November 15, 2026 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship



Trinity Presbyterian Church
420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062
www.trinitypressc.org ♦ trinitysc@sbcglobal.net
(831) 423-8995

Prelude *Quiet Prelude #1*, by Gilbert M. Martin Nicki Kerns

Procession

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Lawrence Vilardo

Preparation for Worship

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. *Hebrews 11:1-3*

Introit *Holy Manna*, by Joel Raney Choir

Call to Worship (*responsively*) Psalm 123 Michael Christie

One: I lift up my eyes to you,
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.
Many: As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a female slave look to the hand of her mistress,
One: so our eyes look to the Lord our God,
till he shows us his mercy
Many: Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy on us,
for we have endured much contempt. We have endured much ridicule from the proud, much contempt from the arrogant.

***Opening Hymn** PH #482 *Praise Ye the Lord the Almighty*

Prayer for Forgiveness, Healing, and Reconciliation *(responsively)* Michael

Leader: Beautiful Savior, faith is the victory, yet in difficult and challenging times we often lose faith in you.
People: When we doubt you, we too soon begin to doubt others, and then we doubt even ourselves. Forgive us and heal our hearts so that we may face the future with belief in you, in others, and in ourselves.

All: In the name of the author and finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

Time for silent prayer

Words of Grace and Renewal *(responsively)* Hebrews 12:1-3 Michael

Leader: Since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight
and the sin that clings so closely.

People: And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Leader: Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

All: Hear the Good News, in the Name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven, healed, and set free.

***Gloria PH #576**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

***Passing the Peace of Christ** Larry

"The Peace of Christ be with you all." **"And also with you."**
Let us share a sign of that peace with one another.

Prayers of the People

Presbytery's Unity Candle: We pray for Northminster Presbyterian Church Salinas, and Rev. Andy Rausch.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Larry

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 Choir

Alleluia, alleluia, cantate Jesu Criste.
Alleluia, alleluia, cantate Jesu Criste.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation,
Has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to His name.
Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to His name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
He is the King of creation,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Praise His name! Praise His name! Alleluia!

Prayer for Ears that Hear Larry

May the word read and proclaimed today become a lamp unto our feet and medicine for our hearts, we pray. Amen

First Reading: Joshua 5:13-15 Michael

Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?” “Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant? ”The commander of the Lord’s army replied, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

Second Reading: Judges 4:1-7 Larry

Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, now that Ehud was dead. So the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Sisera, the commander of his army, was based in Harosheth Haggoyim. Because he had nine hundred chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the Lord for help.

Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to have their disputes decided. She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: ‘Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead them up to Mount Tabor. I will lead Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands.’”

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Heroes of Faith Rev. Dr. Lawrence Vilardo

Hymn PH #388 *O Jesus, I have promised*

Offering Our Lives to God Michael

Freely we have received the blessings of God's love. Let us now return a portion of what we have been given, offering our gifts and our lives in joyful service to Christ. Ushers, please come forward.

Offertory *Prayer of Meditation*, by Mary McDonald 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.

***Prayer of Dedication** *(unison)*

When we face frontiers fraught with dark and unknown terror we dedicate ourselves to choose faith over fear, love our over hate, and hope over despair

***Hymn** PH #276 *Great is the Thy Faithfulness*

***Blessing and Charge** Larry

***Amen** Choir

Postlude *Postlude on "Halifax"*, by Lani Smith 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

Special Thanks to Our "Sunday Saints"

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Vilardo
Music Director: Nicki Kerns Lector: Micheal Christie
Usher: Pete Halper Coffee Hour: Pete Halper
Greeters: Sandy and Jerry Thormann
Flowers: Mona Gifford, George and Elizabeth Bunch
Audio/Video/Zoom Techs: Chad Bell, Chuck Cobery, Rosie Bell

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!

Our guest preacher today is our very own Rev. Dr. Lawrence Vilardo. Larry retired from his work as Presbyterian minister to move here to Santa Cruz with his spouse Lorraine, who is a retired nurse. Larry and Lorraine have three children, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Larry was born in Buffalo, New York. He was awarded an undergraduate degree from Bethany University, a Master's degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary, and a Doctoral degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. Larry currently serves as the librarian at the Hazel Nutt Memorial Library here at Trinity.

