



“I am your brother, Joseph...

GOD SENT ME

before you to preserve life.”

Genesis 45:4-5

August 20, 2023

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

August 20, 2023
10 AM – 12th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of HTLC & HRLC
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

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

Our worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and our 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

The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

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

WELCOME

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of God is with you all.

All: And also with you.

Please safely share the peace with each other.

Please Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

All: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

All: We are free to love as God loves. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come and worship, all you who love and serve the Lord—

All: outsiders and insiders,

L: old-timers and new-comers,

All: the young, old and the in-between.

L: Come as you are, for this is God's house—

All: a house of prayer for all people,

L: and God welcomes each one who comes.

OPENING HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" vs. 1,3 Favorite Hymn of Krista Lanzarotta



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

Grace ^{of} **Christ** *Love* ^{of} **God** *Unity* ^{of} **Holy Spirit**

LITANY

L: Even in the midst of tragedy and loss,

All: God is at work, preserving a remnant.

L: Even in the midst of insult and injury,

All: God is at work, healing the needy.

L: Even in the midst of abandonment and rejection,

All: God is at work, saving the faithful.

L: God challenges us to look beyond our differences

All: and embrace what we have in common.

L: God's grace unites us in a fellowship of love.

All: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, 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

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, 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, 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.

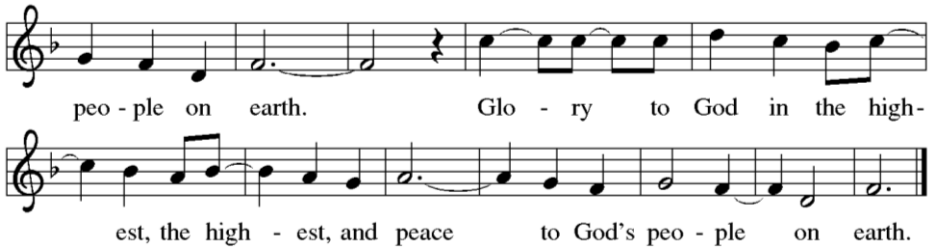


A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.

All: **Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Be Seated

The Story that Shapes and Forms Us

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: A reading from Genesis.

FIRST READING: *Genesis 45:1-15*

[After Judah offered himself in place of his brother Benjamin,] Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or

angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

R: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

Gospel

READING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: *The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.*

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

GOSPEL: *Matthew 15:10-28*

Jesus called the crowd together and said to them, “Hear this and understand: it’s not what enters your mouth that defiles you—it’s what comes out of your mouth that defiles you.”

Then the disciples approached him and said, “Do you realize that the Pharisees were offended by what you said?”

Jesus replied, “Every plant that my Abba God in heaven has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. Ignore them—they are blind people leading other blind people. And when the blind lead the blind, they all will fall into a ditch.”

Then Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Jesus replied, “Do you still not understand? Don’t you realize that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and eventually finds its way into the sewer and is gone? But what comes out of the mouth comes from the heart. This is what makes a person ‘unclean.’ For from the heart come all

sorts of evil intentions—murder, sexual infidelity, promiscuity, stealing, lying, even foul language. These things make a person unclean—not eating with unwashed hands!”

Jesus left there and departed for the district of Tyre and Sidon. It happened that a Canaanite woman living in that area came and cried out to Jesus, “Heir to the House of David, have pity on me! My daughter is horribly demonpossessed.”

Jesus gave her no word of response. The disciples came up and repeatedly said to him, “Please get rid of her! She keeps calling after us.”

Finally Jesus turned to the woman and said, “My mission is only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.”

She then prostrated herself before him with the plea, “Help me, Rabbi!”

He answered, “But it isn’t right to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”

“True, Rabbi,” she replied, “but even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.”

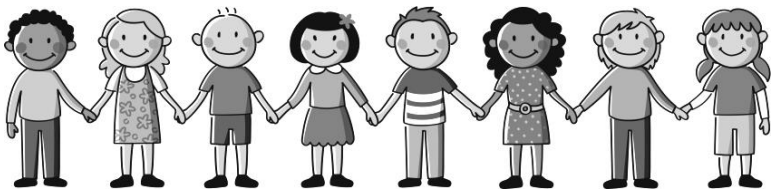
Jesus then said in reply, “Woman, you have great faith! Your wish will come to pass.” At that very moment her daughter was healed.

P: The Gospel, the good news of God.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S TIME – Pastor Tim



Please Stand

HYMN: “Lift Every Voice and Sing” vs. 1,3
 Favorite Hymn of Karen Narveson

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,
 ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
 Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,
 let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.
 Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;
 sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;
 fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,
 let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

A Story that Feeds Us

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: God, you've given each one of us unique gifts and abilities. Just as you used Joseph's abilities to fulfil your purposes in Egypt long ago, we pray that you would use us, too. Take our gifts, our time and our resources.

All: Use them—and us—as you see fit so that, through us, your will might be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Amen.

THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Touch these gifts, O God,

All: with your manifold blessings.

