

April 21, 2024

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

April 21, 2024
10 AM – 4th 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 vision, 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 image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

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: "Morning Has Broken" – Bell Choir

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The Lord is my shepherd, I will fear no darkness.

All: We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

L: Christ, the Good Shepherd, has compassion for all.

All: We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

L: Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today.

All: We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

L: Love, not merely in thought and word, but in truth and action.

All: We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: With souls purified by God's redeeming love,

All: let us offer to one another genuine, mutual love, a love planted in the peace of Christ, a love that fills our hearts with peace and joy.

P: The peace of the risen Christ is with you.

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!

OPENING HYMN: "Have No Fear, Little Flock" vs. 1,2



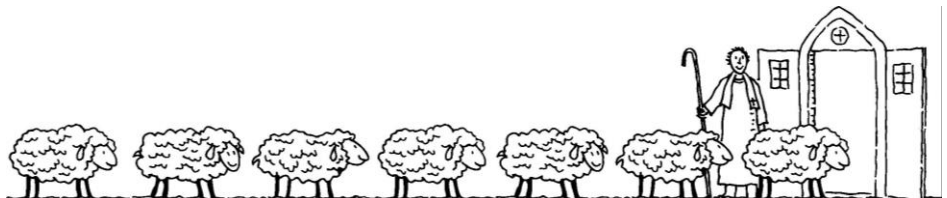
1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!



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: Shepherding God, guardian of our souls, you offer us rest in the safety of green pastures,

All: shower us with your love and offer us fullness of life in your name.

L: When our spirits are parched, you lead us beside still waters

All: and quench our thirst for righteousness; you restore our souls.

L: Touch our hearts and minds, that your goodness and mercy may follow us

All: each and every day of our lives, and that we may abide in your love and your grace forever. Amen.



THE GOOD SHEPHERD
LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE
FOR THE SHEEP. JOHN 10:11

HYMN OF PRAISE



All: Cre - a - ted for a life to - geth - er, we
With sun and moon and stars of hea - ven we



come a - live in you. Now, in your fel-low-ship you
name you as our light, In mor-ning star and pas-chal



birth us, and give us life a - new. To - day we
can - dle You make our dark-ness bright. In wind or



come to sing your prais - es; Our hearts made one in
calm, in storm or sun - shine the earth sings forth your



song to Fath - er, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit in
praise; With trees and fields and flow - ing ri - ver we



whom we all be - long. We
owe you all our days. We



sing to the God of sun-rise, of kindled hearts and emp-ty
sing to our God who knows us in joy or sor-row, pain or



tomb. We sing to the God of sha-dows, of shat-tered
pleasure. We sing to our God now with us, Im - man - u -

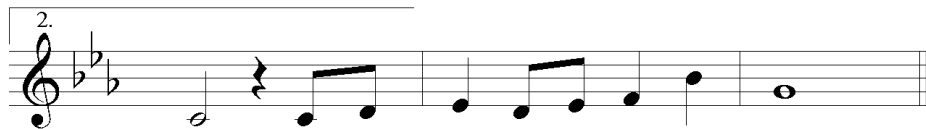


dreams and bar - ren womb; We sing to our God of
el, our price - less treasure; We sing to our God of



Love!

With sun and



Love! We sing to our God of Love!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O Savior Christ, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold.

All: **Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: “*Shepherd Me, O God*”

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: The first reading is from First John, chapter three, beginning with the sixteenth verse.

READING: *1 John 3:16-24*

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ died for us. And we, too, ought to lay down our lives for our sisters and brothers. If you have more than enough material possessions and see your neighbors in need yet close your hearts to them, how can the love of God be living in you?

My children, our love must not be simply words or mere talk—it must be true love, which shows itself in action and truth. This, then, is how we'll know we belong to the truth; this is how we'll be confident in God's presence, even if our consciences condemn us. We know that God is greater than our consciences and that God knows everything. And if our consciences do not condemn us, my friends, then we have confidence before God, and we will receive whatever we ask from God's hand—because we keep the commandments and do what is pleasing in God's sight.

The commandments are these: that we believe in the name of God's Own, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another as we were told to do. Those who keep these commandments live in God and God lives in them. We know that God lives in us by the Spirit given to us.

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 John, the tenth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O God.

GOSPEL: *John 10:11-18*

I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd would die for the sheep. The hired hand, who is neither shepherd nor owner of the sheep, catches sight of the wolf coming and runs away, leaving the sheep to be scattered or snatched by the wolf. That's because the hired hand works only for pay and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, in the same way Abba God knows me and I know God—and for these sheep I will lay down my life. I have other sheep that don't belong to this fold—I must lead them too, and they will hear my voice.

And then there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why Abba God loves me—because I lay down my life, only to take it up again. No one takes my life from me; I lay it down freely. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it up again. This command I received from my Abba.”

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. 1,2,5,6



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
5 Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight; thine unc - tion
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
grace be - stow - eth; and, oh, what trans - port
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.
of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

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

PRESENTATION OF VOTING AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Janice, Jay, and Sharon - one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

As you desire to make public affirmation as a sign of your renewal and participation in the life and work of the Church of Christ, we ask you the following questions:

APOSTLES' CREED

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: **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.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: **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.**

P: *Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?*

New Members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: *People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these members in their life in Christ?*

All: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Dear God, we give you thanks for Jay, Sharon, and Janice whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we welcome into this household of faith.

All: Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread, the prayers, and in service to others.

WELCOME

Council President: Let us welcome Sharon, Janice, and Jay to this community of faith.

All: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: The Good Shepherd calls us to love one another.

All: We come now to share from the abundance that we have received.

