here in this place, Christ's voice is calling.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

All: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

P: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

All: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

P: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Redeemer in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

GREETING

P: Arise, shine, for Christ's light has come! The glory of our Creator has arisen upon us, and Christ's mercy has restored us with forgiveness and grace.

All: Arise, shine, for Christ's light is shining upon us now!

HYMN: "Thrive"

Intro:

Oh...a oh oh, Oh.. a oh, oh, Oh... a oh oh

Oh...a oh oh, Oh.. a oh, oh, Oh...

Verse 1:

Here in this worn and weary land
Where many a dream has died
Like a tree planted by the water,
We never will run dry

Chorus:

So, living water flowing through,
God, we thirst for more of You
Fill our hearts, and flood our souls with one desire
Just to know You, and to make You known.
We lift Your name on high.
Shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives
It's time for us to more than just survive:
We were made to thrive

Repeat Intro (Ohs)

Verse 2:

Into Your Word we're digging deep
to know our Father's heart.
Into the world we're reaching out to show
Them who You are

Chorus

Bridge (1 time):

Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable,
Love unstoppable, anything is possible

Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable,
Love unstoppable, anything is possible

Just to know You, and to make You known.
We lift Your name on high.
Shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives
It's time for us to more than just survive:
We were made to thrive

Repeat Intro (Ohs)

We were made to thrive

INVOCATION

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

All: And also with you.

LITANY

L: God of light, we come tired and weary, carrying many burdens.

All: We come wondering if you are even here.

L: We come seeking your face, seeking your love.

All: In this moment, Holy One, open our hearts to the mystery of your love.

L: Remind us that you are always with us and that you never leave us.

All: Reassure us that you love us, even as you invite us to love one another.

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 - might-y 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.



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.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you.

All: **Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Be Seated

The Story that Shapes and Forms Us

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 Deuteronomy, chapter thirty, beginning with the fifteenth verse.

FIRST READING: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

Today I have set before you life and success, or death and disaster. For today I command you to love Yahweh, your God, to follow God's ways and keep the commandments, the laws and the customs. If you do, you will live and increase, and Yahweh, your God, will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your hearts stray and you do not listen to me, if you let yourself be drawn into the worship of other gods, and serve them, I tell you today, you will not

survive. You will not live long in the land which you are now crossing the Jordan to enter and occupy.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today: I set before you life or death, blessing or curse. Choose life, then, so that you and your descendants may live, by loving Yahweh, your God, by obeying God's voice and by clinging to Yahweh. For that will mean life for you, a long life in the land which God swore to give to your descendants Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob.

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 5:21-37*

“You’ve heard that our ancestors were told, ‘No killing’ and, ‘Every murderer will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that everyone who is angry with sister or brother is subject to judgment; anyone who says to sister or brother, ‘I spit in your face!’ will be subject to the Sanhedrin; and anyone who vilifies them with name-calling will be subject to the fires of Gehenna.

“If you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your sister or brother has a grudge against you, leave your gift there at the altar. Go to be reconciled to them, and then come and offer your gift.

“Lose no time in settling with your opponents—do so while still on the way to the courthouse with them. Otherwise your opponents may hand you over to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the bailiff, who will throw you into prison. I warn you, you won’t get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You’ve heard the commandment, ‘No committing adultery.’ But I tell you that those who look lustfully at others have already committed adultery with them in their hearts. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away. It’s better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away! It’s better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna.

“It was also said, ‘Whenever a couple divorces, each partner must get a decree of divorce.’ But I tell you that everyone who divorces—except because of adultery—forces the spouse to commit adultery. Those who marry the divorced also commit adultery.

“Again, you have heard that our ancestors were told, ‘Don’t break your vow; fulfill all oaths made to our God.’ But I tell you not to swear oaths at all. Don’t swear by heaven, for it is God’s throne; don’t swear by the earth, for it is God’s footstool. Don’t swear by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great Ruler. And don’t swear by your own head, for you can’t make a single hair white or black. Say ‘Yes’ when you mean ‘Yes’ and ‘No’ when you mean ‘No.’ Anything beyond that is from the Evil One.

