



Orinda Community Church

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP Sunday, November 14, 2021, 10 am

Reflection: *[I propose] 'critical social mindfulness,' a renewed practice through which we can discover, discuss and let go of our attachment to our own person- or group-centered worldview. Instead, we come to realize that our own well-being connects with that of everyone else. This form of mindfulness encourages students and teachers to study, question, resist and transform not just themselves, but also their relationships within and outside schools and the societal and institutional causes of their struggles.*

—David Forbes

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*.

(from Proverbs 1)

Kathi Kling

One: For gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight;

All: **For receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair;**

One: For giving prudence to those who are uneducated, knowledge and discretion to the young—

All: **Let the wise listen and add to their learning and let the discerning get guidance for understanding.**

HYMN* BH 383

Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Lowell Mason, 1839

* *Stand as you are able*

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Kathi Kling

God, how do we learn a thing that is infinite? You show us oceans and endless deserts, uncountable flocks of birds, vast populations of humans. The reality of you unfolds, always expanding, before and within us. Help us to be learners worthy of your abundance. Bestow your curiosity and kindness on us. In this little bit that we know of life, we want to learn more. We follow into your great truth, grateful that there is so much within our grasp, and that so many adventures in faith lie ahead. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Mary Volmer

WE LISTEN

SOLO

Nikolas Nackley

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kathi Kling

1 Thessalonians 5:11
John 7:16-18, paraphrased

SERMON

Jesus the Teacher

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

HOLDEN SCHOOL SPEAKERS

Abby Tuttle
Ari Gold
Gina Gold
Chris Becker
Poem by Corey Cross

* *Stand as you are able*

WE RESPOND

HYMN* BH 393

Blessed Be the Ties That Binds

Lowell Mason, 1845

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

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY SOLO

Julia Hathaway

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.**

* *Stand as you are able*

HYMN* BH 397

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers

The Christian Lyre, 1831

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.

Coming up at Alta Mesa Center for the Arts

Alta Mesa Center Reading Series:

November 14th at 4:00pm AMCA hosts an afternoon reading celebrating ESSENTIAL TRUTHS: The Bay Area in Color

featuring:

Joyce E. Young

Max Leung

Shizue Seigel

Vickie Y-Rong Chang

Sridevi Ramanathan

Tehmina Khan

Register for this free online event at <https://forms.gle/ZqF4mqg1dbjVzkBn7>

***Or for the link, check your eblast or go to our website:
orindacommunitychurch.org***

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 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.
- The **Theology and Scripture Group** continues to meet 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:
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- The Writers' Group meets every other week **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.** via Zoom. All are welcome. The next meeting date is **November 16th**.

***For the link, check your eblast or go to our website:
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AND IN OTHER NEWS:

**Thank you to this week's ushers:
Jill & Tom Oberheim, Betty Wu and Mike Kersten**

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, or if you know of someone who is, please email us:

office@orindachurch.org