L: The Shepherd of Love calls us to give to those in need.

All: We come in gratitude to share what we have.

L: The gate to the Most High calls us to be a blessing.

All: We come to share God's blessings with the world.

Be Seated

THANKFUL OFFERING

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.

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Loving shepherd, as you have fed us in green pastures and quenched our thirst beside still waters,

All: may the gifts we bring this day be food and drink, and shelter and warmth, to a world in need;

L: may our offering reach into places of despair,

All: and show the world that there is a shepherd who brings comfort and hope. Amen.



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. 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

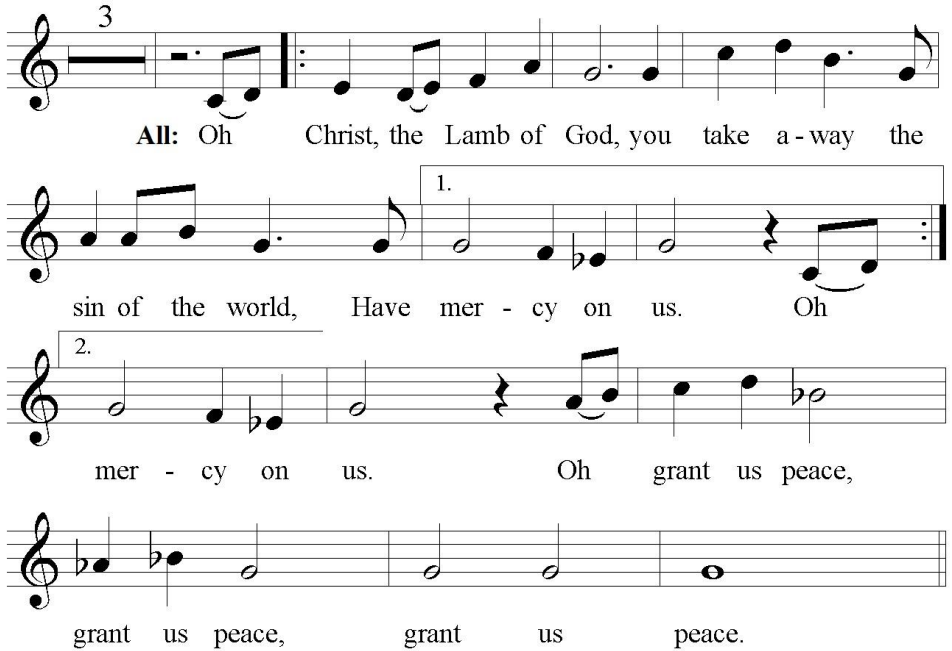
P: This is the food that opens our hearts to know the Risen Christ. This is the place where we are all welcome, whether we come with nagging doubts or with firm belief.

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

Be Seated

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

LAMB OF GOD



3
All: Oh Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, Have mer - cy on us. Oh
1.
mer - cy on us. Oh grant us peace,
2.
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 communion at the altar rail:

When directed by the ushers, you may come up the center aisle to the altar rail, stand or kneel, and hold out your hand for the pastor to drop the host into. Eat. Then take a cup of wine (red), grape juice (light yellow), or water (clear) from the assistant. Drink. Then place your empty cup in the tray that follows. Rise and return to your seat via the side aisles.



COMMUNION HYMN: "You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd"



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



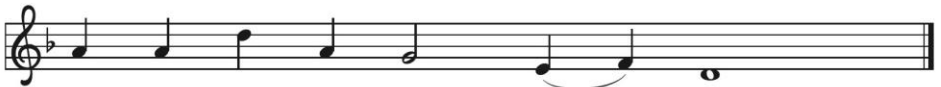
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



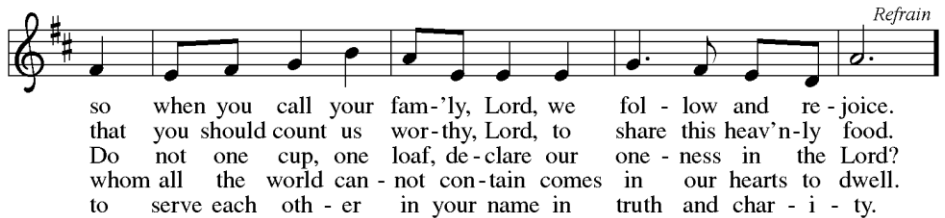
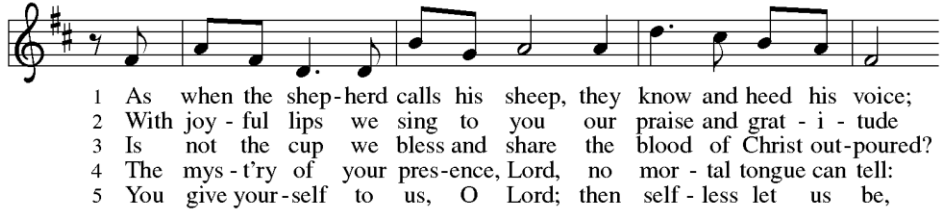
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.



COMMUNION HYMN: "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"



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: Go forth and share the love of our shepherd wherever you go.

All: We go to share the love of God.

P: Go forth and share the blessings of our shepherd with everyone you meet.

All: We go to share the blessings of Christ.

P: Go forth and share the promise of our shepherd with those who feel unworthy of God's love.

All: We go to share the hope of the Holy Spirit and the grace we have found in the love of our shepherd.



“The LORD is
my shepherd,
I shall not want.”

Psalm 23:1, NRSV

SENDING HYMN: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

vs. 1



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.



Refrain
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in Easter peace and joy!

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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