

October 8, 2023

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 38801 Blacow Road Fremont, CA 94536 Church: (510) 793-6285 October 8, 2023 10 AM, 19th Sunday after Pentecost Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

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. Children's Time and communion distribution are not filmed.

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

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

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: "Canticle of Turning"

Verse 1:

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great;
And my spirit sings of the wondrous
things that that you bring to the ones who wait.

You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, And my weakness you did not spurn, so From east to west shall my name be blest, Could the world be about to turn?

Chorus:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Verse 2:

Though I am small, my... God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

Chorus

Verse 3:

From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, Not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry rant...from his throne. The hungry poor shall... weep no more, for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

Chorus

WELCOME

Please Stand



CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Rejoice and be glad, people of God.

All: God is making all things new.

L: Shout aloud and sing for joy, followers of Christ.

All: God offers us water from the well of salvation.

L: Sing praises to our Creator, children of the Spirit.

All: God has turned our sorrow into laughter.

L: Rejoice and be glad, people of God.

All: God is making all things new.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

All: We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

P: We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

All: For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

P: For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

All: For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

P: Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

All: in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

All: In Christ, we are already and always forgiven. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "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

GREETING

P: God of hosts most gracious, God the Son who saves us, God the Spirit placed upon us, is with you all.

All: And also with you.

LITURGY: "Together We Shall Go On" – Roddy Hamilton

L: In the loving of neighbor and the sharing of love,

All: together we shall go on.

L: In the celebration of life and the sharing of that life together,

All: together we shall go on.

L: In the caring of the earth and the sharing of her harvest

All: together we shall go on

L: In the variety of people and the sharing of our talents

All: together we shall go on

L: In the laughter we make and the sharing of the journey

All: together we shall go on

L: In the love of this community and the sharing of our faith

All: together we shall go on

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good.

All: Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

WE LISTEN AND THINK

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: As we listen to the words of life,

All: may they inspire us to pursue righteousness, holy living, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness.

R: Today's reading is from Isaiah, chapter five, beginning with the first verse.

READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me now sing of my friend—it is a love song about a vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. My friend dug the soil, cleared the stones, and planted the choicest vines; then within it built a watchtower, and constructed a winepress. My friend anticipated the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was rotten grapes.

"Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah—judge between me and my vineyard: What more could I have done for my vineyard that I haven't done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth bad fruit? Now I will let you know what I mean to do to my vineyard: take away its hedge, give it over to grazing, break through its wall, let it be trampled! I will let it go to wilderness; it will not be pruned or hoed, but overgrown with thorns and briars. I will command the clouds not to send rain upon it."

The vineyard of the Yahweh Omnipotent is the house of Israel and the people of Judah are God's cherished vine. Yahweh looked for justice, but found bloodshed; for righteousness, but found only a cry of suffering.



RESPONSE TO THE WORD

R: May we be rich in good things:

All: attending to the poor and caring for those in need.

R: May we be generous with our lives:

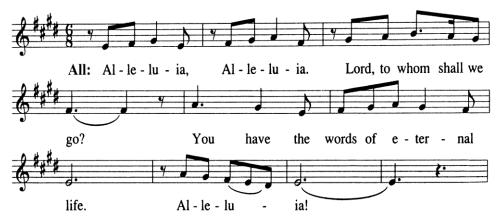
All: giving treasure and time to make this world a better place.

R: May we take hold of what is truly life,

All: the goodness of God flowing in and through us.

Please Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Creator.

GOSPEL: *Matthew* 21:33-46

"Listen to another parable. There was a property owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, installed a winepress and erected a tower. Then the owner leased it out to tenant farmers and went on a journey.

"When vintage time arrived, the owner sent aides to the tenants to divide the shares of the grapes. The tenants responded by seizing the aides. They beat one, killed another and stoned a third. A second time the owner sent even more aides than before, but they treated them the same way. Finally, the owner sent the family heir to them, thinking, 'They will respect my heir.'

"When the vine growers saw the heir, they said to one another, 'Here's the one who stands in the way of our having everything. With a single act of murder we could seize the inheritance.' With that, they grabbed and killed the heir outside the vineyard. What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to those tenants?"

They replied, "The owner will bring that wicked crowd to a horrible death and lease the vineyard out to others, who will see to it that there are grapes for the proprietor at vintage time."

Jesus said to them, "Did you ever read in the scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; it was our God's doing

and we find it marvelous to behold'?

"That's why I tell you that the kindom of God will be taken from you and given to people who will bear its fruit.

"Those who fall on this stone will be dashed to pieces, and those on whom it falls will be smashed."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard these parables, they realized that Jesus was speaking about them. Although they sought to arrest him, they feared the crowds, who regarded Jesus as a prophet.