While Pastor Diane is in El Salvador if there is an emergency that calls for a pastor, Clerk of Session Ellen Bauerle, or Deacon, Marta Narus will contact the pastor on call. On Sunday, Nov. 15 our guest preacher is our very own Larry Vilardo, and on Nov. 22, our guest preacher will be Karla Kress: a leader of Santa Cruz al Salvador, and former pastor of Trinity.

A team is being assembled to prepare an application for the San Jose Presbytery to designate Trinity Presbyterian Church as an "**Earth Care Congregation.**" We need some folks to help in this process, members and non-members are welcomed. Many hands will make this effort easier. Please see or contact Ron Weaver about this opportunity.

Session news ⚡. At this week's Session meeting, with the approaching resignation of Ellen Bauerle as Trinity's Clerk, Session appointed Chuck Cobery as the new Clerk of Session. Please pray for a seamless transition. Secondly, Session has also approved the creation of a "Fellowship Team" to assist staff and officers of our church with various duties and tasks. If you would be interested in joining in that effort, please speak with Pastor Diane or Ron Weaver.

For the month of November **Book Club** will be reading "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean. Book Club will meet on Monday November 16, in the Fireside Room. This time only, Book Club will be meeting at 10:30 instead of 10 o'clock. New folks are always welcome!

Happy Hour will take place Thursday, November 19, from 4-6pm at the Back 9 in Pasatiempo. Come for fellowship, deepen friendships, and bring someone new.

To schedule a visit with Pastor Diane, please email her directly at TrinitySCPastorDiane@gmail.com.

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

- The Lawton's son, Jonathan: traveling mercies for his trip to Oregon.
- Gonzales Community Presbyterian Church and Pastor Bill Lane: grateful for their ministry since 1983, particularly to the Latino community.
- Joan, Sandy Thormann's friend: thankful that she is at peace during her final journey with hospice care.
- Noah, Pete Halper's grandson: blessings as he celebrates his 8th birthday.
- The national election process: gratitude that their foundational element of our democracy is still working as intended.
- The delegation to El Salvador: traveling mercies.
- Joanne Clever: blessings as she celebrates another birthday.
- Chuck Cobery: thankful for 38 years of marriage with Nancy.
- Pete Halper: gratitude for skilled surgeons as he prepares for a cataract operation.
- The family and extended family of John Christie: mourning his death and remembering the good times together.

Since 1938, as a congregation in the Presbyterian Church, USA, 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. You are warmly invited to join us in the challenge of Christian faith and ministry. Should you have questions about church activities, pastoral services or membership at Trinity, please speak with the Pastor.

Trinity Presbyterian Church Supports

Presbyterian Missionaries in Congo, Indonesia, and on the Mexico/US border ◆ Shower the People ◆ Association of Faith Communities ◆ Urban Works ◆ Welcoming Network ◆ Hospice of S.C. County ◆ Rebele Family Shelter ◆ Habitat For Humanity ◆ Friends Outside ◆ Immanuel House ◆ Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. General Mission ◆ Sweet Pea Project ◆ Alcoholics Anonymous ◆ Santa Cruz al Salvador ◆ Santa Cruz Pride Parade ◆ Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)◆ Scout Troop #604 ◆ Scout Troop #618

Session Elders

Class of 2027	**Class of 2028**
Chad Bell (2nd T)	Michael Christie (2nd T)
Chuck Cobery	Ron Weaver
Mayre Vincent	

Deacons

Class of 2026	**Class of 2027**	**Class of 2028**
Nancy Cobery	Barbara Christie	Gigi Giannini
Kim Johnston	Peter Halper (2nd T)	
	Marta Narus	

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Diane Ford
Music Director: Nicki Kerns
Office Admin: Nicole Donovan
Custodian: Hortencia Martinez

Committee Leads

Clerk of Session, Ellen
Admin/Finance, Chad
Mission, Chuck
Nominating, Ron
Treasurer: Sandy Thormann
Outreach, Larry
Personnel, Lee
Worship & Christian Education (WCE), Ellen and Michael

Trinity Presbyterian Church
CHRIST-CENTERED and MISSION-DRIVEN:
An OPEN AND AFFIRMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH
trinitypressc.org (831) 423-8995 Facebook Instagram
Office Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 10:00 - 2:00 ❖ Sunday Worship 10