

Then he **opened**
their **minds**
to **understand**
the **scriptures**

Luke 24:45

April 14, 2024

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

April 14, 2024
10 AM – 3rd Sunday of Easter
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 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.

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

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: *“Rise and Sing”*

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

If you're alive and you've been redeemed

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

If you've been touched by the mercy King

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

If you were bound but now you're free

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

Lift up a shout of victory

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Our God is risen and reigning

And we're elevating

the Glory of our God and King

Everybody Rise and Sing

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

If in your heart rings a melody

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

If you have tasted and have seen

Rise and Sing, Rise and Sing

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Our God is risen and reigning
And we're elevating
the Glory of our God and King

Our God is risen and reigning
And we're elevating
the Glory of our God and King
Everybody Rise and Sing

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Let the redeemed of the Lord sing hallelujah
(hallelujah)
Let the redeemed of the Lord sing our God reigns
(our God reigns)

Let the redeemed of the Lord sing hallelujah
(hallelujah)
Let the redeemed of the Lord sing our God reigns
(our God reigns)

Our God is risen and reigning
And we're elevating
the Glory of our God and King

Our God is risen and reigning
And we're elevating
the Glory of our God and King
Everybody Rise and Sing

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come with your doubts and fears.

All: This is scary.

L: Call on God, who will answer you.

All: God is hard to hear these days.

L: Come to the One who will give your souls peace.

All: It is so hard to believe.

L: Come, claim your identity as beloved children of God.

All: We come, uncertain, but longing to hear God speak to us this morning.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the risen Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

All: Amen.

P: Gracious God, we thank you that in every age you have made water a sign of your presence.

All: In the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters, and they became the source of all creation.

P: In mercy and might you have freed us from death and You led your people Israel through the waters of the Red Sea to their new land of freedom and hope.

All: In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with your Spirit for his ministry.

P: May this same Spirit bless this water today. May this be the water through which we experience your healing and wholeness; through which we hear your voice speaking in our hearts.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Renew us and make us whole.

P: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Speak into the hearts of all gathered today.

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Fill us with desire for your justice and peace, your liberation and life, now and every day.

All: Amen.

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Start a Fire”

Intro:

Ooo, ooo

Ooo, ooo, Ooo,

ooo, ooo, ooo

Verse 1:

This world can be cold and bitter
Feels like we're in the dead of winter
Waiting on something better
But am I really gonna hide forever?

Over and over again
I hear Your voice in my head
Let Your light shine, let Your light shine for all to see

Chorus:

Start a fire in my soul
Fan the flame and make it grow
So there's no doubt or denying
Let it burn so brightly
That everyone around can see
That it's You, that it's You
that we need Start a fire in me

Verse 2:

You only need a spark to start a whole blaze
It only takes a little faith Let it start right here in this city
So these old walls will never be the same
Over and over again I hear Your voice in my head
They need to know I need to go
Spirit won't You fall on my heart now

Chorus

Bridge:

You are the fire You are the flame
You are the light on the darkest day
We have the hope we bear Your name
We carry the news that You have come to save, yeah
Only You can save, yeah

Chorus:

Ending:

You are the fire You are the flame
You are the light on the darkest day
Start a fire in me

Ooo, ooo, Ooo, ooo

Ooo, ooo, ,ooo

INVOCATION

P: Come, gather together, disciples, and meet Jesus,

All: who comes to us, risen and whole.

P: Come, gather together, disciples, and meet the Christ

All: who brings to us peace and new life!

P: Come, gather together, disciples, and meet the future:

All: the future calling us to be a resurrection people!

LITANY

L: Come to us, God, for we are waiting...

All: waiting and hoping that your word of peace will soothe our fearful and doubting souls.

L: Open our hearts to the message you would share with us today

All: through song, prayer and meditation, that our souls might reach out, touch you, and believe.

L: Help us claim our identity

All: as your beloved children.

L: Help us live into this identity, today and always,

All: that we might radiate your love to others.

L: Come, beloved One, we are here to listen

All: and be transformed. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children.

All: Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Be Seated

GATHERING . . . **WORD** . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: Risen Christ, may the words we speak and the stories we hear

All: invite us into a deeper relationship with you and with one another. Amen.

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

READING: *1 John 3:1-7*

See what love Abba God has lavished on us in letting us be called God's children! Yet that in fact is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized God.

My dear friends, now we are God's children, but it has not been revealed what we are to become in the future. We know that when it comes to light we will be like God, for we will see God as God really is. All who keep this hope keep themselves pure, just as Christ is pure.

Anyone who sins at all breaks the Law, because to sin is to break the Law. Now, you know that Christ, who is sinless, appeared to abolish sin. So everyone who lives in union with Christ does not continue to sin, but whoever continues to sin has never seen or known Christ.

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray; to live a holy life is to be holy, just as Christ is holy.

R: Here ends the reading.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

R: The Holy One is with us this day,

All: offering us God's love and light.

R: The risen Christ is among us,

All: inviting us to share what we have seen and heard.

R: The Holy Spirit guides our way,

All: teaching us to take care of our neighbors,

R: and making sure that all are welcomed and loved.

All: Praise be to God!

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

4

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! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O God.

GOSPEL: *Luke 24:36b-48*

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,

and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

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: “*Trading My Sorrows*”

I’m Trading my sorrows
I’m trading my shame
I’m laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

I’m trading my sickness
I’m trading my pain
I’m laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Chorus:

Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord
Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord
Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord Amen

I’m pressed but not crushed, persecuted not abandoned
Stuck down but not destroyed; I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promises endure
That His joy’s gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning

Chorus:

Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord
Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord
Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord Amen

I'm pressed but not crushed, persecuted not abandoned
Stuck down but not destroyed; I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promises endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning

I'm Trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

Listen
Hear Understand
GROW

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: As we have been loved, we are invited to love. As God has given generously to us, we are invited to give generously to God and to God's church.