P: The Gospel of the Risen Savior.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME: Pastor Tim

Please Stand

PRE-MESSAGE SONG: "Revelation"

Verse 1:

My life has led me down the road that's so uncertain Now I am left alone and I am broken Tryin' to find my way tryin' to find the faith That's gone

Verse 2:

This time I know
That You are holding all the answers
I'm tired of losing hope and taking chances on roads
That never seem to be the ones that bring me home

Chorus:

Give me a revelation
Show me what to do
'Cause I've been tryin' to find my way
I haven't got a clue
Tell me should I stay here or do I need to move
Give me a revelation
I've got nothing without You
I've got nothing without You

Verse 3:

My life has led me down
This path that's ever winding
Through ev'ry twist and turn
I'm always finding that I am lost again
Tell me when this road will ever end

Chorus

Give me a revelation
Show me what to do
'Cause I've been tryin' to find my way
I haven't got a clue
Tell me should I stay here or do I need to move
Give me a revelation
I've got nothing without You
I've got nothing without
I've got nothing without You

Be Seated

MESSAGE: Pastor Tim

WE SHARE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please Stand

APOSTLE'S CREED

L: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 OFFERING

L: Children of God, we have received much from God—grace, mercy, abundance, the love of Christ, and the gift of life itself.

All: In our worship, we praise God and give God thanks for these gifts. Let us now offer what we can as a way of saying, "Thank you." In gratitude for God's generosity, let us share God's abundance with one another.

Be Seated

THANKFUL OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: "Give Thanks"

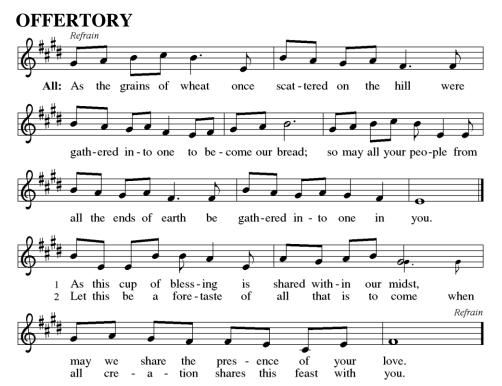
Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the Holy One Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son (repeat)

And now let the weak say "I am strong" Let the poor say "I am rich" Because of what the Lord has done for us *(repeat)*

Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the Holy One Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say "I am strong" Let the poor say "I am rich" Because of what the Lord has done for us Give Thanks

Please Stand



OFFERTORY PRAYER

- L: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for these gifts and ask that they be used to help the needy in our community and throughout the world.
- All: As we offer you these gifts, we offer ourselves as well, that together we might transform the world with your grace and love. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to our Creator.

L: Let us give thanks to our Creator.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: We give thanks and praise to you, God of love and grace! With gratitude, we recall how you formed us from the very earth, made covenant with us from the beginning of time, and call us again and again to be your people.

All: In your amazing love, you came as one of us in the form of Jesus the Christ, showing us the way of unconditional love and the path of self-giving service.

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 thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the body and blood of our Savior. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, and inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory.

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: Come to the table and taste God's mercy and grace. Come to the table and drink Christ's living water.

All: We come to the table to share in a meal overflowing with God's love.

P: Come, children of God,

All: for all are welcome here!

Be Seated



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.

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 cup in the provided bowls. You may walk behind the Praise Band.

COMMUNION SONG: "Shine on Us"

Verse 1:
Lord let Your light,
light of Your face shine on us.
Lord, let Your light,

Light of Your face shine on us

That we may be saved,

That we may have life;

To find our way in the darkest night,

Let your light shine on us.

Verse 2:

Lord, let Your grace,
Grace from Your hand fall on us
Lord, let Your grace,
Grace from Your hand fall on us
That we may be saved,
That we may have life;
To find our way in the darkest night
Let Your grace fall on us

Verse 3:

Lord, let Your love
Love with no end come over us.
Lord, let Your love,
Love with no end, come over us
That we may be saved,
That we may have life;
To find our way in the darkest night
Let Your love come over us
Let your light shine on us

COMMUNION SONG: "Stay Here"

Stay here and keep watch with me The hour has come Stay here and keep watch with me Watch and pray

SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: O God, you are Hospitality. You are Welcome. You are the Invitation, the Table, the Feast. By your spirit may we learn to receive and offer grace, to share from the sustenance of our lives and not simply its crumbs.

All: Embolden us as we serve as the voice of those who continue to ask the church for justice and bread. In Christ we pray. Amen.

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POST COMMUNION THANKS



Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

WE CARRY GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

P: You are the light of the world!

All: We shine with love as the stars shine with glory.

P: You are the light of the world!

All: We will reveal God's brilliance in word and deed.

P: As we move forward to what lies ahead,

All: we will press on toward the goal of love.

SENDING SONG: "Love the Lord"

Love the Lord your God With all your heart, With all your soul, with all you mind, And with all your strength. (Repeat)

With all your heart With all your soul With all your mind With all your strength

Love the Lord your God With all your heart, With all your soul, With all your mind, And with all your strength.

I will serve the Lord With all my heart, With all my soul, With all my mind, And with all my strength (Repeat)

With all my heart With all my soul With all my mind With all my strength I will serve the Lord With all my heart, with all my soul, with all my mind, And with all my strength

I will love you
I will praise you
I will serve you
I will trust you, Lo-or-ord

With all my heart With all my soul With all my mind With all my strength (Repeat)

I will love you Lord With all my heart, With all my soul, With all my mind, And with all my strength (repeat)

I will love you Lord With all my heart, With all my soul, With all my mind, And with all my strength

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE