November 8, 2026 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship



Hand-carried Oil Lamps like these were used for thousands of years.

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

Prelude *How Great Thou Art,* by Mark Hayes Nicki Kerns

Procession

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Diane Ford

Preparation for Worship

Introit *Surely the Lord is In This Place*, by John Purifoy Choir

Call to Worship (*responsively*) Kim Johnston

God is with us, even in difficult and uncertain times.
God's promises give us hope.
God is making all things new,
and invites us to live in the light of that promised future.
We come to worship,
to be renewed in hope and strengthened in love.
Let us worship God!

***Opening Hymn** PH #139 *Come, Thou Almighty King*

Prayer for Forgiveness, Healing, and Reconciliation *(unison)* Kim

God of boundless love, forgive us when fear overwhelms hope, when we grow weary of doing good, and when we turn away from the needs of others. Heal what is broken within us and among us. Renew our trust in your promises, and strengthen us to live with the love, courage, and compassion of Christ as we await the day when all things will be made new. Amen.

Time for silent prayer

Words of Grace and Renewal *(responsively)* Kim

God's promises remain sure, even when the way ahead is uncertain. In grace, we are forgiven and renewed, given strength for the journey, and hope for the days ahead.

We are free to begin again, to love as Christ loves,
and to live toward the day when all things will be made new.
Thanks be to God!

***Gloria PH# 579**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

***Passing the Peace of Christ** Diane

"The Peace of Christ be with you all." **"And also with you."**

Let us share a sign of that peace with one another.

Word with the Children Diane

Children are invited to go to Sunday School.

Prayers of the People

Presbytery's Unity Candle: We pray for Gonzales Community Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Bill Lane.

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

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.

Focus on Mission *Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)* Clarita Cortes

Anthem Choir

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning, by Lloyd Larson

Prayer for Ears that Hear Kim

Holy Spirit, open the eyes of our hearts to the breadth and length, the height and depth of your love, and shape our lives by your living Word. Grant us wisdom to understand, courage to respond, and joy to follow wherever Christ leads. Amen.

First Reading: Matthew 25:1-13 Kim

At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

"At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

"Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

"'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

"But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

"Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!'

"But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'
"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Rev. Diane Ford

Offering Our Lives to God Kim

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 *I Have No Help but Thee*, by Lani Smith 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)* Kim

Gracious and generous God, every good gift comes from you. Receive these offerings and receive our lives as well. Bless what we have given, that it may bear witness to your love, strengthen your church, and bring hope to our neighbors. Root us ever more deeply in your grace, and teach us to live with open hearts and open hands; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn GH #468** *Bring Forth the Kingdom, vs. 1, 2*

***Blessing and Charge** Diane

***Amen** Choir

Postlude *Standing in the Need of Prayer*, 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

Special Thanks to Our "Sunday Saints"

Pastor: The Rev. Diane Ford Music Director: Nicki Kerns
Lector: Kim Johnston Flowers: Linda Weaver
Coffee Hour: Kim Johnston Greeter and Usher: Pete Halper
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!

Court Appointed Special Advocates: A Voice for Children who have experienced abuse and neglect. Today we welcome Clarita Cortes from CASA who will speak during worship, and be available afterward to speak with anyone.

It's almost time! Ya casi es hora! Our El Salvador Delegation will leave Sunday, Nov. 15 and return Nov. 22. Please see the newsletter for details, and keep this year's delegates in your prayers: Steve Barrett (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Salinas), Jeanne Boudreau (St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Santa Cruz), Chuck Cobery, Diane Ford, Kim Johnston, Chad and Rosie Bell, and Ron Weaver (Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz).

Santa Cruz al Salvador

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.

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 at 10:00 a.m. 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.

- Emma, Pete's granddaughter: joy as she celebrates her third birthday.
- Marta's friend, Renee: thankful for successful nose surgery.
- Gigi: seeking direction for possible move to be nearer her family that is awaiting a new bambino.
- First Presbyterian Church in Monterey and pastors Mark Peake and a James Potts: gratitude for their ministry of compassion, justice, and humility.
- The Election: seeking God's will and direction as citizens vote for their leadership — locally, statewide, and nationally — peacefully, without interference.
- Veronica Ota: thanksgiving for her commissioning as the Presbytery's Peace and Justice Advocate.
- Family and friends: remembrances of those who have been called home in God's care.

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