

**May 4, 2025 ~ 10:30 a.m.**

*Third Sunday of Easter ~ Communion*



*Ananias said, “Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” – Acts 9:17*

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**

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## Prelude and Procession

Nicki Kerns

*I Hear Thy Welcome Voice*, by David Paxton

## Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Diane Ford

## Preparation for Worship

Before Saul could become Paul, before the church could welcome this fierce enemy, someone had to take a risk. Today, we remember the quiet courage of Ananias — the one who dared to trust God's voice and reach out in love. Transformation is never a solo event. It is woven through the faithfulness, prayers, and risks of a whole community. How might God be calling us to be part of someone else's new beginning?

## Introit

Trinity Choir

*Cantad al Señor*, by Brazilian Folk Melody, trans. Gerhard Cartford

## Call to Worship (Responsively)

Kim Johnston

God calls us to be part of healing and hope.

**We are the hands and feet of Christ in the world.**

God asks us to listen, to trust, and to act with courage.

**We come, ready to answer God's call together.**

Let us worship God, who works through ordinary people for extraordinary change.

\*Hymn, PH #108

*Christ Is Alive*

TRURO LM

## Call to Prayer for Confession and Healing (One)

Kim

Even the boldest disciples feel fear. Even the strongest faith can hesitate. Let us come before God, trusting not in our own strength, but in the mercy that calls and equips us anew.

## Prayer for Forgiveness and Healing (Unison)

Kim

**Loving God, you call people of every age and season to follow you. We confess that at times we doubt ourselves — we feel too young, too old, too uncertain, too set in our ways. We hesitate when you invite us to risk, to trust, to act. Forgive us when we let fear or weariness hold us back. Forgive us when we forget that your Spirit is always at work**

**within us. Renew our courage, rekindle our hope, and remind us that no one is beyond your calling, and no moment is too small for your grace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. (Time for silent prayer.)**

**Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive)**

Kim

Hear the good news: God's love is steadfast, and God's mercy has no end. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven — called, renewed, and sent to live with courage and compassion.

**Amen.**

**\*Gloria**

***Clapping Gloria***

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis deo.**

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

**“The Peace of Christ be with you.” “And also with you.”**

**Prayers of the People - God of Life and Hope, Hear our Prayer**

**Presbytery's Unity Candle: Cornerstone Church of Silicon Valley**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Anthem**

*Cantate Domino*, by James Chepponis

Trinity Choir

Cantate domino, cantate domino; Cantate domino canticum novum.

Cantate domino, cantate domino; Cantate domino, canticum novum.

Alleluia, alleluia; Cantate domino canticum novum.

Alleluia, alleluia; Canten al señor un cántico nuevo.

Cantate domino, cantate domino; Cantate domino canticum novum.

Canten al señor un cántico nuevo, Canten al señor un cántico nuevo.

Alleluia!

## **Prayer for Illumination**

Kim

God of new life, as you spoke to Ananias and Saul, speak now to us. Keep our hearts alert, stir our spirits, and guide our steps in your way.  
**Amen.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Acts 9:1-20

Kim

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight." "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to

you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Diane Ford

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

*Tu Has Venido a la Orilla*, by Cesário Gabarain

Nicki

**\*Doxology** PH #591

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

**\*Statement of Faith** Based on Westminster Confession of 1740 CE Diane

**We believe in one sovereign God, creator of heaven and earth, who is both transcendent and near, working all things for good according to God's perfect will. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who lived, died, and was raised to offer us forgiveness, reconciliation with God, and new life. In Christ, God's covenant of grace is fulfilled for all.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to live as God's people, guiding us in truth, shaping us in love, and uniting the church as the body of Christ. We believe in the Scriptures, which testify to God's saving work, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and authoritative for our faith and life. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the promise of eternal life with God in the fullness of God's kingdom. To God be the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Communion Hymn, GTG #527** *Eat this Bread*

LORD'S SUPPER

# SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## Invitation to the Table

*The outer ring is wine; the inner rings are grape juice.  
Gluten-free bread is made available.*

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

## Communion of the People

## Prayer after Communion

## \*Blessing and Charge

\*Amen

Trinity Choir

\*Postlude

*Amazing Grace*, by Robert Vandall

Nicki

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\*We invite all to stand in body or in spirit.

*PH - Presbyterian Hymnal; GH - Gather Hymnal;*

*GTG - Glory to God Hymnal*

## **Special Thanks to Our "Sunday Saints"**

Pastor, Rev. Diane Ford; Music Director, Nicki Kerns

Lector, Kim Johnston; Usher, Pete Halper

Greeters, Jerry and Sandy Thormann

Coffee Hour, Jeff and Patti Lawton; Flowers, Dan and Vickie Rutan

Audio/Video/Zoom Tech, Chad Bell and Chuck Cobery

# Announcements

## Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church

Are you new today? We look forward to getting to know you. Please fill out a visitor welcome card and place it in the offering plate during the Call to Offering. After worship, join us for coffee/refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. We're glad you're here!