All: May our hearts brim with love and generosity for all as we enter this time of offering.

THANKFUL OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: "*Of My Hands*" vs. 1,2,4

Of my hands I give to you, O Lord
Of my hands I give to you
I give to you as you gave to me
Of my hands I give to you

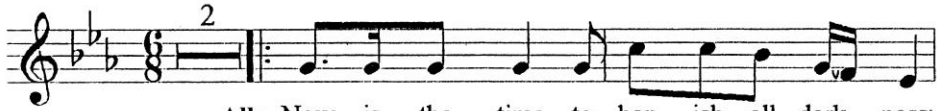
Of my heart I give to you, O Lord
Of my heart I give to you
I give to you as you gave to me
Of my heart I give to you

Of my gifts I give to you, O Lord
Of my gifts I give to you
I give to you as you gave to me
Of my gifts I give to you

Please Stand



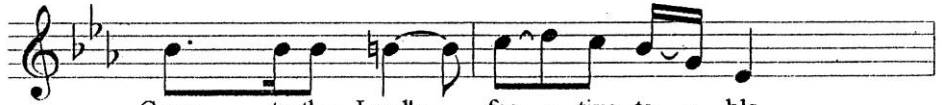
OFFERTORY RESPONSE



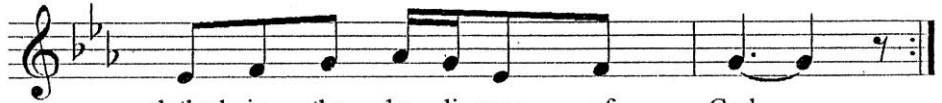
All: Now is the time to ban - ish all dark - ness,
Here we are made to shine in God's glo - ry.



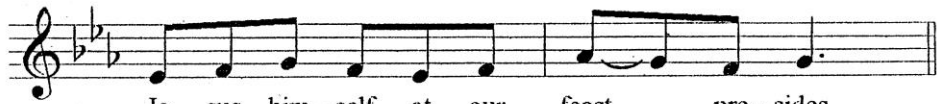
Christ is our way, our truth and light.
Here we're made whole as the bo - dy of Christ.



Come to the Lord's fes - tive ta - ble
Here we be - come a liv - ing of - fer - ing—



clothed in the ho - li - ness of God.
ho - ly com - mun - ion in Christ.



Je - sus him - self at our feast pre - sides.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Generous God of love and grace, bless these gifts with your abundant love and your life-giving grace.

All: **Bless us as we bear witness to your love and grace in all that we say, all that we give, and all that we do. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

L: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

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

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Savior.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Open up your hearts.

All: We open them to our Creator.

L: Let us give thanks and celebrate.

All: It is good to do so.

P: Like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, we walk with Jesus, but do not recognize him. Yet Jesus persists, opening our hearts to truth and love as we share table with him.

As he gathers us close, Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, and breaks it, and we eat together: you, me, and Christ at the table. 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. It is during the meal that we recognize Christ, see the gift of God's love, and are transformed. Only then can we truly say, "The Lord has risen!" for Christ is risen in our hearts. Friends, loved ones, this table is prepared by Christ for the transformation and redemption of the world.

All: At this table, we recognize Christ and God's love rises in our hearts. Come, let us break bread with the One who is present now.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: This is the food that opens our hearts to know the Risen Christ. This is the place where we are all welcome, whether we come with nagging doubts or with firm belief.

All: For here God meets us with a love that is everlasting.

Be Seated

LAMB OF GOD

All: Oh Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, Have mer - cy on us. Oh
mer - cy on us. Oh grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion is open to all.

Wine is red, grape juice is yellow, water is in the center of the tray.

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), grape juice (yellow), or water (clear, center) from the assistant's tray, then return to your seat via the side aisles, depositing your empty cup in the provided bowls. You may walk behind the Praise Band.

COMMUNION SONG: “*Come to the Table*” (sung twice)

Come to the table of mercy
Prepared with the wine and the bread
All who are hungry and thirsty
Come and your souls will be fed

Come at the Lord’s invitation
Receive from his nail-scarred hands
Eat of the bread of salvation
Drink of the blood of the Lamb

COMMUNION SONG: “*Eat this Bread*”

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

COMMUNION SONG: “*Hallelujah*” (Chorus)

Chorus:

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: We have tasted your goodness, O God, in your gifts of word and sacrament. May our hearts burn within us, that we may proclaim your mighty acts and joyfully live as your chosen people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.

All: Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . **SENDING**

BLESSING

P: You are witnesses of God's love.

All: We are witnesses of God's love.

P: You are witnesses of Christ's life.

All: We are witnesses of Christ's life.

P: You are witnesses of the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: We are witnesses of life and love in the Spirit.

P: Go forth as witnesses of the blessings of our God.

All: We will go with boldness, proclaiming God's unconditional love!

CLOSING SONG: "I'll Fly Away"

Verse 1:

Some glad morning when this life is o'er

I'll fly away

To a home on God's celestial shore

I'll fly away

Chorus:

I'll fly away O glory, I'll fly away
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away

Verse 2:

When the shadows of this life have grown
I'll fly away
Like a bird from prison bars has flown
I'll fly away

Chorus

Verse 3:

Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away
To a land where joys shall never end
I'll fly away

Chorus:

I'll fly away O glory, I'll fly away
When I die hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away
When I die hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away

DISMISSAL

L: Go in Easter peace and joy!

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE
