



WHAT GOOD IS IT
FOR SOMEONE TO

GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD,
YET FORFEIT THEIR SOUL?

MARK 8:36, NIV

September 15, 2024

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

September 15, 2024
10 AM, 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

Welcome! Enter with Prayer, Worship in Awe, Leave to Serve.

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.

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

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

WELCOME

Please Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: Whether we come to worship with regrets and sadness or with joy and thanksgiving, passing the peace of Christ heals the broken places in our lives and seals our bonds of fellowship. Let us take time to share this gift of peace with one another, both in this worship space and in our hearts. The peace of Christ is with you.

All: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We are an open and affirming church. Together, let us worship God, rejoicing in the good news which we celebrate this day!

All: There is a place in God's heart, there is a place at Christ's table, there is a place here and in every welcoming church for all people.

L: Christ who gathers us, bids us follow in the ways of love and justice.

All: May our hearts be open to Christ's leading in our worship and our living, this day and always.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

All: Amen.

P: Friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy and forgiveness,

All: we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "Gather Us In" vs. 1,2

Favorite Hymn of Claudette Haskins



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.

GREETING

P: God of grace and glory, pour out the power of your Holy Spirit on our worship and our gathering.

All: Strengthen and protect us with your steadfast faithfulness.

P: Feed us with the bread of life, and guide our steps with the wisdom of your word.

All: In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

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

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

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!

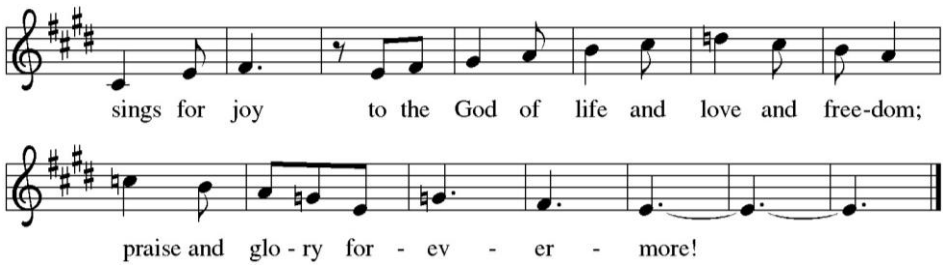
3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new.

Refrain

Refrain

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

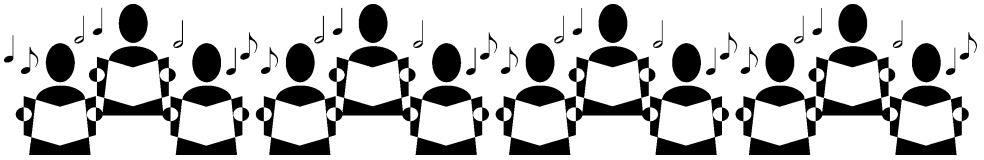


THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives.

All: **Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: *“Jesus, Name above All Names/
Beautiful Savior”*



Be Seated

WE LISTEN AND THINK

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

R: Hear the Word of God,

All: **that we might walk in holiness all our days.**

R: Receive the word of God,

All: **that it might be at work within us.**

R: Heed the word of God,

All: **that we may become its servant.**

R: The first reading is from Isaiah, chapter fifty, beginning with the fourth verse.

READING: *Isaiah 50:4-9a*

Exalted Yahweh has given me a skilled and well-trained tongue, so that I can sustain the weary with a timely word. God awakens me morning after morning—wakens my ear, to listen like a student. Exalted Yahweh opened my ears and I have obeyed, I did not turn away. I offered my back to those beating me, offered my cheeks to those who would humiliate me. I did not hide my face from insults or spitting.

Because Exalted Yahweh helps me, insults cannot wound me, for I have set my face like flint, because I know I will not be put to shame. My vindicator is at my side. Who would dare accuse me? It is Exalted Yahweh who helps me. Who will judge me guilty?

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

R: By the word, God calls us into covenant.

All: May the divine word work within us.

R: May we be receptive students of it.

All: May it show us the call of service in Christ's holy Church.

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 Mark, the eighth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Creator.

GOSPEL: *Mark 8:27-38*

Then he and the disciples set out for the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way, Jesus asked the disciples this question: “Who do people say that I am?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptizer; others, Elijah; still others, one of the prophets.”

“And you,” he went on to ask, “who do you say that I am?”

Peter answered, “You are the Messiah!” But Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

Then Jesus began to teach them that the Promised One had to suffer much, be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and religious scholars, be put to death, and rise again three days later. Jesus said these things quite openly.

Peter then took him aside and began to take issue with him. At this, Jesus turned around and, eyeing the disciples, reprimanded Peter: “Get out of my sight, you Satan! You are judging by human standards rather than by God’s!”

