



Orinda Community Church

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

Order of Worship Sunday, September 12, 2021, 10 am

Reflection: We cannot attain the presence of God. We're already totally in the presence of God.
What's missing is awareness. ~ David Brenner

A fish asks, "What's water?"

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

WELCOME

Leslie Darwin O'Brien

CALL TO WORSHIP* *from Psalm 19*

Kathi Kling

One: Come into this sacred space to worship God

All: whose directions are sure.

One: Come into this holy place to worship God

All: whose standards are right.

One: Come into this beloved place to worship God

All: who commands us to love all people.

One: Come with holy longing –to be given life, and made wise,
to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

All: Come — let us worship God.

**Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts
be according to your will, O God. Amen.**

HYMN BH 28

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

COMMUNITY PRAYER

based on Psalm 19

Kathi Kling

**Your glory, O God, is declared in the holy silence of the heavens, and
told in the silent succession of day and night. Be with us today as we
remember the piercing blue sky before the airplanes changed our world**

* *Stand as you are able*

view forever. Be with us today as we wade through the mire and sadness of the pandemic, which has changed our world view forever as well. Holy one, you hear our prayers whether we speak them or not. Your love reaches to the ends of the earth. The sun joyfully leaps across the sky, from one end of the heavens to the farthest reaches, and nothing is hidden from its heat or light. So nothing that we do or say or whisper in our hearts is hidden from you, Lord God. Release us from darkness we hide deep within our lives. Let our lives be radiant with holy awe; delighting in your teaching, receiving insight from your commandments, especially your commandment that we love one another. Help us to receive wisdom from your encouragement. Enliven our desire to enjoy the sweet drippings of the honeycomb, that are to be found in right relationship with those around us, and with you. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Leslie O'Brien

WE LISTEN

SOLO

Jesslyn Thomas

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kathi Kling

Excerpts from Psalm 19
Psalm 116:1-9
Romans 8:38-39

SERMON

What's Water?

Leslie Darwin O'Brien

HYMN BH

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

* *Stand as you are able*

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

Nikolas Nackley

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 **RH** 437

This is My Song

Jean Sibelius

BENEDICTION*

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.
- 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.**

AND IN OTHER NEWS:

- After church today, **Sunday, 9/12/21**, please stay for updates from OSHF regarding the upper hillside project to hear about the Hillside Housing Project that is planned.
- 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!

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



The family of Ronald Skilton invites you to a memorial service celebrating his life on **Sunday, September 19th, 1:30 p.m.**, at Orinda Community Church.

*******Elizabeth will be away on vacation from September 7 – 21*******
For Pastoral Care or Urgent Matters, call Leslie (925) 285-0996.

Save the date! On **October 3rd**, we will celebrate our annual **Homecoming** after church with a meal and fun activities. Then, at 2:00 p.m., we will celebrate the **Installation** of Elizabeth as the pastor of OCC, so please join us for that service!

** Stand as you are able*