

November 23, 2025 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship

Christ the King Sunday and
Commissioning Delegation to El Salvador



Christ King of Kings

Trinity Presbyterian Church
420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062
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Prelude and Procession

Harvest Home
by Dennis Eliot

Nicki Kerns

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Diane Ford

Preparation for Worship

As we approach Thanksgiving on this Christ the King Sunday, Scripture reminds us that God's reign is both our hope and our calling. Jeremiah speaks of true shepherds. Paul proclaims Christ who rescues us from darkness, into his kingdom of restorative justice, faithful relationships, and peace.

Introit

Jesus, We Are Here – John Purifoy

Choir

Psalm of Thanksgiving from Ps. 100 (*responsive*)

Kim Johnston

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Know that the Lord is the One who made us.

We are the Lord's—

we are the people of the Holy, the flock under loving care.

Enter the gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise.

People: We give thanks and bless the sacred Name.

For the Lord is good.

Steadfast love endures forever—

faithfulness to all generations.

***Hymn PH #151** *Crown Him With Many Crowns, vs. 1,3,4*

Call to Prayer of Forgiveness and Healing

Kim

Let us turn to the One who delivers us from the shadows and brings us into the light of Christ's new reign. Here, in prayer, forgiveness restores us and healing makes us new.

Prayer of Forgiveness and Healing (*responsive*)

Kim

Merciful God, we come to you aware of the shadows that trouble our world

and the heaviness we feel when we witness so much that is broken.

We confess how easily we are pulled by the lesser powers—fear, greed, bitterness — and how quickly despair takes root in us.

Forgive us and lift us again into the light of Christ’s new reign, where love and generosity shape all things.

(Time for silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Kim

Hear the good news: In Christ, the light is stronger than the shadows, and mercy is deeper than our failures. You are forgiven, lifted, and made new. Live now as children of God’s generous love.

***Gloria**

Clapping Gloria (Choir: 2 verses)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

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

Message for the Children

(Children are invited to go to Sunday School after the Message for the Children.)

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

Presbytery’s Unity Candle: we pray for Comunidad Latinoamericana, and the Rev. Stella, and Elder Mike Matusiewicz.

Lord’s Prayer (*unison*)

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: *Alleluia! All the Ages* – Monica Bonasso

Alleluia, alleluia, cantate Jesu Christe.

Alleluia, alleluia, cantate Jesu Christe.

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 praise to His Name.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise 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 Illumination

Kim

Holy God, whose reign brings wholeness and peace, open our hearts by your Spirit. Let Christ our King speak through the Scriptures, so that your living Word may guide us, challenge us, and lead us in your way. Amen.

Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Kim

“Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD. Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: “Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done,” declares the LORD. “I myself will gather the

remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD.

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch,
a King who will reign wisely
and do what is just and right in the land.
In his days Judah will be saved
and Israel will live in safety.

This is the name by which he will be called:
The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

Colossians 1:11-20

Diane

May you be strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things

on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Diane Ford

Call to Offering

Offertory

Album Leaf – Gordon Young

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

Diane

Holy God, you call us into the life of your Reign. Take these gifts and take our lives, and weave them into your work of renewal. Make us faithful citizens of Christ's way — steadfast, generous, and brave. Amen.

Commissioning Missionaries to El Salvador

Today we commission Chad and Rosie Bell, Chuck and Nancy Cobery, and Ron Weaver.

Pastor: We give thanks to God, who calls and sends. Today we commission these servants of Christ to bear His love beyond our walls, to El Salvador, to share the good news of the reign of God through service, witness, and compassion.

Congregation: We rejoice in your calling and hold you in our prayers.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to uphold these servants in prayer, to support them in their ministry, and to celebrate the work God will do through them?

Congregation: We do, with God's help.

Leader (to those being commissioned):

Ron, Nancy, Chuck, Rosie, and Chad, will you go in the grace of God, trusting in the presence of Christ, serving in humility, and proclaiming the love of God to all you meet?

Missionaries: We will, relying on God's mercy and strength.

Laying on of hands

Commissioning Prayer (unison)

Almighty God, bless these servants.

Guard them on their journey, grant them courage in challenges, joy in service, and hearts open to Your Spirit.

May their work be fruitful, and may they witness the reign of Christ in all they do. Amen

***Hymn PH #525**

Here I Am, Lord

***Blessing and Charge**

***Amen**

Choir

***Postlude**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
by Joel Raney

Nicki

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

PH - Presbyterian Hymnal; GH - Gather Hymnal;

GTG - Glory to God Hymnal

Front cover: Christ the King of Kings. Artist unknown. From Greece, ca 1600 C.E., from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Special Thanks to Our “Sunday Saints”

Pastor: Rev. Diane Ford

Music Director: Nicki Kerns

Lector: Kim Johnston

Greeters: Sandy & Jerry Thormann

Flowers: Dan & Vickie Rutan

Usher: Pete Halper

Coffee Hour: Pete Halper & Vickie Rutan

Audio/Video/Zoom Techs, Rosie Bell, 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!



Upcoming Events at Trinity

- November 30: First Sunday in Advent.
- December 4, 11, and 18: Thursday Advent Dinner and Taizé at 5:30.
- December 7: All-parish Caroling after the 10:30 service.
- December 14: Cantata Sunday, 10:30 am.
- December 21: Longest Night Service of Hope 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Struggling with the Holidays? Not everyone feels merry in December. Pastor Diane and Yoga Instructor Marcee Meinhardt lead this service designed especially for those carrying sadness, loss, or weariness during the holidays. The service will include candlelight, music, somatic breath work, readings, and prayer. We'll honor the darkness and remember that light still finds us. Come as you are; all are welcome.
- December 24: Our Christmas Eve Service will take place at 5:30 pm.



**Let's once again decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias
for the Advent and Christmas season!**

Honor and remember loved-ones, or simply send a holiday greeting to our church family. Please complete the form below, attach a check or cash for \$15 for each plant, and place in the Sunday plate or mail to the office. Please respond before Thursday, December 4.

Name _____ Phone or email _____

I would like to purchase _____ poinsettia(s)

Total attached \$ _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Continue on back if needed...

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

- Michael: prayers for Darrell's family as they grieve his passing.
- Nancy: prayers for Marilyn, a friend who is having surgery on a pituitary tumor; also Deb, who attends church here, is asking for support as they move from a larger home to a smaller one.
- Jeff: prayers for the family of their Australian friend, Diane, who recently passed away after a battle with cancer.
- Arnie: prayers for Natalie's Aunt Jill, who went home Friday to begin Hospice care – all her family is with her and prayers for unity and wisdom in the family as they navigate these last days with their mom.
- Jolynn: prayers for her daughter, Regina, who is looking for a job.
- Dan: prayer of Thanksgiving and a bit of bragging about his grandson who won multiple swimming races at the Idaho High School state championships.
- Nicki: traveling mercies for her husband who suddenly had to go to Florida on business. She hopes he will be home in time for Thanksgiving.
- Ron: prayers for their daughter in Southern California who was recently diagnosed with a rare neurological inflammation. They need to know how to support her in these days ahead.
- Rosemary: prayers for her friend, Cesar, who relapsed with substance abuse issues and for him to know she's there for him as a friend.
- In loving memory of Adam at the Faith Community Shelter.



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 10:30 a.m.