P: The Gospel of our Messiah.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S TIME: Pastor Tim

Please Stand

PRE-MESSAGE SONG: “*I Can Only Imagine*”

Verse 1:

I can only imagine
What it will be like
When I walk by Your side
I can only imagine
What my eyes will see
When Your face is before me
I can only imagine

Chorus:

Surrounded by Your glory
What will my heart feel
Will I dance for You Jesus
Or in awe of You be still
Will I stand in Your presence
Or to my knees will I fall
Will I sing hallelujah
Will I be able to speak at all
I can only imagine, I can only imagine

Verse 2:

I can only imagine
When that day comes
And I find myself standing in the Son
I can only imagine
When all I will do
Is forever, forever worship You
I can only imagine
I can only imagine

Chorus

Repeat Chorus

I can only imagine
I can only imagine
I can only imagine
I can only imagine

I can only imagine
When all I can do
Is forever, forever worship you
I can only imagine

Be Seated

MESSAGE: Pastor Tim

A Story that Feeds Us

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 SONG: "Fill My Cup"

Chorus:

Fill my Cup and let it overflow..mmm
Fill my cup and let it overflow..mmm
Fill my cup and let it overflow,
Let it overflow with love

Verse 1:

Jesus loves me this I know,mmm
For the Bible tells me so, oh oh oh
Little ones to him belong
I am weak, but he is stro-ng

Chorus

Verse 2:

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound,mmm
That saved a wretch like me, oh oh oh
I was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see-ee

Chorus

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: Loving God, light of the world, we thank you for these gifts.

All: May they share your joy and your hope, bringing reconciliation and help to those seeking to walk in your ways. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

RECEIVING VOTING MEMBERS

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as voting members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

L: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden, as you desire to make a public affirmation as a sign of your renewal and participation in the life and work of the Church of Christ, I ask you the following question:

Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

NM: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

L: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for *Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden*, in their life in Christ?

All: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Dear God, we give you thanks for Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden, whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we welcome into this household of faith.

All: Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread, the prayers, and in service to others.

WELCOME

CP: Dear God. We give you thanks for Claudette, Shirley, Carolyn, Johnson, Abinaya, Jason, and Jaden, whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we welcome into this household of faith.

All: Keep us close together in your spirit, in the breaking of bread, the prayers, and in service to others.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Nurture all in need. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Merciful God,

All: receive our prayers.

L: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

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: God of wisdom, with gratitude and love,

All: we remember your mighty acts.

P: You created a world that was good.

All: You gave us this earth to enjoy.

P: You trusted us to share with you in caring for it.

All: And when we sinned, you still did not abandon us but made covenant with our ancestors.

P: Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. 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 in 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." Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

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 walking communion:

You may come down the center aisle. Hold out your hand for the pastor to drop the host into, then take a cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the assistant's tray, then return to your seat via the side aisles, depositing your empty cup in the provided bowls.

For communion at your seat with pre-packaged kit:

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

COMMUNION HYMN: “Communion”

Chorus:

This is the body
This is the blood
Broken and poured out
For all of us
In this communion
We share in His love
This is the body
This is the blood

Verse 1:

I will remember ev'rything Lord
That You've done for me
I won't take for granted the sacrifice
That set me free
I hunger and thirst for Your love
Come fill me today

Chorus

Bridge:

We hunger and thirst for Your love
And Your righteousness
We long for Your presence here Lord
Be with us again

Chorus

This is the body
This is the blood
This is the body
This is the blood

COMMUNION HYMN: “Awesome God”

Our God is an awesome God
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom pow'r and love
Our God is an awesome God
(Repeat)

SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.

All: Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the light of Jesus Christ. 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. Amen.

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve

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: “Big House”

Verse 1:

I don't know where you lay your head,
Or where you call your home
I don't know where you eat your meals or
where you talk on the phone
I don't know if you have a cook, a butler, or a maid
I don't know if you've got a yard with a hammock in the shade

Verse 2:

I don't know if you got some shelter, say a place to hide
I don't know if you live with friends in whom you can confide
I don't know if you got a fam'ly say a mom or dad
I don't know if you feel love at all but I bet you wish you had

Chorus:

Come and go with me to my Father's house
Come and go with me to my Father's house
It's a big, big house with lots and lots of room
A big, big table with lots and lots of food
A big, big yard where we can play football
A big, big house...it's my Father's house

Verse 3:

All I know is a big ol' house with room for ev'ry one
All I know is a-lot of land where we can play and run
All I know is that you need love and I've got a family
All I know is you're still alone, so why not come along with me?

Chorus (clap)

Repeat Chorus

DISMISSAL

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

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Join us in Holland Hall for a Soup Potluck!



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