L: Touch our very lives,

All: that we may be instruments of your hope.

L: May our gifts and our lives,

All: bring your healing, love, and compassion to a world in need. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

L: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation. O God, your Spirit gathers the church. Shepherd those who are newly baptized and newly ordained in the proclamation of the gospel, breathe life into ecumenical and inter-religious endeavors, and support missionaries throughout the globe. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: You call leaders to bridge differences and practice generosity. Inspire all in authority to protect people in harm's way, deliver those in bondage, support fair elections, provide care for military personnel and veterans, and show mercy to those for whom they have responsibility. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: You provide for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Embrace people who have been rejected because of difference, heal trauma caused by racism or prejudice, shield any who are persecuted, console the dying, and heal the sick. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: O God, you journey with us in all of life's transitions. Guide those preparing for baptism, marriage, and retirement. Guide our church council and committees in their visioning and ministry. Safeguard those who travel. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

L: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give thanks to God.

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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.

FRACTION RITE

P: Everyone who hungers, come to the table.

All: We will eat what is good, that we may live.

Be Seated

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



LAMB OF GOD



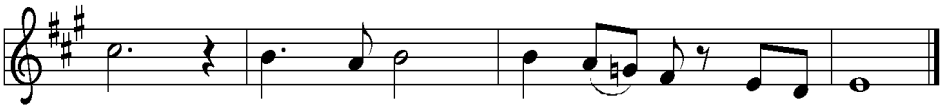
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

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.



COMMUNION HYMN: "I Am the Bread of Life"

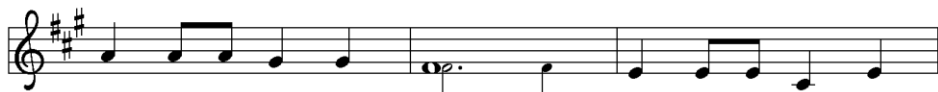
Favorite Hymn of Linda Headrick



1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . .
 5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .



come to me shall not the hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
 I . . . am the life. . . If you be -
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . live for -
 drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
 lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . though you
 Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .



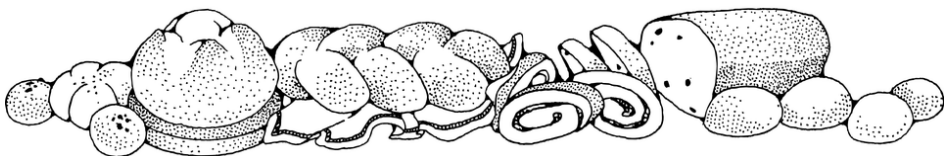
me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to . . . the . . . world. . .



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."

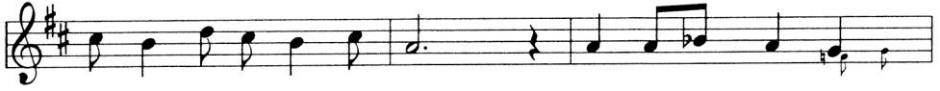


COMMUNION HYMN: "On Eagle's Wings"

Favorite Hymn of Anthony Di Paola



1 You who . . . dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -
2 Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and
3 For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to



bide in this shad - ow for life, say to the Lord: "My . . .
fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der God's wings your . . .
guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will



ref - uge, . . . my . . . rock . . . in whom I . . . trust!"
ref - uge . . . with . . . faith - ful - ness . . . your . . . shield.
bear you up, lest you dash . . . your foot a - gainst a stone.

Refrain



"And I will raise you up on ea - gle's wings



bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the



sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."



SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

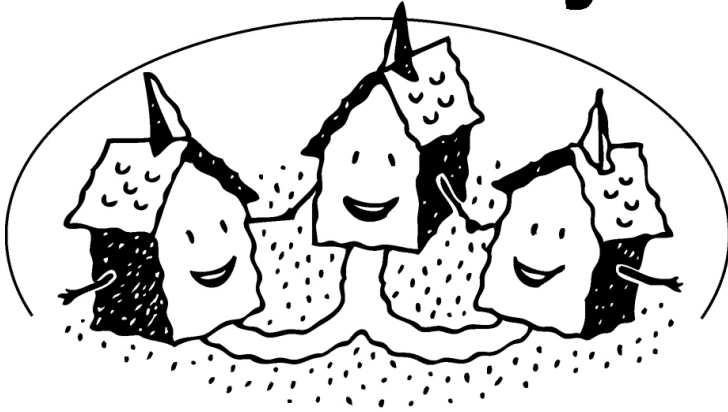
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: *We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.*

All: **Amen.**

Be Seated

Community



Announcements

Please Stand

A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve

BENEDICTION

P: *The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.*

All: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: "The Trees of the Field"

Favorite Hymn of Collette Koski



You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace, and the
mountains and the hills will break forth before you. There'll be
shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. The
trees of the field will clap their hands. The trees of the field will
clap their hands, while you go out with joy.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