Jesus summoned the crowd and the disciples and said, “If you wish to come after me, you must deny your very self, take up your cross and follow in my footsteps. If you would save your life, you’ll lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you’ll save it. What would you gain if you were to win the whole world but lose your self in the process? What can you offer in exchange for your soul? Whoever in this faithless and corrupt generation is ashamed of me and my words will find, in turn, that the Promised One and the holy angels will be ashamed of that person, when all stand before our God in glory.”

P: The Gospel of our Risen Savior.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S TIME – Pastor Tim

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*God, We Gather as Your People*”
vs. 1,2

Favorite Hymn of Sally Bentley



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.



Refrain
Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

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

Please Stand

OFFERTORY

Refrain

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

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Merciful God, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you.

All: We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need. We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. 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: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. From ancient times, you create us in your image, call us to be your people, and lead us on the paths of life.

All: When we were lost and afraid, in your compassion and forgiveness you offered a path of new beginnings and hope.

P: Even when we turned away, you continued to walk with us, extending the hand of steadfast love. In the words of the prophets, you offered your wisdom and your truth. And in the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Christ Jesus, to reveal your grace in the world, and to call us to reconciliation and faithful relationship.

All: Holy are you and blessed is your salvation and grace, through Jesus Christ.

P: Through Christ's patient love and unfailing grace, you invite us into your presence, rescue us from our sins, and lead us in your path of righteousness.

All: With Christ's presence in our lives, you cover us with your grace and invite us into fullness of life and love.

P: In remembrance and gratitude, we break this bread remembering the words of your Son: "Take, eat; this is

my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” As we fill this cup, we give thanks and remember Jesus’ words of life: “Drink from this, all of you. This is my life poured out for you, and for many, in a new covenant for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts of love and grace, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on our fellowship and on these gifts of bread and wine, that we might be filled with your compassion and love, and led by your wisdom and truth.

All: Cover us with your love, that by your Spirit we might be one with Christ, one in reconciliation with each other, and one in the ministry of love to the world until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the heavenly banquet.

P: Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forevermore.

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: 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

The ushers will invite you to God's Table
after the Lamb of God is sung.

LAMB OF GOD



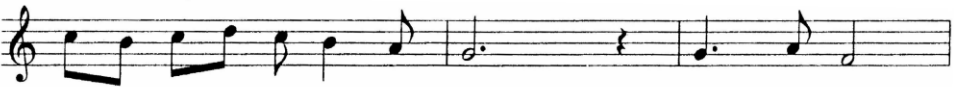
All: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



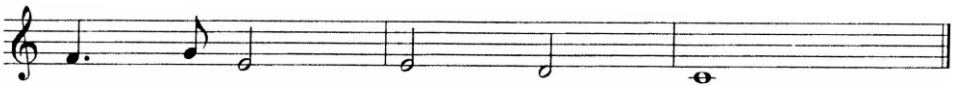
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,



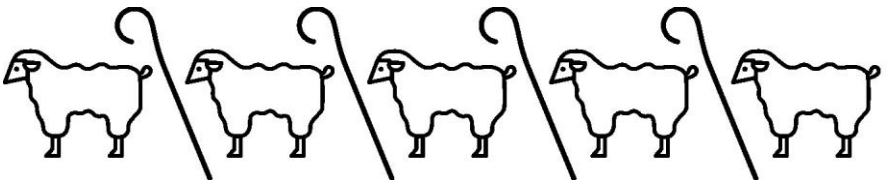
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



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



grant us peace, grant us peace.



DISTRIBUTION

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: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Favorite Hymn of Faye Williams



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

COMMUNION HYMN: “You Are My King (Amazing Love)”

Favorite Hymn of Pastor Barbara



I'm for - giv - en be - cause You were for - sak - en. I'm ac - cept - ed;



You were con - demned. I'm a - live and well, Your Spir - it is with - in me be -



cause You died and rose a - gain. A - maz - ing love, how can it be



that You, my King, would die for me? A - maz - ing love, I know it's true;



it's my joy to hon - or You. In all I do I hon - or You.



You are my King, You are my King. Je - sus,



You are my King. Je - sus, You are my King.

SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross

All: as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant. 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!

Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



TEMPLE TALK: – Linda Headrick

Please Stand

WE CARRY GOD'S CARING LOVE TO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

P: We leave this church, O God, with songs of new life on our lips.

All: With a message of hope in our hearts, with a determination to serve on our minds, with the love of Jesus Christ binding us together in faith community.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"
vs. 1,3

Favorite Hymn of Carmen Blair



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Scripture Readings: Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation - Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition.

“Now the Feast and Celebration” Musical setting by Marty Haugen
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