## Pastor Diane on Vacation

Pastor Diane will be on vacation May 6–11. During that time, please contact our Moderator of Deacons, Kim Johnston, or Clerk of Session, Ellen Bauerle, in case of a pastoral emergency, and they'll contact the pastor on call. The Rev. Jenni Bales will be our guest preacher on May 11.

## Deacons

The Board of Deacons relies on the generosity of members and friends of the congregation to provide financial support for their endeavors. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please use the envelopes in the pews to designate your contribution to the work of the Deacons.

## MaryAnn Hobb's Collection

Check out Mary Ann Hobb's collection of craft books in the Youth Room. (There is a designated shelf with a small plaque.) Feel free to borrow a book or to add one if you have a craft book to share.

## Third Thursday Happy Hour, May 15

Back Nine Bar & Grill (555 Hwy 17 at Pasatiempo Exit) is our new location for Trinity's Happy Hour at 5 p.m. Invite a friend and come enjoy fine food, fellowship, and drinks!

## AFC's 13th Anniversary Gala, May 17

Celebrate 13 years of interfaith action with AFC at their anniversary gala in the Holy Cross Parish Hall (170 High Street, Santa Cruz). Enjoy dinner, drinks, a silent auction, and more from 6 to 8:30 p.m. All proceeds support housing and shelter for our unhoused neighbors.

### **Third Monday Book Club, May 19**

Hi Bookies! Our May 19th book club meeting will be in the Fireside Room at 10 a.m. We'll be discussing *The Glassmaker* by Tracy Chevaliers.

Whether you're a regular attendee or a newcomer, all are welcome to join in the conversation!

### **Pride Parade, June 1**

Trinity Presbyterian Church will once again be hosting a booth, along with Aptos Methodist, at the Pride Festival in downtown Santa Cruz. This is a fun and exciting event, and we will need volunteers to take 2 hour shifts throughout the day. Although set up and breakdown are mildly physical, the rest of the shifts are very easy sit down jobs. Please call the office to sign up.

### **Family Fun Fest, June 14**

Enjoy food, activities for all ages and abilities, and music by Love Creek at the Family Fun Fest on Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 420 Melrose Ave. in Santa Cruz. Assisted by Urban Works, festivities begin on Trinity's lawn on Poplar Ave. and continue indoors and out.

### **Teen Tech Assistant Position**

Trinity is seeking teenagers (ages 13-18) to assist with the operation of our computer for filming services, managing audio equipment, and handling handheld microphones, along with a few other minor tasks. For more information, the listing can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office by the applications.

### **Presbytery's Unity Candle moves in San Jose!**

Today, we remember and pray for the community, ministries, and staff of Cornerstone Church of Silicon Valley with Rev. Joe Sohn.



**Please continue to remember these people and situations in your prayers.**

- The Papal Conclave: Prayers for wisdom and discernment in the selection of the next pope.
- Debbie Bates' cousin, Norma: Needs insurance issue resolved in order to proceed with scheduling surgery for both liver and kidney transplants.
- Kathy, Lorraine Vilardo's sister: Gratitude for progress in recovering from health issues.
- Pope Francis: Gratitude for his life and inclusive ministry.
- Regina, Jolynn's daughter: Patience during her search for employment.
- Fred Tomlinson: Hopeful for a successful recovery from cataract surgery.
- The people of Gaza: Prayers for innocent victims of the violence of war and the resulting starvation from the inability to deliver food and water supplies.

Since 1938 Trinity has carried on a ministry of worship and service in the Santa Cruz community and has extended itself into the world through participation in regional, national, and international mission programs.

**Trinity Presbyterian Church Supports/Sponsors**

Presbyterian Missionaries in Congo: Jeffery and Christi Boyd

Indonesia: Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Riskakotta

Mexico/US border: Craft Giron, Mark Adams, and Miriam Maldonado Escobar

Boy Scout Troop #618 ❖ Association of Faith Communities (AFC) ❖ CASA

Caring 4 Kids (Survivor Healing Center) ❖ Friends Outside ❖ Habitat for Humanity

Housing Matters Immanuel House (Synod of the Pacific)

Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. General Mission ❖ Rebele Family Shelter ❖ Santa Cruz al

Salvador Santa Cruz Pride Parade ❖ Shower the People ❖ Sweet Pea Project

Urban Works ❖ Wings ❖ Welcoming Network

# Eat This Bread

# 527

G C Am D Bm

Opt. A "Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and  
 Opt. B Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to Christ and

Detailed description: This system contains the first six measures of the song. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. Chord symbols G, C, Am, D, and Bm are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are split into two options, A and B, with corresponding musical notes.

Em Dsus D G D

nev - er be hun - gry. Eat this bread;  
 nev - er be hun - gry. Eat this bread;

Detailed description: This system contains the next six measures. Chord symbols Em, Dsus, D, G, and D are placed above the treble staff. The melody continues on the treble staff, and the bass line is on the bass staff. The lyrics are split into two lines.

Em Bm C Dsus D G

drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst."  
 drink this cup; trust in Christ and you will not thirst.

Detailed description: This system contains the final six measures of the song. Chord symbols Em, Bm, C, Dsus, D, and G are placed above the treble staff. The melody concludes on the treble staff, and the bass line is on the bass staff. The lyrics are split into two lines.