

January 26, 2025

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 38801 Blacow Road Fremont, Ca 94536 Church: (510) 793-6285 January 26, 2025 10 AM Service – Epiphany 3 Ministers: The People of HTLC 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.

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up.

Glimpse the glory of God.

GATHERING

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: "Jesus in the Morning" -Bell Choir

WELCOME

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: Peace is a gift of God's love.

All: Let God bless us and give us strength, as we share signs of this peace!

P: The peace of Christ is with you.

All: And also with you.

Please share the peace with each other.

Please Stand

WELCOME STATEMENT

L: We extend a heartfelt embrace to all who are seeking God's love and grace.

All: We welcome all because God welcomes all,

L: regardless of race or culture, Deaf or hearing, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

All: We welcome all

L: without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, varying intellects and abilities, imprisonment, socioeconomic circumstances,

All: or anything that too often divides us.

L: We invite you, wherever you are in your faith journey,

All: to join us in caring, sharing, and serving God through our unity in Christ. Welcome.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: In the name of the Creator, and of the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier, whose voice reverberated in blazing bush, and whose image reflects our sacred belonging and purpose.

All: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism; we are held so close by God's endless compassion and transformation, which flow like an unfailing stream.

All: God's generous gift of water is for all God's beloveds.

- P: While remembering that water is restorative, that precious resource as it is, water is used for healing, washing, playing, nurturing, cleansing, and in many traditions and communities water is used in spiritual practices, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- All: We give thanks for the breath that hovered over resounding waters and spoke life into being.
- P: For the great flood that proclaimed God's promise through rainbow-colored brilliance.
- All: For the sea that split open our thirst for power, control, and dominance.
- P: We give thanks for the One who transformed water into wine and then yearned to share it with the disenfranchised. We give thanks for the gift of baptism which proclaims that you, me, WE ALL are beloved children of God, and nothing can separate us from that love of God made known through Jesus.
- All: Cleanse our fears. Drown our divisions. Let us die to a life that pulls us from your relentless love and let us rise to a life that says yes.
- P: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. And may all God's people say,
- All: Amen!





INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Living Redeemer Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

All: And also with you.

LITANY

L: O God, whose light dances across eternity, dazzle us into your presence this new year.

All: Open our hearts to the mystery of your love.

L: Awaken us to your presence, knit to the ordinary.

All: Reveal to us what is possible, but not yet present.

L: Heal us, that we might be healers.

All: Reconcile us to you and to ourselves.

L: Stop us often, we pray

All: with news that is good

L: with hope that holds

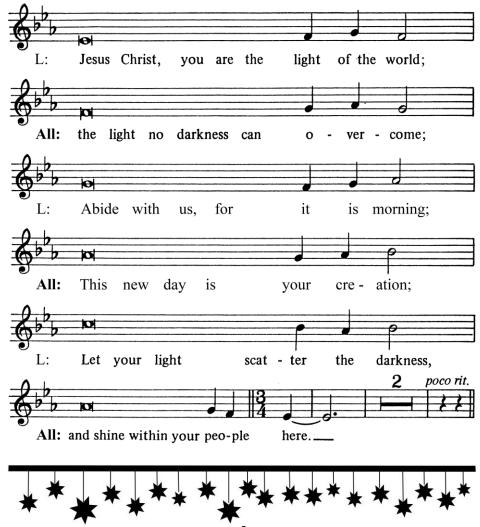
All: with truth that transforms

L: May the word of your grace guide our steps like the sun

by day

All: and the north star by night.





HYMN OF MORNING PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. Holy and Living God, we open to you this day. May peace flow and let justice roll down like an ever-flowing stream.

All: Open our eyes and help us to see that no one is outside your love; outside our love.

L: Remind us that we are not alone thanks to your abiding presence and all reconciling ministries that proclaim your free gift of love for all.

All: Amen.

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Make this Church a Welcome Place"

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

R: Holy God, you speak to us in Scripture and in prayers, in sunrises and sunsets, in friends and in strangers, in dreams and in songs.

All: You are speaking all the time, and how often do we miss it?

R: Still our minds so that we can listen with a depth that we have not heard before.

All: Still our hearts so that we can receive with open arms what it is you are offering us today.

R: We know you are speaking,

All: so we are listening.

R: The first reading is from First Corinthians, chapter twelve, beginning with the twelfth verse.

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the

members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

R: Word of God, word of light.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand



ALLELUIA VERSE



P: The holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O God.

GOSPEL: *Luke 4:14-21*

Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and his reputation spread throughout the region. He was teaching in the Galilean synagogues, and all were loud in their praise.

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. Entering the synagogue on the Sabbath, as was his habit, Jesus stood up to do the reading. When the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed him, he unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

"The Spirit of our God is upon me:
because the Most High has anointed me
to bring Good News to those who are poor.
God has sent me to proclaim liberty to those held captive,
recovery of sight to those who are blind,
and release to those in prison—
to proclaim the year of our God's favor."

Rolling up the scroll, Jesus gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he said to them, "Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled."

