



“And the King
will answer them,

Truly, I say to you,
as you did it to one of the
least of these my brothers,
you did it to me.”

MATTHEW 25:40, ESV

**Christ the King Sunday
November 26, 2023**

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

November 26, 2023
10 AM, Christ the King Sunday
Ministers: The People of HTLC & HRLC
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

Welcome!

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.

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

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

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Make a joyful noise, a noise of service and love.

All: Praise God with lives of compassion.

L: Sing with acts of kindness.

All: Glorify God with acts of mercy.

L: Praise God with works of justice.

All: You are the Eternal One from whom all things come.

L: Come, let us enter into this sacred space with thanks.

All: Praise God with overflowing love.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we
are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.*

All: Amen.

*P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming
power.*

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Holy One,

**All: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not
faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our
siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one
another. We are infected by sin that divides your
beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our
hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Good Shepherd, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

All: Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"
vs. 1,4,5



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

KYRIE



L: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.



All: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

L: For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. L: For your
All: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo-ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.
All: Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

L: Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.
mer - cy. All: A - men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION



Refrain

All: Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

Refrain

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
 praise and glo-ry for - ev - er - more!

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of
 God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

Refrain
 Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion
 sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
 praise and glo-ry for - ev - er - more!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace.

All: Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Christ in the Stranger’s Guise”

WE LISTEN AND THINK

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: You are the living God who sustains all life in continually unfolding ways. And now may we open our ears to your continually unfolding Word. You speak to us in new and vital and imperative ways.

All: With all the power you have given us, let us be silent and open to listening... for nourishment, comfort, for challenge and new focus. Amen.

R: Today's reading is from Ezekiel, chapter thirty-four, beginning with the eleventh verse.

FIRST READING: *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

“ ‘For thus says Sovereign Yahweh: I myself will search for my sheep; I will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when their flocks are scattered in every direction, so I will search for my sheep and rescue them, no matter where they scattered on that day of full clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the countries and bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by its streams and wherever there is a settlement. I will feed them on good pasture land, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing ground. I myself will tend my flock and have it lie down, thus says Sovereign Yahweh. I will seek out the lost, I will return the strayed, I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and I will watch over the fat and the sleek. I will be a true shepherd to them.

“ ‘Therefore, thus says Yahweh to you: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep, for you shove aside the weak with flank and shoulder; you butt them with your horns until they are scattered in every direction.

“ ‘I will save my flock and they will be ravaged no longer. I will judge between one sheep and another. I will set up over them one shepherd to care for them: my servant David. He

will care for them and be their shepherd. And I, Yahweh, will be their God, and my servant David will be their leader. I, Yahweh, have spoken.’ ”

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

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

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

All: Glory to You, O God.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 25:31-46*

“At the appointed time the Promised One will come in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, and will sit upon the royal throne, with all the nations assembled below. Then the Promised One will separate them from one another, as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. The sheep will be placed on the right hand, the goats on the left.

“The ruler will say to those on the right, ‘Come, you blessed of my Abba God! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world! For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and

you welcomed me; naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.’ Then these just will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?’ The ruler will answer them, ‘The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.’

“Then the ruler will say to those on the left, ‘Out of my sight, you accursed ones! Into that everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and the fallen angels! I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink. I was a stranger and you gave me no welcome; naked and you gave me no clothing. I was ill and in prison and you did not come to visit me.’ Then they in turn will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry or thirsty, or homeless or naked, or ill or in prison, and not take care of you?’ The answer will come, ‘The truth is, as often as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.’ They will go off to eternal punishment, and the just will go off to eternal life.”

P: The Gospel of the Risen Savior.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S TIME – Pastor Tim



Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

vs. 1,2,6



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
6 And so, through all the length of days, thy good - ness



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

WE SHARE THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: With hearts wide open, with spirits ready to serve and give, let us bring our gifts and treasures to share with those in need of God’s love.

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.**

THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY



All: As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,

2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

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: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: In Christ, our Good Shepherd, we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation. We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

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

Here, other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on five staves in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: L: The Lord be with you. All: And al - so with you. L: Lift up your hearts. All: We lift them to the Lord. L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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 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 has 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 Lord. 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.

All: 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.

FRACTION RITE

P: For food and drink.

All: We give thanks!

P: For the bread and the cup.

All: We give thanks!

P: For being together in the ways of Jesus.

All: We give thanks!

P: For living in the ways of peace and community.

All: We give thanks!

Be Seated

The ushers will invite you up to communion after the Lamb of God is sung.



LAMB OF GOD



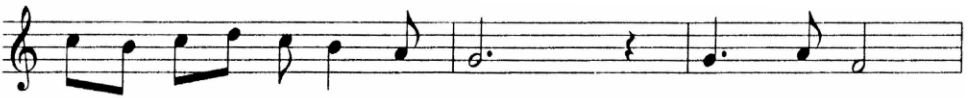
All: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



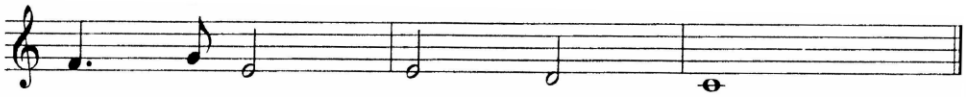
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion is open to all.
Grape juice is white, wine is red.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

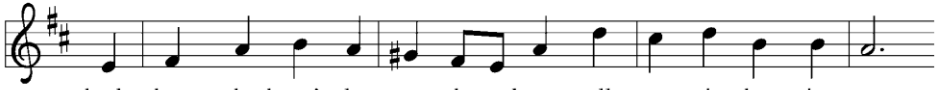
Let an usher know if you need communion brought to you.



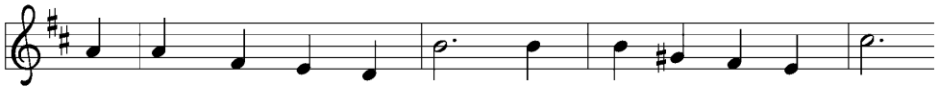
COMMUNION HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.



COMMUNION HYMN: "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.
2 We are yours; in love be-friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
3 You have prom-ised to re-ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
4 Ear-ly let us seek your fa-vor, ear-ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de-fend us, seek us when we go a-stray.
you have mer-cy to re-lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless-ed Lord and on-ly Sav-ior, with your love our spir-its fill.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil-dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil-dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.

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.

POST COMMUNION THANKS

All: Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
From of old you loved and sought us: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us.
Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and a fermata. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand



WE CARRY GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

P: Seek the lost and care for the wounded

All: We will strengthen the weak and encourage the downtrodden.

P: Seek justice and love mercy.

All: We will be God's mercy and love for the world.

SENDING HYMN: "Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing" vs. 1,2



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,



vo - tion voic - ing; glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Now the Feast and Celebration" Musical setting by Marty Haugen
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