



Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

Order of Worship Sunday, August 29, 2021, 10 am

Reflection: In the ethical act of hospitality and in the gesture of escorting, the divine presence is invoked and embodied. This is certainly in keeping with the broader belief that wisdom is found in the face of the other, in the encounter with the fellow mystical sage and friend along the path of wandering. —Eitan Fishbane

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*

after Psalm 133

Ann Sherpick

One: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Many: It is like precious oil poured on the head, anointing us with warm fragrance.

One: It is like laughter after a good meal!

Many: Our hands and voices together create justice and hospitality.

One: We are God's guests and God is our honored guest.

Many: Let this mystery enlarge our faith and our community as we welcome all who will join us.

HYMN BH 393

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

Lowell Mason 1845

* *Stand as you are able*

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Ann Sherpick

Loving God, we study you and pray to you—and it is a lifetime endeavor. How can something as small as a human ever begin to learn as big a thing as your Being, God? Coax us now and each day a little further into the mystery. Implant your clarity in our souls. And when we cannot quite get your clarity, help us to welcome you anyway. We are yours, God. Transform us one second, one sip, one crumb at a time. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Leslie O'Brien

WE LISTEN

SOLO

Jesslyn Thomas

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ann Sherpick

Hebrews 3: 1-3
Buddhist Tale

SERMON

The Constant Guest

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

HYMN BH 398

Shadow and Substance

Dan Damon 1989

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

* *Stand as you are able*

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, 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.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY SOLO

Jesslyn Thomas

DOXOLOGY*

OLD HUNDREDTH, 1551

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

HYMN BH 383

Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Lowell Mason 1839

BENEDICTION*

Leslie Darwin O'Brien

POSTLUDE

* *Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor
Leslie Darwin O'Brien, Pastoral Outreach & Family Ministry
David Milnes, Director of Music
Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



Orinda Community Church is participating in a new endeavor! Alta Mesa Center for the Arts, under the leadership of Mary Volmer, is an interfaith arts and spirituality hub, housed within and sponsored by Orinda Community Church.

Upcoming Event:

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

A reading and discussion about trauma, listening, and reconciliation with
Elizabeth Rosner, author of
SURVIVOR CAFE: The Legacy of Trauma and the Labyrinth of Memory,
moderated by Ani Tascian.

September 12th at 4:00 pm (PST)

To register for this free, online, event, go to: <https://forms.gle/BoYpmtmBeev4tF3u9>

REGULAR WEEKLY OFFERINGS AT THE CHURCH

- **Mondays at 9:30 am** we have centering prayer in the chapel. This is a time of silent, contemplative prayer. We will begin with a reading, spend 15 minutes in silent prayer, and then offer a time for processing.
- The Writers' Group meets every other week **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.** via Zoom. All are welcome. The next meeting date is **September 7th**. The writing prompt (if you need one) is to reflect on how your life has changed during/as a result of the pandemic. ***For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: orindacommunitychurch.org***
- We are piloting in-person contemplative services in the chapel on **Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.** We may offer only one Wednesday service depending on how many are in attendance. This is a short service that includes readings, music, and time for prayer. The church will continue to send out an electronic version of the contemplative service each Wednesday as well.
- Join Leslie via zoom for an interlude of uplift, refreshment and music, **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** ***For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: orindacommunitychurch.org***
- The Bible study has rebranded itself as the **Theology and Scripture Group**. It continues at **2:00 p.m. on Thursdays** via Zoom. We are now reading the second chapter in a study of Elaine Pagels' book *Beyond Belief, the secret gospel of Thomas*. Please join us for lively and meaningful conversation. ***For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: orindacommunitychurch.org***
- **Monday Madness = Sunday Insanity!** Now school is back in session, the Youth Group will no longer meet on Monday, returning to meeting **immediately after services on Sunday.**

- Reminder, **the best email address** for the Church Office is office@orindachurch.org. Please update in your email contacts and discard the old ones. Thank you!

Go A's and Go Nik!



♪ Oh, say can you see ♪ **Nik Nackley** performing the National Anthem this Sunday, 8/29/21, at 4:00 pm at the Oakland A's v. NY Yankees game! ♪

HELP WANTED! Babysitter/Nursery Nanny

Do you know someone who might be interested in being our Baby Sitter/Nursery Nanny? We are looking for someone who is responsible, warm, loving, and fun and available to work from 9:45 am to 11:45 am on Sundays (with possible additional hours later). The job includes watching infants and toddlers. SAFE Church fingerprinting procedures will be required.

If interested, please email us: office@orindachurch.org



* *Stand as you are able*