



[*Jesus*]
found
Philip
and said
to him,

**“FOLLOW
ME.”**

John 7:43

January 14, 2024

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

January 14, 2024
10 AM Service – Epiphany 2
Ministers: The People of HTLC & HRLC
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

If you're looking for a community that seeks to follow God's star, there is a place for you here. Trust that the mystery of God has brought you this far on your journey and will guide your future steps. All of who you are is welcome here.

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

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God..

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: “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”

Chorus:

Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come

Verse 1:

One day every tongue
Will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose You now

Chorus

Verse 1

Final Chorus:

Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come...Come...Come
Just as you are come...Come

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come and see, for miracles are all around us... burning bushes, the light of the world, the calling of God.
All: **God calls us to follow Christ and be a light to the nations.**

L: We are servants and friends, reflections of God, showing Christ's love to the world.

All: Christ invites us to heed God's calling in our lives.

L: Gathered as one, honored and called, we are strengthened by God, the redeeming One.

All: We will follow where Christ leads and be a light to the nations.

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, Naamah, and their 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 daughters and sons, 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 OF THE DAY: "You Are My All in All"

You are my strength when I am weak;

You are the treasure that I seek.

You are my all in all

Seeking you as a precious jewel

Lord, to give up I'd be a fool.

You are my all in all.

Chorus:

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name

Taking my sin, my cross my shame,

Rising again, I bless your name

You are my all in all

When I fall down, you pick me up;

When I am dry, you fill my cup.

You are my all in all.

Chorus 2X

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.

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

LITANY

L: Author of creation, Maker of all that is,

All: by your hands the seasons turn and the days grow longer.

L: As sunlight expands irresistibly into dark corners,

All: shed your light into our hearts, and into our world.

L: Renew our spirits,

All: that we may reflect your goodness to all who are alone or discouraged.

L: Renew your Church, Holy Spirit,

All: that we may worship and serve with the joy of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Thanks be to you, Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give.

All: May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be Seated



The Story that Shapes and Forms Us

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: Listen, the voice of God is calling.

All: Speak, Yahweh, for your servants are listening.

R: A reading from First Samuel, chapter three, beginning with the first verse.

READING: *1 Samuel 3:1-20*

Now young Samuel was in the service of Yahweh under Eli. In those days, the voice of Yahweh was rarely heard—prophesy was uncommon. One night Eli, whose eyes had grown so weak that he could no longer see, was sleeping in his bed. The lamp of God had not gone out, and Samuel was sleeping in the Tent of Meeting, near the Ark of the Covenant.

Then Yahweh called to Samuel.

Samuel answered, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli saying, “You called. Here I am!”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Now go back to sleep.” He went back to sleep.

A second time, Yahweh called Samuel, and he got up and went to Eli.

“Here I am!” Samuel said, “You called me.”

Eli repeated, “I did not call you. Go back to sleep.”

At that time Samuel had not yet encountered Yahweh, and the word of Yahweh had not yet been revealed to him.

Yahweh called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up, went to Eli, and said once more, “Here I am. You called me.”

Then Eli realized that Yahweh was calling the boy.

So he said to Samuel, “Go back and go to sleep, and if you are called, say, ‘Speak, Yahweh, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went back to sleep.

And Yahweh called, “Samuel! Samuel!”

And Samuel replied, “Yes, Yahweh, I am listening.”

Then Yahweh said to Samuel, “I am going to do things in

Israel that will make the ears of all who hear about them ring. I am going to fulfill all the dreadful things I told Eli I would do against his family—from the beginning to the end. You are to tell Eli that I condemn his family forever because he knew of the blasphemies of his sons against God which he ignored. Therefore, I swear it to the house of Eli, neither sacrifice nor offering will ever expiate the guilt of the House of Eli.”

Samuel lay down to rest till morning, when he opened the doors of the Tent of Meeting. He feared to tell Eli about the vision, but Eli called to Samuel, who answered, “Here I am.”

“Samuel, come here, what did God say to you? Don’t hide it from me. May Yahweh curse you if you conceal from me one word of what you were told.”

Then Samuel told Eli everything, concealing nothing. Eli said, “Yahweh reigns. Yahweh will do what must be done.”

As Samuel grew, Yahweh was with him. None of Samuel’s words remained unfulfilled. From Dan to Beersheba, all Israel recognized that Samuel was a prophet of Yahweh.

R: Here ends the reading.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

R: God calls us this day: by touching our minds with wisdom and truth,

All: by healing our hearts with love and joy,

R: by blessing our bodies with vitality and strength,

All: by reviving our souls with fullness of grace.

R: With every fiber of your being, offer your reply:

All: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Please Stand



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to the first chapter of John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: *John 1:43-51*

The next day, after Jesus had decided to leave for Galilee, he met Philip and said, "Follow me." Philip came from Bethsaida, the same town as Andrew and Peter.

Philip sought out Nathanael and said to him, "We've found the One that Moses spoke of in the Law, the One about whom the prophets wrote: Jesus of Nazareth, son of Mary and Joseph."

"From Nazareth?" said Nathanael. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"

"Come and see," replied Philip.

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he remarked, "This one is a real Israelite. There is no guile in him."

"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked him.

Jesus answered, "Before Philip even went to call you, while you were sitting under the fig tree, I saw you."

"Rabbi," said Nathanael, "you're God's Own; you're the ruler of Israel!"

Jesus said, "Do you believe just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You'll see much greater things than that."

Jesus went on to tell them, "The truth of the matter is, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Chosen 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: “*Thy Word*”

Chorus:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end

Chorus

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end

Chorus

And a light unto my path
You're the light unto my path

Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

A Story that Feeds Us

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: As we gaze on the lights of the Epiphany season, may we remember the Light that draws near.

All: Like those wise travelers from the East, let us bring gifts and treasures to honor Christ, the Light of the World.

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



OFFERING PRAYER

L: Glorious God, bring glory to these gifts and to the offering we share with you and your church.

All: Bring the light of your justice and righteousness to the dark corners of our world.

L: Bring the glory of your love and compassion to heal our broken communities.

All: Bring the hope of generosity and gratitude to places in need of transformation. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

L: Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,

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: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: May God be 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, in whose image we are made.

All: To the Creator of all, we give 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 is 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 has risen. Christ will come again. 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: Follow the star to the table of grace.

All: Here we find gifts beyond price.

P: Follow the star to the table of blessing.

All: Here we find strength for the journey.

P: Follow the star to the table of peace.

All: Here we find rest and refreshment.

P: Follow the star to the table of Christ.

All: Here we find light and love.

Be Seated

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

COMMUNION SONG: "Hallelujah" vs. 2,3,4,5

When children are tucked in at night,
parents dream of peace and light,
of hope and love and freedom, and a future.
In the midst of war and poverty,
The broken dreams and the mystery,
The Spirit comes and breathes the Hallelujah

Chorus:

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Alone and broken on the cross,
Your followers thinking all was lost,
The scattered aimless, like they never knew ya,
We know that we are broken too,
Denying that we follow you,
It's a cold and it's a broken hallelujah

Chorus

Peace to the broken hearted ones,
To the captives and the prisoners,
In our shame, our doubt, our fears, God's calling to ya,
Oh Love it has it's victory march,
Proclaiming peace to those far off
And with grateful hearts we raise the hallelujah

Chorus

Praise the Holy Trinity,
The Lamb has come we are set free
And joyfully we sing the hallelujah.
To the Father, Son and Holy Dove,
We join our hands under God's Love
And we raise our voices singing Hallelujah

Chorus

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: 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 and Lord. Amen.

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

P: As God has called us to worship, God now sends us to serve.

All: We will listen to the Spirit's call, for God sends us forth as light to the world.

P: Help others come and see for themselves that Christ is the light of the world.

All: We go invite others to see the light and love that God shines into our world.

CLOSING SONG: "Love the Lord"

Love the Lord your God
With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your 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 2x more)

DISMISSAL

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