P: The Gospel of our Messiah.All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME – Pastor Tim



Please Stand



Be Seated

MESSAGE – Pastor Tim

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

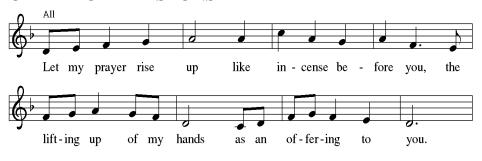
L: Come into Christ's light with your gifts. They need not be gold or precious oil.

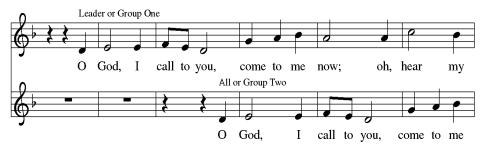
All: Gifts of love and compassion are the greatest treasures of all.

OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE











OFFERING PRAYER

L: For the gift of unconditional love,

All: we give thanks.

L: For the way in which these offerings will become gifts of love embodied,

All: we give thanks.

L: For the gift of this community bound and working together,

All: we give thanks.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Trusting in the One who made us, dwells in us, and calls us to life, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need. Spirit of Life, we thank you for the infinite and asyet undiscovered diversity of your creatures, of galaxies beyond our imagining. Teach us to feel awe again. Teach us to see and celebrate the stunning beauty in all you have made. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of the People, you made us in your image and you call us good. Silence all voices of shame and hatred — including the ones in our own heads — and inspire us to love ourselves and one another the way you so desperately, passionately, and deeply love us. Teach us to love neighbors who live in different skin. Make us bold in our proclamation that the lives, loves, and gifts of all races, genders, and sexualities matter to you, and so they matter to all of us — manifest in both word and deed. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Head of the Church, you have called us together. Draw us closer to one another and thereby closer to you. Open us up to people we don't know yet, so that we might continue to greet you in faith and be joyfully changed by who you are: wild and wonderful and out in the world. Bless this community of faith with challenges to grow us, care to wrap us up when we are wounded, and an abiding fire for the justice you are bringing. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Compassionate Jesus, you dwell in solidarity with the oppressed, the lonely, and all who suffer. We pray for comfort, for wholeness, for peace with justice, and for your will to be done. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God of grace,

All: hear our prayers.

L: Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your grace and your unlimited capacity for love and mercy.

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: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

All: You created us, unique, human creatures, created to love and be loved, created to seek relationship with you and each other.

P: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus the Christ. Through him, you showed us a new way to be in relationship with you and with each other, to care for one another and the stranger, and to see you in different ways.

All: Through him, you showed us a new level of acceptance and new ways to worship you.

P: By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church,

All: delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

P: Through this community which you have called together through our concern, our passion, and our seeking to know you, we learn more about you, your sustaining love, and your own passion for justice and liberation for all.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many 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 in Jesus Christ, 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 us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

All: Strengthen us for our witness and our service in your name. Increase in us our courage and wisdom as we live and work for your realm.

P: By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Creator, now and forever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

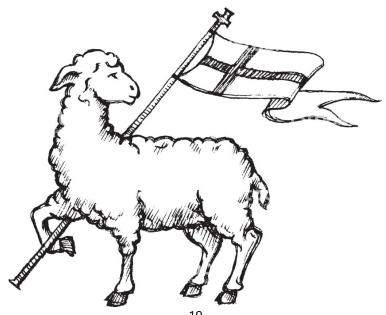
FRACTION RITE

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

All: For this meal we give thanks!

Be Seated

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



LAMB OF GOD



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:

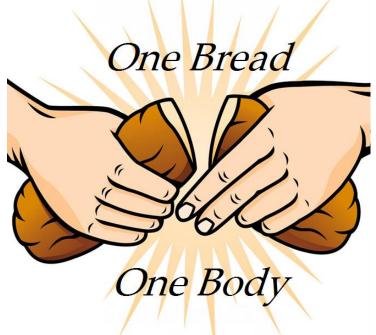
When directed by the ushers, you may come up the center aisle to the altar rail, stand or kneel, and hold out your hand for the pastor to drop the host into. Eat. Then take a cup of wine (red), grape juice (light yellow), or water (clear) from the assistant. Drink. Then place your empty cup in the tray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



COMMUNION HYMN: "I Received the Living God"



me in your heart, and my word shall make you this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall You will know free. but re - ceive you shall know.



COMMUNION HYMN: "One Bread, One Body"



SINGING BOWL

Please Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Loving God, we thank you that you fed us in this Sacrament. Help us remember that the Eucharist is not a passive activity. Gather us to be reminded and restored, so that we may scatter to be the body of Christ for the world.

All: Be with us as you take us places that, on our own, we would not go. Help us make the real power of love in the world. Amen.

Be Seated

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 Amen.

SENDING

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

P: Let us covenant together that no one will be left beneath the table lapping up crumbs.

All: The church becomes dim-sighted and malnourished if all are not welcome to partake of your abundance.

P: Now, companioned by the Spirit, go forth and be the evidence of the all-inclusive hospitality of our welcoming God!

All: We will go out into the world and shout that all means ALL!



SENDING HYMN: "We Are Marching in the Light of God"



SENDING

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

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE